

BEDFORD TOWNSHIP BOARD MINUTES
8100 JACKMAN ROAD, TEMPERANCE, MI 48182
January 20, 2015
7:00 pm

PRESENT:

Greg Stewart, Supervisor	Larry O'Dell, Trustee
Trudy Hershberger, Clerk	Paul Pirrone, Trustee
Paul Francis, Treasurer	Rick Steiner, Trustee
	Nancy Tienvieri, Trustee

ALSO PRESENT: Tim Lake, Monroe County Business Development Corporation

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

PUBLIC HEARING

REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF THE CENTER DRIVE ROAD IMPROVEMENT SPECIAL ASSESSMENT DISTRICT ROLL

Motion was made by Pirrone, seconded by Steiner to open the public hearing for approval of the Center Drive Road Improvement Special Assessment District Roll. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Aye: Francis, O'Dell, Pirrone, Steiner, Tienvieri, Hershberger & Stewart. Nays: None. Excused: None

Stewart asked if anyone from the audience wished to speak to the issue.

Nathan Muenzer, 1747 Center Drive – spoke in opposition to the special assessment, citing costs and safety issues.

Motion was made by Pirrone, seconded by Steiner to close the public hearing for approval of the Center Drive Road Improvement Special Assessment District Roll. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Aye: Francis, O'Dell, Pirrone, Steiner, Tienvieri, Hershberger & Stewart. Nays: None. Excused: None

Hershberger spoke, stating the district is comprised of 25 parcels, and 64% had signed the petition requesting the road improvement. The estimated cost for this project is \$250,000. Board members offered responses to the resident's concerns, mentioning solutions to potential maintenance issues and appealing to the tax tribunal. Motion was made by Tienvieri, seconded by Pirrone to approve the Center Drive Road Improvement Special Assessment District resolution, as presented. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Aye: Francis, O'Dell, Pirrone, Steiner, Tienvieri, Hershberger & Stewart. Nays: None. Excused: None

APPROVAL OF AGENDA – Motion was made by Steiner, seconded by Pirrone to approve the agenda, as amended, with item 4G under the Consent Agenda being moved to New Business, as item 7-1A, for discussion only, and the addition of item 4H, in the Consent Agenda, the request to re-appoint MaryAnn McBee to the Compensation Commission for a term ending 12/31/2019. Motion carried unanimously.

PRESENTATION

**TIM LAKE – MONROE COUNTY BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION – 2014 YEAR
END REPORT**

Stewart introduced Tim Lake, head of the Monroe County Business Corporation who presented a year-end report to the board, detailing the three areas (attracting new business, retention of existing business, and community advantages) his company uses to bring business to Bedford Township and Monroe County. Board members commented on the information he presented and thanked him for his work to benefit the Bedford community.

CONSENT AGENDA

The Consent Agenda contained the following items for approval:

Approval of the December 16, 2014 closed session minutes and the January 6, 2015 regular board meeting minutes.

To accept and place on file the Treasurer's Reports.

To accept and place on file the Revenue/Expense Report & Balance Sheet for 12/31/2014.

To accept with regret the resignation of Gene Stock from the Master Plan Steering Committee, effective immediately.

To accept with regret the resignation of Ed Throm from the Library Board, effective immediately.

To approve the appointment of Philip Briggs to the Bedford Library Board with a term ending 12/31/2017.

To approve the re-appointment of MaryAnn McBee to the Compensation Commission for a term ending 12/31/2019.

Motion was made by Steiner, seconded by Pirrone to approve the consent agenda as amended. Motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

**APPROVAL OF THE APPOINTMENT OF DAVID ABALOS, R. LAMAR FREDERICK,
WILLIAM STRABLE, PHIL KOENIGSEKER & LAURA COLLINS TO THE BEDFORD
TOWNSHIP FIRE DEPARTMENT ADVISORY BOARD FOR A TERM ENDING 12/31/2016.**

Stewart introduced Fire Chief Ruiz and asked him to provide an explanation to the board for his request to create a Fire Department Advisory Board and not continue to use the existing Fire Commission. Ruiz spoke to the issue, giving his reasoning for the change, and stating his reasoning for the choices of membership to this board, saying he was looking for diversity and a more widespread representation of the community. Board members questioned several issues regarding the new board, for instance, how often would the board meet, would it be a paid board, are the terms of office staggered or all the same, will there be a township board liaison, etc. After further discussion, the board suggested this issue needed to be tabled until the next meeting to allow the fire chief to bring additional information back to the board. Motion was made by Pirrone, seconded by Steiner to table this issue until the next meeting to allow Fire Chief Ruiz to provide the requested information. 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 OUTSTANDING INVOICES- Motion was made by Hershberger, seconded by Francis to approve the following vouchers for payment: General Fund-\$49,956.64, Fire District-\$18,864.02, Police Fund-\$4,111.25, Park Fund-\$2,022.45, Transit System Fund-\$21,706.00, Library Operating Fund-\$6,974.02, Water Revenue Fund-\$669.00, Enchanted Forest Debt Fund-\$77,083.96; Center Drive SAD Fund-\$2,314.48, DDA Fund-\$250.00, Sewer Operation & Main. Fund-\$10,902.46, & Trust & Agency Fund-\$1,863.50, for a total of \$197,017.78. 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 2015 AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHY

