

BEDFORD TOWNSHIP BOARD MINUTES
8100 JACKMAN ROAD, TEMPERANCE, MI 48182

April 16, 2013

7:00 pm

PRESENT:

Greg Stewart, Supervisor
Trudy Hershberger, Clerk
Paul Francis, Treasurer

Larry O'Dell, Trustee
Paul Pirrone, Trustee
Rick Steiner, Trustee
Nancy Tienvieri, Trustee

ALSO PRESENT: David Manning, Finance Director

The Regular Meeting of the Bedford Township Board was called to order by Stewart at 7:00 PM followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

RESOLUTIONS/PROCLAMATIONS

REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF A RESOLUTION HONORING BEDFORD RESIDENT AGNES ROBERSON

Stewart spoke and Francis read the resolution honoring Bedford resident Agnes Roberson for her dedication and commitment in walking for the March of Dimes Walkathon for 40 years and walking this year on her 83rd birthday, May 5, 2013. Board members congratulated her and thanked her for her dedication. Motion was made by Pirrone, seconded by Tienvieri to approve the resolution honoring Bedford Resident Agnes Roberson for her 40 years of walking in the March of Dimes Walkathon in Monroe MI. Motion carried unanimously.

REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING FORMER FIRE CHIEF JOHN BOFIA

Francis read the resolution honoring former Fire Chief John Bofia for his years of service to the township serving as a volunteer fireman then later as fire chief. Board members spoke, thanking him for his years of service. Motion was made by Francis, seconded by O'Dell to approve the resolution recognizing former Fire Chief John Bofia for his many years of service to the township both as a member of the Bedford Fire Department and his years as Bedford Township Fire Chief. Motion carried unanimously.

REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF A RESOLUION FOR SIGNATURE CHANGES FOR MB&T BANK ACCOUNTS

Francis spoke informing the board of the need to change signatories on the MB&T accounts due to the retirement of former Deputy Treasurer Sandy Renius, and the appointment of new Deputy Treasurer Krista Jandasek. Motion was made by Francis, seconded by O'Dell to approve the resolution authorizing the signature changes for the Monroe Bank & Trust Bank Accounts, as presented. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Aye: Francis, O'Dell, Pirrone, Steiner, Tienvieri, Hershberger & Stewart. Nays: None. Excused: None

REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF A RESOLUTION AMENDING THE 2012-13 GENERAL FUND BUDGET

Stewart introduced David Manning, Finance Director who spoke to the issue, and answered any questions board members had. Motion was made by Hershberger, seconded by Francis to approve the resolution amending the 2012-13 General Fund budget, as presented. Motion

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carried on a roll call vote as follows: Aye: Francis, O'Dell, Pirrone, Steiner, Tienvieri, Hershberger & Stewart. Nays: None. Excused: None

PRESENTATION

FARMERS MARKET INFORMATION/PRESENTATION

Ally Miller, 6670 Marzden, Pat Galdeen, 1184 Ashland, & Stephanie Pirrone, 402 Oak Creek spoke and gave a power point presentation regarding a proposed farmers market in Bedford Township. The board thanked them for their information.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA – Motion was made by Pirrone, seconded by Steiner to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA –

Stewart read the items on the Consent Agenda which contained the following items for approval: Approval of the April 2, 2013 township board minutes.

To accept and place on file the reports from the Treasurer.

To accept and place on file the reports from the Clerk's Dept.

To accept and place on file the 2012 Summer & Winter Tax and IFT Tax collection reports.

To approve the reappointment of Dr. Paul Taylor to the DDA board for a term ending 12/31/2017.

Motion was made by Pirrone, seconded by O'Dell to approve the consent agenda as published. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Aye: Francis, O'Dell, Pirrone, Steiner, Tienvieri, Hershberger & Stewart. Nays: None. Excused: None

OLD BUSINESS

DISCUSSION REGARDING IN-HOUSE OR OUTSOURCING OF TOWNSHIP PAYROLL

Stewart spoke explaining the research he had done to provide more information regarding costs to purchase a software package to enable the township to handle payroll in-house. He then asked Finance Director Manning to respond to any questions or concerns the board had regarding this matter.

