

BEDFORD TOWNSHIP BOARD MINUTES
8100 JACKMAN ROAD, TEMPERANCE, MI 48182
May 19, 2020 - 7:00 p.m.

MEETING HELD THROUGH MICROSOFT TEAMS VIDEO CONFERENCING

PRESENT:	TC Clements, Trustee
Paul Pirrone, Supervisor	Craig Montri, Trustee
Trudy Hershberger, Clerk	Rick Steiner, Trustee
Paul Francis, Treasurer	Nancy Tienvieri, Trustee

ALSO PRESENT: Phil Goldsmith, Township Attorney; Damon Cecil, Ordinance Supervisor

The Regular Meeting of the Bedford Township Board was called to order by Pirrone at 7:00 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and Prayer led by Bob Tienvieri.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA – Motion was made by Steiner, seconded by Clements to approve the agenda as submitted. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Ayes: Steiner, Clements, Montri, Francis, Tienvieri, Hershberger & Pirrone. Nays: none. Absent: none.

CONSENT AGENDA

The Consent Agenda contained the following items for approval:

The May 5, 2020 Township Board Minutes;

The General, Savings, Pooled Funds and CD reports from the Treasurer;

The Revenue/Expense report and Balance sheet for the period ending April 30, 2020;

Motion was made by Tienvieri, seconded by Clements to approve the consent agenda after pulling the Revenue/Expense report and Balance sheet off for discussion. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Ayes: Tienvieri, Clements, Francis, Steiner, Montri, Hershberger & Pirrone. Nays: none. Absent: none.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Gail Keane, 1056 W. Temperance – opposes the Board voting on Resolutions dealing with political issues on behalf of the residents without a public hearing and against prayer at Government meetings.

Judy Freeman, 6813 Brentridge – is uncomfortable with having to leave her name with an ordinance complaint.

Aaron Adler, 3873 Meadowview – concerned over contract tracing.

LaMar Frederick, 3254 Deer Creek – spoke to the funding of the Fire Station repairs and is opposed to the Board voting against HR-6666.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

APPROVAL OF THE BEDFORD TOWNSHIP BOARD AND ADMINISTRATIVE POLICIES

MANUAL – Tienvieri and Hershberger worked together to update this policy which was originally created by Tienvieri, Steiner and O’Dell. Motion was made by Tienvieri, seconded by Steiner to adopt the Board and Administrative Policy Manual, as presented. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Ayes: Tienvieri, Steiner, Francis, Clements, Montri, Hershberger & Pirrone. Nays: none. Absent: none.

NEW BUSINESS

APPROVAL OF THE REVENUE/EXPENSE REPORT AND BALANCE SHEET FOR THE

PERIOD ENDING APRIL 30, 2020 – Tienvieri pulled this from the consent agenda because she noticed many funds were overbudget and money was spent before budget amendments were brought before the Board. Hershberger explained that this is addressed in the Policy which was just approved and that prior to a purchase the budget should be checked to make sure the money is there. Discussion followed and it was determined that the Finance Director will send out weekly

reports to department heads of the current status of their budget. Motion was made by Tienvieri, seconded by Clements to approve the Balance Sheet for the period ending April 30, 2020, as presented. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Ayes: Tienvieri, Clements, Montri, Steiner, Francis, Hershberger & Pirrone. Nays: none. Absent: none.

VOUCHERS FOR PAYMENT – Francis questioned a computer purchase from LaScala. Pirrone purchased a laptop in order to join these videoconferencing meetings. Francis reminded him it is now a Township asset which can be FOIAed. Motion was made by Hershberger, seconded by Clements to approve the following vouchers for payment: General Fund-\$103,698.68, Fire District-\$19,935.28, Police Fund-\$2,090.97, Park Fund-\$4,848.74, Transit System Fund-\$36,959.00, Library Operating Fund-\$402.40, Water Revenue Fund-\$1,824.61, Stonegate SAD-\$224.50, Downtown Dev. Authority-\$1,975.00, Sewer Operation & Main. Fund-\$441,739.72, & Trust and Agency Fund-\$269.00 for a total of \$613,967.90. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Ayes: Hershberger, Clements, Montri, Francis, Tienvieri, Steiner & Pirrone. Nays: none. Absent: none.

APPROVAL OF A RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL MECHANICAL PERMIT FEE SCHEDULES – Willing, Building Department Administrative Assistant explained the need to have this fee. Since the fee schedule is part of the Construction Code Ordinance, it needed to be done through a Resolution. Motion was made by Tienvieri, seconded by Steiner to adopt the Resolution to establish Residential & Commercial Mechanical Permit Fee Schedule. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Ayes: Tienvieri, Steiner, Francis, Montri, Clements, Hershberger & Pirrone. Nays: none. Absent: none.

