

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

July 2, 2013

7:00 pm

PRESENT:

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

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

EXCUSED: Paul Pirrone, Trustee

ALSO PRESENT: Tom Graham, Township Attorney

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

Stewart asked township attorney Tom Graham to speak to the issues of the two public hearings, explaining each and the differences between the IFEC and the Personal Property Exemption requests for Unique Tool and Manufacturing, at 100 Reed Road.

REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF AN INDUSTRIAL FACILITIES EXEMPTION CERTIFICATE FOR (UNIQUE TOOL & MANUFACTURING, 100 REED ROAD)

Motion was made by Hershberger, seconded by Francis to open the public hearing for the request for an Industrial Facilities Exemption Certificate for Unique Tool & Manufacturing. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Aye: Francis, O'Dell, Steiner, Tienvieri, Hershberger & Stewart. Nays: None. Excused: Pirrone

Mr. Doug Althaus, President of Unique Tool and Manufacturing spoke, thanking the board for their consideration of the approval of an IFEC for a new building at 100 Reed Road, and mentioned they had moved to Bedford in 1997. He further stated the company wished to remain in Bedford, and the addition of this building would create 50 new jobs in the next 2 to 3 years.

Mr. Tim Lake, member of the Monroe County Business Development Corp., spoke to the issue, and expressed his support.

Several board members spoke positively to approval on the issue, with Hershberger explaining approval would be for 12 years at a 50% abatement on a new building costing \$1,873,000.

Motion was made by Steiner, seconded by O'Dell to close the public hearing for the request for an Industrial Facilities Exemption Certificate for Unique Tool & Manufacturing. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Aye: Francis, O'Dell, Steiner, Tienvieri, Hershberger & Stewart. Nays: None. Excused: Pirrone

Motion was made by Hershberger, seconded by Steiner to adopt the resolution to approve the application for the Industrial Facility Exemption Certificate for Unique Tool and Manufacturing, 100 Reed Road, for building improvements valued at \$1,873,000 for 12 years at a 50% tax reduction. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Aye: Francis, O'Dell, Steiner, Tienvieri, Hershberger & Stewart. Nays: None. Excused: Pirrone

REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF AN APPLICATION FOR A NEW PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION FOR UNIQUE TOOL & MANUFACTURING, 100 REED ROAD

Motion was made by Steiner, seconded by Hershberger to open the public hearing for the request for a new Personal Property Tax Exemption for Unique Tool and Manufacturing. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Aye: Francis, O'Dell, Steiner, Tienvieri, Hershberger & Stewart. Nays: None. Excused: Pirrone

Mr. Doug Althaus, President of Unique Tool and Manufacturing spoke, asking for consideration of a 10 year personal property tax exemption for all personal property purchased at 100 Reed Road.

Mr. Tim Lake, member of the Monroe County Business Development Corp., spoke to the issue, explaining the personal property exemption issue with regard to proposed state legislation that would repeal the personal property tax in Michigan in 2022.

Several members spoke to the issue, discussing the length of time for approval of the tax exemption.

Motion was made by Steiner, seconded by Tienvieri to close the public hearing for the request for a new Personal Property Tax Exemption for Unique Tool and Manufacturing. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Aye: Francis, O'Dell, Steiner, Tienvieri, Hershberger & Stewart. Nays: None. Excused: Pirrone

Motion was made by Tienvieri, seconded by O'Dell to adopt the resolution to approve the application for a Personal Property Tax Exemption for Unique Tool and Manufacturing, 100 Reed Road, for 12 years at a 100% tax reduction in the interest of economic development and job opportunities. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Aye: Francis, O'Dell, Steiner, Tienvieri, Hershberger & Stewart. Nays: None. Excused: Pirrone

APPROVAL OF AGENDA – Francis explained the need to amend the agenda to get approval of a resolution in order to establish a new property tax savings account at Monroe Bank & Trust. Tienvieri asked Stewart to work toward consistency regarding additions to the agenda. Motion was made by Francis, seconded by Steiner to approve the amended agenda with the addition of item 7C, under New Business, Request for Approval of a Resolution to Establish a New Tax Savings Account at Monroe Bank and Trust. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Aye: Francis, O'Dell, Steiner, Tienvieri, Hershberger & Stewart. Nays: None. Excused: Pirrone

CONSENT AGENDA

The Consent Agenda contained the following items for approval:

Approval of the June 18, 2013 township board minutes.

