

MONTHLY MEETING  
August 3, 2023

**Meeting:** meeting called to order by Jeff Johnson at 7:00 PM

**The Pledge of Allegiance:** recited by all.

**Roll Call:** Present: Sally Casey, Kyle Orr, Maryanne Goodman, Jeff Johnson, Anna Grobe.

**Minutes:** July 6, 2023, Township Board Meeting minutes approved as presented.

**Financial Reports:** General Fund presented by Maryanne Goodman. **Motion by Maryanne Goodman, seconded by Sally Casey to approve the general fund report as read. Roll call vote: Ayes; Grobe, Johnson, Goodman, Casey and Orr. Nays; None.**

Fire Fund presented by Maryanne Goodman. **Motion by Maryanne Goodman seconded by Anna Grobe to approve the fire fund report as read. Roll call vote: Ayes; Orr, Goodman, Casey, Grobe and Johnson Nays; None.**

**Budget Amendment:** None

**Payment of Township Accounts:**

Checks # 9292-9295 for a total of \$6,000.00 for aid to other governments issued in July. Check # 9296 to the State of MI for quarterly tax withholding in the amount of \$2,110.31.

Debit card charges of \$260.00 to MAMC for membership and training for the Clerk and Deputy Clerk.

Request for approval of General Fund checks #9297 through #9334, in addition to the items shown above in the amount of \$43,486.34 for the purpose of paying Township accounts, this includes an EFPTS payment of \$2,094.39. **Motion by Sally Casey, seconded by Maryanne Goodman to approve the payment of township accounts as presented. Roll call vote: Ayes; Johnson, Orr, Grobe, Goodman and Casey. Nays; None.**

Request for approval of Fire Fund checks #1523 through #1526 in the amount of \$59,006.22. This includes the first half of our protection contract. **Motion by Kyle Orr, seconded by Sally Casey to approve the payment of Fire Fund checks as presented. Roll call vote: Ayes; Casey, Grobe, Orr, Goodman and Johnson. Nays; None.**

**Additional Agenda items:** New date for the August clean up will be on the 12<sup>th</sup>. Incoming correspondence. New business; Short Term Rental Ordinance. The Clerk's office will be closed on August 30 so that she and her deputy can attend a seminar.

**Public comment on Agenda:** None.

**Guests:** Rebecca Hubers- Emergency Management Coordinator- gave an overview of where the new tower project stands. The original site will not work and the only available site would be next to the Fire Station in Frankfort. The new tower will enhance the use of handheld radios within the city limits and elsewhere. The communications within vehicles will not change. Currently the coverage is 95% for most of the County and that will not change. The addition of broadband coverage will also enhance the usage. Crystal Lake Township is pledging ARPA funds for broadband usage/coverage. Question were asked that the Township is not getting any additional coverage for the funds that we pledged. Federal grant money was applied for and the estimated project cost currently 2.7-2.8 million dollars. The proposed location is in the industrial district.

Stacy Pasche, Benzie Shores District Library Director- Presented the board with the annual budget. Gave an update on the current number of card holders and on-going programs. There is no fee for out of district users of the library.

**Correspondence:**

Incoming:

1. Copy of our agreement with the Benzonia Public Library for our contribution.
2. Benzie County Community Chest newsletter.
3. Letter from Honor Bank of the revised fee schedule.
4. Letters from the Friends of Point Betsie for our contribution to the Shoreline Protection Project.
5. Email from Wilfred Swiecki offering to donate a TV to the Township. **Motion by Kyle Orr with a second by Jeff Johnson to accept the generous offer of a TV. Roll call vote: Ayes; Orr, Goodman, Casey, Grobe and Johnson. Nays; None.**
6. Email proposal from Colligo GIS for slope mapping services. **Motion by Anna Grobe with a second by Maryanne Goodman to approve the contract as presented and authorize the Supervisor to sign it. Roll call vote: Ayes; Orr, Casey, Grobe, Johnson and Goodman. Nays; None.**
7. Sheriff's report for summer road patrols.
8. ParPlan newsletter
9. Thank you letter and signed agreement from the Betsie Area Historical Society.
10. Two letters from DTE regarding public hearings on waste reductions surcharges.
11. Letter of resignation from Pam Radabaugh as the representative of the Township on the Benzie Shores District Library Board. Accepted with regrets.
12. Benzie Senior Resources newsletter.
13. Letter from Claudia Bailey expressing interest in being appointed as the representative of the Township on the Benzie Shores District Library. A short list of requests for information to be provided to the Township was given to Claudia. **Motion by Anna Grobe with a second by Jeff Johnson to appoint Claudia Bailey to a 1-year term as the representative of the Township on the Benzie Shores District Library Board. Roll call vote; Ayes; Goodman, Casey, Orr, Johnson and Grobe. Nays; none.**
14. Benzie Shores District Library newsletter.
15. Local Community Stabilization Authority.
16. Email from Dick Taylor on the shoreline protection system.
17. Summer Road patrol report for July.

Outgoing:

1. Letter sent to Dan DeVries regarding a request for reimbursement for road repairs.

New Business:

1. Contract for assessing services. Gunnar Brow spoke on why there will be an increase in the fee for contracted services. Motion by Maryanne Goodman with a second by Kyle Orr to approve and authorize the Supervisor the contract with MI Assessing Services. The contract will extend our current contract through March 31, 2024. The new 3- year contract will start on April 1, 2024.
2. Short Term Rental Ordinance- it was suggested that a sub-committee be formed to address some of the issues that were raised during the Public Hearing held prior to the regular meeting.

Old Business:

1. Discuss parking lot improvements; entrance and exit driveways, mailbox location, parking spaces, handicap parking space. No changes at this time .

County Updates:

Commissioner Art Jeannot, District 2 submitted his written report.

Commissioner Karen Cunningham , District 3 submitted her written report.

Township Departments:

**Planning Commission:** Next meeting is scheduled for Sept 14 at 6:30. Main topic will be the watershed overlay district. It was also asked that they look at the fee schedule.

**Zoning Administrator:** Written report and question were answered

**Assessor:** Has been working on sales studies. He reached out to neighboring townships to get comparable. The study does not need to be finalized until January. Has done land divisions, and has been familiarizing himself with subdivisions and basic database clean up.

**Park Committee:** Met with Chris DeGood about upgrades to the canoe pick up area.

**Supervisor:** To start the process of upgrading the canoe area, we can file a request for qualifications or hire a consultant directly and pay as we need to. It was decided to hire a consultant and see how it goes. Motion by Kyle Orr with a second by Maryanne Goodman to contract with Beckett & Rader, Chris DeGood as a consultant for canoe pick up area. Ayes; Casey, Johnson, Grobe, Goodman and Orr. Nays; none. Thank you to Penny Georgevich for all her help in the scheduling of park attendants. A reminder that work on the building wall will start on August 14 and run through the 16.

**Cleanup Day:** Reminder of the change in the date. Volunteers are always welcome.

**Public Comment:** PLIA annual meeting will be on August 5.

Meeting Adjourned: 9:24 pm

10 in Attendance

Anna Grobe, Clerk