

BEARINGER TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING
17034 Town Hall Highway
Regular Meeting, June 13, 2011 7 PM
1st Copy

The meeting was called to order at 7 PM followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Roll call was taken. All board members were present.

Public comments on the agenda were heard. Irene Seeyle requested to be on the agenda. Supervisor Slawinski told her she can speak during Public Comments before the end of the meeting. Doug Phelps, Board of Review chairman, wanted the board to make sure we scheduled dates for Board of Review.

Supervisor Slawinski made a motion to approve the agenda. Trustee Augustine seconded the motion. All board members were in favor so the motion carried.

April and May check registers and mileage sheets were reviewed. Irene Seeyle questioned the bill paid to the Presque Isle Advance. Clerk Shutes made a motion to accept the Consent Agenda. Treasurer Phelps seconded the motion. All board members were in favor so the motion carried.

Treasurer Phelps reported that as of May 31st, 2011 we have the following balances:

Savings Account	\$211,970.74
Checking Account	9313.94
CD (Savings)	<u>101,043.98</u>
	\$322,328.66
 EMS Account	 \$16,935.11

Phelps presented the board with her summer newsletter and wanted clarification that Board of Review will meet on July 19, 2011 @ 9 AM. This is the correct date.

The minutes from the April, 11th meeting were discussed. Treasurer Phelps wanted the minutes state that she had made a motion about the Fire Department. There were two misspelled names. Trustee Augustine wanted a paragraph removed. Supervisor Slawinski made a motion to accept the minutes. Treasurer Phelps seconded the motion to approve the minutes with

corrections. The vote was 4 yes, 1 no. Due to a majority vote the motion carried.

Correspondence was heard. Trustee Augustine had a letter from the Watershed Council explaining what they do with money they receive. Augustine made a motion to give \$130 to the Watershed Council. Trustee Dowker seconded the motion. After discussion about whether or not it is legal to donate money, a roll call vote was taken. Trustee Augustine, yes. Clerk Shutes, no. Trustee Dowker, yes. Treasurer Phelps, yes. Supervisor Slwainski, yes. Due to a majority vote the motion carried. Trustee Augustine had a letter of opinion from lawyer MacArthur about the Township Assessor, Trevor Most, being paid as an employee instead of being contractual. Assessor Most had an opinion letter from the same lawyer that said it was legal for him to remain contractual. After much discussion, it was decided that Most will present the board with a contract at the August meeting. We will increase his pay so his take home pay will remain the same. Bearinger Township will pay the taxes and medicare and issue Most a W-2 instead of a 1099 at tax time. The board will vote on the new contract at the August meeting.

Clerk Shutes reported that the township will get reimbursed for the Special Education millage renewal election. 23 people voted so it cost the school district over \$600 in payment to Bearinger. Shutes presented a bill from MTA for \$835.34. Shutes made a motion that we not join MTA. Treasurer Phelps seconded the motion. Shutes thinks it too expensive and does not believe we get correct information from MTA. There was discussion about going through the Michigan Munciple League for our legal and township questions. Phelps will look into the MML at our next meeting. A vote was taken to not join MTA. Shutes voted yes to not join. The rest of the board voted no. Due to a majority vote the motion did not carry. We will hold off on paying dues to MTA until the August meeting when we have more information.

Assessor Most reported that May and June have been quiet. This is not a busy time for him. Most will tweak a sample employee contract and present it to the board in August. In June and July he will be paid as usual.

Trustee Augustine and Trustee Dowker both read their Ambulance Meeting minutes. Onawy is getting a new ambulance. They have lots of money in CD's. There were no runs in Bearinger.

Supervisor Slawinski commended Grant Godsey for the excellent job he is doing with the lawn and township hall cleaning. The bat man will put up fly catching strips and block up the roof so the fly and bat problems will be taken care of. He will get three bids for the electrical wiring for the Town Hall.

Public Comments were heard.

Rita Lunceford suggested we get an information board so people don't have to get out of their cars to read postings in the windows. Slawinski will check into that.

Jim McKindles thinks the board made a mistake by donating to the Watershed.

Doug Phelps addressed the calendar that was handed out at the last meeting and called for Trustee Augustine to resign.

Karen Silver stated that the Watershed does what the township can not do so it is not a donation. She thinks we should ask the lawyer in Alpena his opinion on the assessor. She questioned whether or not the fire department should be considered employee's, too. She feels that Trustee Augustine invaded her space by taping recording her without her permission. She requested that Grant mow the lawn before HIPPO.

John Malaski thinks Supervisor Slawinski and Treasurer Phelps are doing a good job. He thanked Trustee Augustine for all her information about the assessor.

Irene Seeyle applauds the boards' work. Presque Isle County is back peddling on recycling. Emmet County does a great job. Their facility is on Pleasant View Road in Harbor Springs. If you have questions, call her.

Supervisor Slawinski made a motion to adjourn. Trustee Dowker seconded the motion. All in favor. The next meeting is on August 8th @ 7 PM.

Respectfully submitted: Nancy Shutes, Bearinger Township Clerk