NEW BUSINESS

DISCUSSION REGARDING LAND DIVISION REQUEST FOR LOT #17 IN SUMMERLYN SUBDIVISION

Stewart spoke, explaining this land division/combination request is to split lot #17 in Summerlyn Subdivision and combine it with the lots on either side. The developer has buyers for those adjacent lots and they would like a larger land area than the current size of the lot. Tienvieri requested the wording on the last paragraph of the agreement be changed to read Administrator or Township Supervisor, instead of Administrator or Township Supervisor, Clerk or Treasurer. Discussion followed.

DISCUSSION REGARDING HIRING OF SUPERVISING ORDINANCE OFFICER

Stewart spoke, informing the board of his desire to hire David Meyer, Bedford resident as the township's part time supervising ordinance officer at a wage of \$18.00 per hour. Upon questioning by board members, he added this is not an exact replacement, some responsibilities will be changed and although the hourly rate will be different, no adjustments to the budget are anticipated.

DISCUSSION REGARDING THE COMPENSATION COMMITTEE'S RECOMMENDATIONS

Stewart spoke, thanking the committee for their hard work, and mentioning the need to exclude the per diem for the trustee's portion of the recommendation. Board members commented on the recommendations, suggesting the possibility of a need to have the next Compensation Committee look at a restructuring of the salaries of the three full time elected officials to better reflect their duties and responsibilities.

DISCUSSION REGARDING A FARMER'S MARKET AT BEDFORD TOWNSHIP HALL

Board members discussed the presentation and thanked the residents who spoke, then discussed in detail the pros and cons of holding a farmers market at the township facility.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Stephanie Pirrone, 402 Oak Creek, spoke to the Farmers Market issue.

Lamar Frederick, 3254 Deer Creek, spoke to the Farmers Market issue, the Compensation Committee issue, and the Land Division issue.

Joe Garverick, 2740 Consear, spoke to the Land Division issue.

Doug Dibert, 7965 McLain – spoke to positive issues in the township and mentioned the video he made that will be played after the township board meeting

Pat Galdeen, 1184 Ashland, spoke to the Farmers Market issue.

Jeff Wilson, 2959 Bendigo, spoke to the Farmers Market issue.

Vicky Chelchowski, 708 E. Erie, spoke to the Farmers Market issue.

Heather McNulty, 3192 White, spoke to the Farmers Market issue.

Scott Bollin, 6618 Summerlyn, spoke to the Farmers Market issue.

Ally Miller, 6670 Marsden, spoke to the Farmers Market issue.

PROPOSED BOARD ACTIONS

REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS FOR PAYMENT- Motion was made by Hershberger, seconded by Pirrone to approve the following vouchers for payment: General Fund-\$48,469.54, Fire District-\$4,701.46, Police Fund-\$171.99, Park Fund-\$4,921.66, Cemetery Operating Fund-\$26.43, Library Operating Fund-\$3,278.47, EDC Fund-\$9.36, Water Revenue Fund-\$3,950.00, Enchanted Forest Debt Fund-\$3,678.01, Canterbury Forest Debt Fund-\$1,576.29, Sewer Operation & Main. Fund-\$2,331.10, & Trust & Agency Fund-\$15,982.47, for a total of \$89,096.80. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Aye: Francis, O'Dell, Pirrone, Steiner, Tienvieri, Hershberger & Stewart. Nays: None. Excused: None

REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF OUTSOURCING OF PAYROLL TO PAYCHEX

Motion was made by Hershberger, seconded by Pirrone to approve the continuance of outsourcing of township payroll to Paychex, at an annual cost of \$4,300.00, as presented. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Aye: Francis, O'Dell, Pirrone, Steiner, Tienvieri, Hershberger & Stewart. Nays: None. Excused: None

REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF LAND DIVISION FOR LOT #17 IN SUMMERLYN SUBDIVISION

Motion was made by Pirrone, seconded by O'Dell to approve the land division and combination of lot #17 in Summerlyn Subdivision contingent upon the revision of the language naming authorized individuals as executors. Motion carried unanimously.