APPROVAL OF AN RFP TO PROVIDE AUDIT SERVICES – Hershberger presented the bids. All three companies received good reviews. Discussion followed regarding accepting the second lowest bid over the low bid because the owner of the firm is a Bedford resident and the company has a second office in Toledo. Also, Pirrone reported that this owner stated that if it doesn't cost them more to do the Audit each year, they will not increase their fees. Motion was made by Francis, seconded by Montri to accept the bid for Auditing services for the year 2020-2021 which was submitted by Rehmann. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Ayes: Francis, Montri, Tienvieri, Steiner, Clements, Hershberger & Pirrone. Nays: none. Absent: none.

APPROVAL OF THE NOXIOUS WEED MOWING BID – Only one bid was received which was from the same company used last year. Cecil mentioned they did an excellent job and will be charging the same price. Motion was made by Montri, seconded by Tienvieri to approve the bid from Cutting Edge Lawn & Landscape at the \$45.00 per hour rate, as proposed. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Ayes: Montri, Tienvieri, Clements, Steiner, Francis, Hershberger & Pirrone. Nays: none. Absent: none.

APPROVAL OF A COURTESY NOTICE FROM THE ORDINANCE DEPARTMENT FOR A VIOLATION OF A TOWNSHIP ORDINANCE – Cecil explained sometimes residents aren't aware they are in violation and this would be a friendly way to let them know. Much discussion followed regarding the format of these notices and what should appear on them. Tienvieri and Steiner are going to work with Cecil on this and bring it back to the Board.

APPROVAL OF AMENDMENT #3 TO THE BEDFORD TOWNSHIP RETIREE HEALTH REIMBURSEMENT ARRANGEMENT – Hershberger explained there are no changes, it is just a requirement of the Plan Administrator to have a new agreement signed. Motion was made by Steiner, seconded by Clements to approve Amendment #3 to the Bedford Township Retiree Health Reimbursement Arrangement, as presented. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Ayes: Steiner, Clements, Francis, Montri, Tienvieri, Hershberger & Pirrone. Nays: none. Absent: none.

APPROVAL OF THE REFUNDABLE AGREEMENT WITH CONSUMERS ENERGY FOR ELECTRICAL WORK AT FIRE STATION 1 – Hershberger explained the Township is required to pay \$11,885.00, which will be reimbursed back to the Township through rebates based on energy use over the next five years. Motion was made by Steiner, seconded by Tienvieri to accept the proposed Consumer Energy Rebate Program for \$11,885.00. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Ayes: Steiner, Tienvieri, Clements, Francis, Montri, Hershberger & Pirrone. Nays: none. Absent: none.

APPROVAL OF A MODIFICATION TO AGREEMENT WITH JAMES JACOBS ARCHITECTS FOR RENOVATIONS TO FIRE STATION 1 – Jacobs explained his initial fee was to provide design and construction documents. These additional charges are to cover the bidding process and construction administration services. Motion was made by Clements, seconded by Tienvieri to approve the request for the fixed fee of \$5,000.00 to Jim Jacobs for work performed and approval of payment not to exceed \$12,000.00 based on the enclosed rate schedule, as presented. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Ayes: Clements, Tienvieri, Steiner, Montri, Francis, Hershberger & Pirrone. Nays: none. Absent: none. Discussion followed regarding the funding of this project.

APPROVAL OF CHANGE ORDER #5 FOR RENOVATIONS TO FIRE STATION 1 – There are three items on this change order. The first is a deduction of \$799.00 from the duct work approved in change order 4. The other two charges are to repair two areas of bowed bricks for \$3,941.00 each. Motion was made by Clements, seconded by Francis to approve change order #5 for \$7,083.00 as an additional expenditure to the repair and construction of Fire Station 1. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Ayes: Clements, Francis, Montri, Tienvieri, Steiner, Hershberger & Pirrone. Nays: none. Absent: none. Jacobs updated the Board mentioning June 19th is the target date of completion.

APPROVAL TO RENEW SERVICE CONTRACTS FOR 10 ROOF INSPECTIONS WITH T-J ROOFING – Discussion ensued over whether the Park Board or 3B Baseball are responsible for the concession stand building at White Park. Motion was made by Tienvieri, seconded by Steiner to approve the agreements with T.J. Roofing for \$3,100.00 to inspect the listed facilities unless the roof at White Park is not a responsibility of the Township, at which time it becomes \$2,850.00. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Ayes: Tienvieri, Steiner, Clements, Montri, Francis, Hershberger & Pirrone. Nays: none. Absent: none.

