

February 12th, 2025 -7:00PM
Township Hall, 6586 West M-21 St. Johns MI
Regular Board Meeting Agenda
BENGAL TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING

The meeting commenced at 7:00 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Roll call was taken, in attendance Nick McDonald, Sharon Bassette, Nolan Solomon, Stan Sillman; Nick Tipper was absent.

Public in attendance: Zack Rudat, Mark Holley

The **agenda was reviewed** and additions under New Business were made including d. Fire Stand-by fee, e. Hall Rental, f. Zoning Escrow Reimbursements, g. Inhouse Website Maintenance were added. Trustee Sillman made a motion to approve the agenda with changes, supported by Treasurer Soloman, motion carried.

The **January 8th meeting minutes** were presented, Trustee Sillman made a motion to approve the minutes as presented, supported by Treasurer Solomon, motion carried.

There were no **public comments on agenda items**.

There were no **public comments on non-agenda items**.

REPORTS

Zach Rudat gave the **Commissioner's Report** including updates on the Robin Grant which will expand broadband access across Clinton County, also discussed was the new Public Safety Campus study that was recently done with an estimated project cost of approximately \$91 million, he advised the County will begin live-streaming monthly board and committee meetings beginning with the February 20th meeting, he discussed Personal Policy updates reflecting upcoming changes to the States Earned Sick Time act.

With Trustee Tipper, liaison to the **Planning Commission**, absent; general discussion commenced about a recently denied application, applicants not contacting the inspector for inspections, escrow reimbursements, Google drive updates, and McKenna communications with township residents.

Assessor Mark Holley gave the **Township Assessor Report**, sharing the upcoming Board of Review dates on March 10th from 3:00 pm to 9:00 pm and March 13 from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm, he added that the property taxable values increased by 3.1%.

No **Sheriff Report** was given.

No **Delegate Report** was given.

No **Clinton Transit Report** was given.

Treasurer Solomon gave the **Treasurer Report**, everything is as it should be with savings beginning balance \$766,124.66, ending balance \$764,870; general checking beginning balance \$12,569.06, ending balance \$18,077.73. Trustee Sillman made a motion to approve the Treasurers Report as presented, supported by Clerk Bassette, motion carried.

Clerk Bassette gave the **Clerks Report** advising the report is balanced with the Treasurers Report, she updated the board on zoning escrow reimbursements and inspections. Treasurer Solomon made a motion to approve the Clerks Report as presented, supported by Trustee Sillman, motion carried.

Clerk Bassette presented the **current bills** to be paid. A payment to the Clinton County Treasurer in the amount of \$13.91 was added to the list and Trustee Sillman made a motion to approve the bills in the amount of \$19,439.56, supported by Clerk Bassette, motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Supervisor McDonald advised that if anyone is interested in a **wage increase** this year, they should survey surrounding townships for information on their wages and present it to the board next month.

Supervisor McDonald discussed the **road project** contracts for the upcoming fiscal year. He advised that the meeting with the Road Commission is on 3/13/25 and Trustee Sillman plans to attend the meeting.

Supervisor McDonald discussed the **City of St. Johns fire stand-by fee**, and changes that he has been discussing with the city, advising that the pricing is going up since a Fire Chief will no longer be a volunteer position. He is still working on the new pricing with the city.

Supervisor McDonald discussed **hall rentals**, stating that with the cost of snow plowing during the winter months, hall rental income does not support the expense. He made suggestions on how the township could move forward and asked board members to think about it over the next month.

Supervisor McDonald lead discussion regarding **zoning escrow reimbursements** and other zoning considerations concerning google drive updates, inspections, and community communications regarding zoning questions.

Supervisor McDonald led discussion of moving **website maintenance** in house, is this something that we want to consider?

There were no **board comments**.

Trustee Sillman made a **motion to excuse** Trustee Tippers' absence.

The **meeting was adjourned** at 9:03 pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Clerk Bassette