REQUEST FOR APPROVAL TO HIRE SUPERVISING ORDINANCE OFFICER

Motion was made by Francis, seconded by Steiner to approve hiring David Meyer as a part time supervising Ordinance Officer for Bedford Township at a pay rate of \$18.00 per hour, as presented. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Aye: Francis, O'Dell, Pirrone, Steiner, Tienvieri, Hershberger & Stewart. Nays: None. Excused: None

REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF COMPENSATION COMMITTEE'S RECOMMENDATIONS

Motion was made by Pirrone, seconded by Tienvieri to deny the Compensation Committee's recommendations for compensation for the elected officials in Bedford Township. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Aye: Francis, O'Dell, Pirrone, Steiner, Tienvieri, Hershberger & Stewart. Nays: None. Excused: None

REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF HOLDING A FARMER'S MARKET AT THE BEDFORD TOWNSHIP HALL

Stewart expressed his concern regarding this issue being in compliance with the township's ordinances and stated he would look into the issue. Tienvieri suggested the option of a lease agreement with the Farmers Market, and Stewart stated he would check into that issue as well if this issue is approved. O'Dell stated he would vote against the issue because he felt there were several potential legal, liability, and ordinance issues that should be resolved before the issue was voted on instead of after the fact. Motion was made by Tienvieri, seconded by Pirrone to allow a Farmer's Market at the Bedford Township Hall with the stipulations that the township attorney and risk management's liability issues be resolved. Francis made a friendly amendment to the motion to add the resolution of all zoning and usage issues raised by township legal counsel in a manner satisfactory to township legal counsel, and a reasonable accommodation for days when the township hall buildings must be open for business. The friendly amendment was approved by Tienvieri and Pirrone. A friendly amendment was made by Steiner that because this is a commercial enterprise, from which Bedford Township derives no financial benefit, any additional costs over and above any township expenses for liability coverage for other events, excluding fireworks, shall be paid by the Farmer's Market organization. The friendly amendment was approved by Tienvieri and Pirrone. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Aye: Francis, Pirrone, Steiner, Tienvieri, Hershberger & Stewart. Nays: O'Dell. Excused: None

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Lamar Frederick, 3254 Deer Creek, spoke to the Farmers Market issue.

Pat Galdeen, 1184 Ashland, spoke to the Farmers Market issue.

Gail Keane, 1156 W. Temperance, mentioned the Adopt-A-Road program this weekend, spoke to the history of the Temperance Farmers market that has ceased to exist.

REPORT FROM TOWNSHIP BOARD MEMBERS

Tienvieri – read the proposed EDC mission statement to the board, mentioned an issue with the agenda items on the township's web page, mentioned the cable channel is non-exclusive and open for competition, commented on the use of color printing for board packets, and commented on a suggestion to have a community garden.

Pirrone – thanked the board for Farmers Market approval, commented on TAC's requested usage of the shelter at Carr for their Farmers Market, thanked Doug Dibert for his video, and mentioned the need for prayer for those injured at the Boston Marathon.

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Steiner – mentioned the Farmers Market, the general policy committees meeting on Thursday evening, and thanked Doug Dibert for his positive comments & video of Bedford.

O'Dell – thanked the Farmers Market group for their hard work, discussed the need for clarity and answers to questions, & commented on his attendance at the Welcome for the Robotics teams to Bedford last weekend.

Francis – congratulated the Farmers Market group on a good presentation, mentioned Doug Dibert and his positive video of Bedford, and told an April 15th tax day joke.

Hershberger – reminded residents and board members the next board meeting will be Tuesday May 14, 2013 due to the Ida and Mason School election on May 7th. A few residents of precincts 3 & 14 are in the Ida or Mason school districts, which makes it necessary for the Clerk's Dept. to schedule an election in Bedford Township. She also mentioned the cable station is currently down, and will be repaired and up and running as soon as possible. In addition she mentioned the township is currently having a sale of cemetery lots in the Bedford Memorial Gardens Cemetery until June 30, 2013 and to contact her department for details.

Stewart – Also reminded everyone of the May 14th date for the next board meeting, thanked Gail Keane for her reminder of the Adopt-A Road volunteers being out collecting roadside trash this weekend and the need to watch for them while driving, commented on the Farmers Market issue and mentioned the Road Update map is done and he will be sending it out to board members via e-mail.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:35 p.m.

Trudy L. Hershberger
Bedford Township Clerk

Garnet Francis
Deputy Clerk/Recording Secretary