APPROVAL TO CHANGE THE INTERNET SERVICE RECEIVED FROM BUCKEYE BROADBAND – Hershberger received quotes from Buckeye regarding increasing the internet capabilities at the Township. The Township IT company suggested we get 50/20. Motion was made by Tienvieri, seconded by Steiner to approve changing the internet speed at the Township to 50MB download and 20MB upload using fiber optic cables. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Ayes: Tienvieri, Steiner, Montri, Francis, Clements, Hershberger & Pirrone. Nays: none. Absent: none.

APPROVAL OF THREE AED UNITS FOR THE SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT – This is to replace three AED units in the Sheriff's vehicles which were under recall at a reduced price. Motion was made by Clements, seconded by Steiner to approve the purchase of three AED units for the Sheriff's vehicles at a cost of \$1,033.32, as presented. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Ayes: Clements, Steiner, Francis, Montri, Tienvieri, Hershberger & Pirrone. Nays: none. Absent: none.

APPROVAL OF A RESOLUTION TO PUBLICLY OPPOSE THE TRACE ACT – Montri brought this to the Board because he wanted to make a public statement as he is concerned House bill 6666, if passed, would infringe upon citizens rights. Tienvieri felt the Board did not have the

authority to act on behalf of the citizens of Bedford. Motion was made by Montri to approve a Resolution to publicly oppose the proposed bill HR-6666, the COVID-19 Testing, Reaching and Contacting Everyone (TRACE) Act, along with any other attempt to force so called contract tracing upon the citizens of this Township. Motion failed due to lack of support.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

LaMar Frederick, 3254 Deer Creek – pleased the Board did not move forward with the Resolution to publicly oppose the Trace Act.

Jodi Russ, 1273 Winding Way – as Head Librarian at Bedford Branch Library, she explained the internet service at the Library and mentioned she is against a Township Official speaking as a representative of the entire Township.

Gail Keane, 1056 W. Temperance – thanked Tienvieri for her work on the Policy manual, spoke to the purchase of a laptop and does not want a Board member speaking on her behalf.

Dale Track, 2842 Sanibel – thanked Mr. Francis for his years of service to the Township.

REPORT FROM TOWNSHIP BOARD MEMBERS

Steiner – asked residents to stay healthy and do the right thing for themselves and those around them.

Clements – congratulated Tienvieri and thanked Hershberger and Steiner for their help on getting the Board Policy Manual written and stated it is now the Boards job to live by it.

Francis – he has enjoyed the time he has been allowed to serve the residents of Bedford Township these past 15 ½ years and feels he is leaving his department in the very capable hands of his Deputy; in his opinion, he recommends the Board finance the Fire Stations repairs as this will give the Township some flexibility through these tough financial times and the Township will not have to sacrifice using working capital it might need.

Montri – believes the Sheriff's race is the most important local race in this years elections and urges residents to see if their future Sheriff will stand up and protect the Constitution and individual liberties or enter into a police state; and mentioned he felt he was representing some residents in his effort to oppose the TRACE Act.

Tienvieri – stated the Trustees are equal to the three elected officials on the Board, with equal voting, authority and rights. However, she does not feel they are treated as equals nor are they always informed as to what is going on within the Township building. She again mentioned that budget adjustments should be made prior to purchases.

Hershberger – let Paul Francis know it has been a pleasure working with him these past 15 years as he has always fought for what he believed was best for the citizens; she wished him well in his retirement with Garnet and jokingly let him know the employees were going to miss his Friday bagels/donuts. She let the voters on the permanent absentee list know that their AV applications would be going out the end of this week; the State is mailing out AV applications to all other voters; and as of today, the polls will still be open on August 4th so those who do not return their applications can still go to the polls and vote. She let Tienvieri know she will look into the computer issues she is having on the Trustee computer. And even though the Township has been closed to the public, workers have been working and answering the phones, but Monday, the 25th is Memorial Day, so the Township will be closed, closed.

Pirrone – mentioned he needed to purchase the laptop to join in these meetings, but he only purchases what is absolutely necessary; he is opposed to financing the Fire Station repairs; updated the Board on the lawsuit regarding a resident in Prairie Woods who is running a business out of his home. The resident has rented another location for his business, but still insists on bringing his box truck home at night; the Fire Chief is working on an emergency plan to bring workers back to

work; Local 886 is working on the sidewalk project at the Library; the Police Memorial concrete is also being formed-up and poured this week; thanked the EMS workers for their work; mentioned the Park Board made the decision to close some of the Parks, but the walking trails at Ansted, Indian Creek and Wheeler Preserve are still open; and mentioned he will miss Mr. Francis. Tienvieri – asked the Attorney questions regarding the lawsuit and hopes any decisions regarding it come to the Board.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:35 p.m.

Trudy L. Hershberger, CMC, CMMC
Bedford Township Clerk

Nancy Gin
Deputy Clerk/Recording Secretary