

BEARINGER TOWNSHIP REGULAR BOARD MEETING
17034 Town Hall Highway Millersburg, Michigan
January 10, 2017 Minutes

Supervisor Patterson called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m., followed by the pledge of allegiance to the flag. Present for the meeting were Board Members Supervisor Archie J. Patterson II, Clerk Beverly Rossetto, Treasurer Emilie Stawiarski, Trustees Patricia Frost and Duane Walker. Others in attendance were Irv Dedow, James McKindles and Doug Phelps.

Approval of Agenda: Duane Walker made a motion to approve the agenda, Patricia Frost supported the motion. Five aye votes, motion carried.

Approval of Consent Agenda: Motion made by Emilie Stawiarski to approve the Consent Agenda and pay the bills, motion supported by Duane Walker. Five aye votes, motion carried.

Approval of Minutes: After review of the minutes of the December 10, 2016 meeting, Duane Walker made a motion to approve the minutes, Patricia Frost supported the motion. Five aye votes, motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Stawiarski gave a summary of the December 2016 financial report. Fund balances ending December 31, 2016 were:

1.	General Fund Savings Account	\$155,502.32
2.	General Fund Checking Account	4,173.15
3.	CD (Savings) Account	106,860.33
4.	Township Building Fund	<u>10,009.02</u>
5.	Total (All Accounts)	\$276,544.82

Treasurer Stawiarski presented a tag report showing income and expenses from April 1st through December 31th for fiscal year 2016/17. As of today 2.85% of summer property taxes are uncollected. As of January 10, 2017 55% of winter taxes have been paid. Trustee Walker asked about the Swamp Tax, Treasurer Stawiarski explained that it is paid by the State of Michigan for state owned property.

Clerk's Report: Clerk Rossetto stated that the December 10, 2016 minutes, check register, balance sheet and amended Budget ending December 31, 2016 are available. Clerk Rossetto reported that she and Trustee Walker had attended the Presque Isle County Officers Association meeting January 3, 2017

Trustee's Report: Trustee Walker reported that the Presque Isle County Officers Association meeting and audit went good. He also attended the Onaway Area Ambulance Service meeting December 28, 2016. The building addition is receiving the final touches for completion. The monitor repair is on hold because the company that is doing the repair is moving to another state. There is still an issue with the OAAS alternate member for Bearinger Township and the OAAS secretary will contact the township clerk regarding this matter.

Trustee Frost had no report.

Assessor's Report: Assessor Zabik is currently inputing the results from the Equalization Department studies for the four classes of property within Bearinger Township. Making sure all new construction has been accounted for on the 2017 assessment roll and she is reviewing parcel data including PRE information, taxpayer addresses, previously exempted property as well as the most current transfers of ownership. The Assessment Change Notices will be mailed out prior to the March Board of Review.

Supervisor's Report: Supervisor Patterson attended the December 20, 2016 Rogers City Area Ambulance Service Association meeting. There were a total of 182 runs in October and November 2016. The Cheboygan Life Support Systems has offered to make the supported units voting members on their board of directors. The lawyer said as long as there was a clear conflict of interest policy where the unit representative could not vote on their own contract then there would be no conflict. This issue has been sent to the Authority's attorney for an opinion.

Correspondence: 1. Frontier Connect America presentation, Supervisor Patterson informed everyone that a representative from Frontier will attend the March 14, 2017 township meeting to update the project of Connect America. Notices will be sent to adjoining communities to attend this Frontier presentation.

2. Presque Isle Electric & Gas Co-op Liaison member. Supervisor Patterson appointed Patricia Frost as the Bearinger Township Liaison member to attend the annual meeting in January 2017.

Old Business: No Old Business

New Business: 1. Ocqueoc-Bearinger Fire Dept. Proposed 2017/2018 Budget. Each board member received a copy of the proposed budget to review and was informed of the March 2, 2017 Tri-Board meeting at the Fire Department. A brief discussion was held regarding the 2016/2017 budgeted equipment.

2. Poverty Exemption Resolution and Application for Poverty Exemption. After the review of the poverty guidelines annual allowable income and the intent regarding that the principal residence shall not exceed three acres, Resolution 2017-01 was offered by Clerk Rossetto and supported by Trustee Walker. Roll call vote, members voting yes were Patricia Frost, Emilie Stawiarski, Beverly Rossetto, Duane Walker and Archie Patterson II. Nay vote, none.

3. Trustee Training. Trustee Walker requested that he be allowed to attend the MTA Budget Planning Workshop in Gaylord, MI. Supervisor Patterson explained that it was the duty of the Supervisor and Clerk to prepare a propose budget for the board members approval. Supervisor Patterson requested that each board member state their thoughts. Patricia Frost said that the training was unnecessary. Emilie Stawiarski stated that she is all for education but this training would not be beneficial. Archie Patterson said he had already stated his view. Beverly Rossetto stated that she agreed with Emilie about education but the budgeted workshop expense should be used for trustee duty education.

Public Comment Jim McKindles asked how many of the Ocqueoc – Bearinger Fire Department members were certified fire fighters? It was stated that this is a question for the Fire Board not the Township Board. Patricia Frost stated that she had donated \$135.00 to the Fire Department to cover Bearinger Township share of Chuck Hilger's elder care and that this saved the property owners seven cents per taxable parcel of property.

Being no further comments, Beverly Rossetto made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Duane Walker. Five aye votes, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 1:48 pm.

Next regular Township Board meeting will be held, Tuesday, February 14, 2017 at 1:00 pm.

Minutes taken and respectfully submitted by,

Beverly Rossetto, Township Clerk