Hershberger spoke, explaining this issue is sponsored by SEMCOG and is an aerial photography flyover southeast Michigan, and would allow our assessing, building and planning departments access to the photographs which would assist them in parcel mapping and property assessment, as well as FEMA floodplain mapping. The cost would be a onetime expense of \$1,529.99, which is a 50% discount since the township is a member of SEMCOG. Discussion followed. Motion was made by Hershberger, seconded by O'Dell to approve the one-time payment of \$1,521.99 for Bedford's portion of the 2015 Aerial Imagery Acquisition project with Monroe County, 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 ADVANCE CONSTRUCT CONTRACT WITH MCRC FOR SECOR ROAD

Stewart spoke, explaining this plan would allow the township to get the work done in 2015 on Secor Road between St. Anthony and Temperance Roads, an area that is badly in need of improvement, instead of having to wait until 2017. The project was originally set to be done in 2015 as a TIP project, with approximately \$327,000 of the cost to be paid with federal funds. The MCRC informed the roads committee this project would have to be delayed until 2017 when the funding would be available. This plan will have the township pay for the project, at a projected \$400,000 cost and complete it in 2015, then receive reimbursement of approximately \$327,000 in 2016. Discussion followed. Motion was made by Pirrone, seconded by Francis to approve the Monroe County Road Commission Contract for road improvement to Secor Road at a cost of \$439,423.00, the township's portion to be \$73,000, after reimbursement of \$333,289.00 from the federal government in 2016, provided the signed contract bears the signature of the road commission engineer/estimator. 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 TO ADJUST THE 2014/15 ROADS BUDGET BY AN ADDITIONAL \$600,000

Francis spoke, stating the budget amendment was necessary to fund the Secor Road project just approved, as well as completing the RR track road problem on Dean Road. Discussion followed. Motion was made by Francis, seconded by Pirrone to amend the 2014-15 General Fund budget to add \$600,000 from the fund balance to be put into the Road Improvement and Maintenance Budget. 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 LAKE ERIE TRANSIT BALLOT MILLAGE LANGUAGE FOR MAY 2015 ELECTION

Stewart introduced Mark Jagodzinski, General Manager of Lake Erie Transit, who then introduced his two assistants. Jagodzinski then gave highlights from the information in the board packet regarding the request to put a LET millage renewal of .25 mills and addition of .10 mills on the ballot for the May 5, 2015 election. Board members questioned the timing of the request, the additional millage being requested, who was paying for the election, and various other questions. Hershberger stated the board is not against the LET millage, but believes this issue can wait until the 2016 election year, because those elections will be paid for by the state/county and at no cost to the residents. Motion was made by Tienvieri, seconded by Pirrone to reject the request from Lake Erie Transit to place a millage renewal and increase on the ballot for the May 5, 2015 election. Stewart stated he would vote against the motion, because he believed the public should have the opportunity to decide. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Aye: Francis, O'Dell, Pirrone, Steiner, Tienvieri & Hershberger. Nays: Stewart. Excused: None

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC - None

REPORT FROM TOWNSHIP BOARD MEMBERS

Tienvieri – asked when the board would be moving forward on the personnel policy and the policy manual. She also informed the board the next Library Advisory board meeting is on Monday, January 26, 2015 at 7:00 pm at the library and invited everyone to attend.

Pirrone – thanked Mr. Lake and Mr. Jagodzinski for their attendance and presentations.

Steiner – suggested the sub-committee needs to look at the policy manual again and revise or re-structure it. He will contact the members to hold a meeting. He then reminded residents of the upcoming Master Plan meeting on February 5, 2015 from 7 to 9 pm in the school cafeteria.

Francis – informed residents that winter tax bills are due by February 17, 2015 or a penalty will be assessed. He also commented on the drive thru window in the tax department, and how handy and popular it is with residents.

Hershberger – The Master Plan Committee meeting scheduled for Monday January 26, 2015 has been canceled due to the lack of a quorum and reminded residents of the upcoming Master Plan meeting Workshop on February 5, 2015 from 7 pm til 9 pm at the Bedford High School Cafeteria, and invited everyone to attend and participate.

Stewart – spoke to the issue of the Master Plan Workshop, Tim Lake and the MCBDC report, the LET millage issue, the fire dept advisory board issue, the approval of the budget adjustment and approval of the Secor Road project, and mentioned the excellent discussions the board had on each of these issues.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

Trudy L. Hershberger
Bedford Township Clerk

Garnet Francis
Deputy Clerk/Recording Secretary