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

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Mr. Doug Althaus, President of Unique Tool and Manufacturing spoke, thanking the board for their support regarding the IFEC and Personal Property Tax Exemption.

Darrell Lukasik, 1734 Pine Valley, commented on the rezoning issue from the previous board meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF FIRE CHIEF JOB DESCRIPTION

Francis spoke, reading the memo from the board packet as explanation of the issue. Board members commented on “contract vs. at will” employees and various other minor wording issues in the document. Graham spoke to the board, explaining the differences between a contracted or non-contracted employee. Motion was made by Francis, seconded by O’Dell to approve the Bedford Fire Chief’s Job Description, as presented. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Aye: Francis, O’Dell, Steiner, Hershberger & Stewart. Nays: Tienvieri. Excused: Pirrone

NEW BUSINESS

REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF OUTSTANDING INVOICES- Motion was made by Hershberger, seconded by Francis to approve the following vouchers for payment: General Fund-\$13,861.41, Fire District-\$4,000.12, Police Fund-\$479.48, Park Fund-\$1,349.99, Library Operating Fund-\$3,324.18, EDC Fund-\$55.51, Water Revenue Fund-\$4,800.00, Enchanted Forest Debt Fund-\$21,967.96, Canterbury Forest Debt Fund-\$64,593.84, Springbrook Debt Fund-\$42,962.96, Barbara Lee/Harmony/Etc., Debt Fund-\$42,533.75, Sewer Operation & Main. Fund-\$4,375.97, & Trust & Agency Fund-\$41,992.54, for a total of \$246,297.71. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Aye: Francis, O’Dell, Steiner, Tienvieri, Hershberger & Stewart. Nays: None. Excused: Pirrone

REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF LAND COMBINATION FOR LOTS 32 & 33 OF THE RESERVE AT SUMMERLYN SUBDIVISION

Stewart spoke and explaining the request for the land combination in Summerlyn Subdivision. Discussion followed regarding a concern that the owner would in the future request a land re-division unless; the motion contained the proper wording to avoid that problem. Motion was made by Tienvieri, seconded by Steiner to approve the land combination of lots 32 & 33 of the Reserve at Summerlyn Subdivision, keeping the setbacks or requiring the home to be built over the lot line, as presented and to authorize the Supervisor to sign the document. Motion carried unanimously.

REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF A RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH A NEW TAX SAVINGS ACCOUNT AT MONROE BANK AND TRUST

Francis spoke explaining the need for approval of the resolution, in order to open the account. Motion was made by Francis, seconded by Hershberger to approve the resolution to establish a new tax savings account at Monroe Bank and Trust, as presented. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Aye: Francis, O’Dell, Steiner, Tienvieri, Hershberger & Stewart. Nays: None. Excused: Pirrone

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC - None

REPORT FROM TOWNSHIP BOARD MEMBERS

Tienvieri – thanked Interim Fire Chief Neorr for his annual report, and asked that in the future the Fire Chief present the report, and include additional details (photos, budget, etc.).

Steiner – agreed with Tienvieri’s request, and suggested other department heads be included in annual reports. He also wished everyone a great July 4th and to be safe.

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O'Dell – complemented the Park Board on the great fireworks display, over 30 businesses and residents contributed toward the cost, and thanked the fire dept., sheriff's dept., and singer for their assistance.

Francis – reminded residents that summer tax bills were mailed out this week and to call the township treasurer's department if you have any questions.

Hershberger – informed residents of the upcoming Bedford Garden Tour on Saturday, July 13th from 9 am til 3 pm at a cost of \$8.00, the tour to start at the Bedford Library. They will have Master Gardener's on hand doing seminars. She also mentioned the Township Hall will be closed on Thursday, July 4th, and wished everyone a save and great holiday.

Stewart – mentioned the Master Plan update, his request for a Committee of the Whole meeting on July 30th to discuss the policy manual and encouraged committee heads and volunteers to come to the board meetings to speak.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Trudy L. Hershberger
Bedford Township Clerk

Garnet Francis
Deputy Clerk/Recording Secretary