

Benton Township Board Meeting

November 13th, 2019
7616 E State Road 45, Bloomington, IN, 47468

Attendance

- Michelle Bright, Trustee
- Joe Husk, Chair
- Hans Kelson, Secretary
- Lynn Stevens, Board Member
- Kevin Robling, Legal Counsel
- Melinda Husk

Meeting called to order at 6:31 PM

Approval of Minutes

Motion to Approve July Minutes: Stevens

Second: Kelson

Approved Unanimously

Old Board Business

Revised Fire Department Contract

Kevin Robling presenting:

- Clarified Section 8
- Changed the amount listed in Section 10 (Payment for Services) from \$16,000 to \$20,000 as a sign of good faith since they are actually working hard to recruit new volunteers. This is still a reduction of \$4,000 over last year's contract.
- Clarified language regarding tax procedures in Section 10

Approval:

- Motion to Approve 2020 BTVFD Contract: Kelson
Second: Stevens
Approved Unanimously

Financial Report

Rainy Day Fund

- YTD Expense: \$37,102.00
- Budget Remaining: \$62,898.00
- Cash Balance: \$159,807.99

Township Fund

- YTD Expense: \$68,129.91
- Budget Remaining: \$14,870.09
- Cash Balance: \$118,341.42

Township Assistance Fund

- YTD Expense: \$8,039.42
- Budget Remaining: \$11,960.58
- Cash Balance: \$94,476.53

Firefighting Fund

- YTD Expense: \$190,301.36
- Budget Remaining: \$202,698.64
- Cash Balance: \$429,416.71

Cumulative Fire Fund

- YTD Expense: \$8,125.35
- Budget Remaining: \$291,429.65
- Cash Balance: \$325,916.65

Recreation Fund

- YTD Expense: \$12,080.42
- Budget Remaining: \$3,919.58
- Cash Balance: \$9,040.61

Deposits

- Local Income Tax: \$10,959.00
- Interest from Trust Indiana: \$1,736.48
- Refund from Worker's Comp. insurance premium: \$788.00
- We did not receive a restitution payment from Heather Cohee this month.

Trustee Report

Township Assistance Report

- No requests for assistance this month
- One Pantry donation of a large assortment of items from Trustee Bright's mother
- Pantry was used 1 time for a total of \$45
- Sent out thank-you notes for pantry donations
- Attended the Utility Assistance round table at the south central community action program. There were representatives from many agencies there to speak about their programs, including:
 - United Way
 - Monroe County United Ministries
 - Other Trustee's Offices
 - Comcast
 - Vectren
 - Duke Energy
 - City of Bloomington Utilities
- We refer almost everyone to the CAP office. If you have been approved for their program, your utilities cannot be shut off during the winter months.

Heather Cohee Update

- Followed up with the Attorney General's Office. Heather Cohee is apparently not currently employed, but she should be returning to work soon. There is a status conference set for January 10th.
- Trustee Bright is working on putting all of our information together in a readable format.

Snow Removal Bids

- Received two responses. One was a Township resident, however, the rate was very high.
- Dustin Bruce from Bruce's Lawn Care was awarded the bid. He has done our property maintenance for the last three seasons.

Danny Smith Park

- Set up a time to meet with Ryan Steele. He had a conflict and has not reached out to reschedule.

Fire Department

Volunteer Application

- We have a very enthusiastic volunteer who is currently 17 years old, and will be joining the department as soon as he is old enough.

Part Time Maintenance Staffer

- Zach Shaw had not been making adequate progress. At the advice of Monroe Fire District Chief Dustin Dillard, we have hired Matt Fisher, a former BTVFD volunteer. He has been getting a lot of work done. He has also come back as a volunteer.

Mechanic's Report

- All vehicles except Squad 14 have been fitted with new tires
- Engine 14-1 needs an alignment
- Equipment has been updated to allow checking tire pressure

Building Update

- Building & Associates will be coming to complete the second floor reinforcements in the fire department
- Woods & Associates has installed a vent fan in the gear room. This comes after a discovery that there was mold growing. We have also discovered mice in the same room, and are in the process of addressing that.

Monroe Fire District Update

- Trustee Bright, Chairman Joe Husk, and Melinda Husk attended the Monroe Fire District Board Meeting. That board has unanimously voted to support us in joining the district.
- Trustee Bright will attend the Monroe County Commissioners Work Session on Wednesday, Nov. 20th at 11:30 A.M. to formally let them know what our intentions are, as well as to clarify the process.
- Will assess how many taxpayers would constitute 20% of our total, to determine how many signatures we will need
- Will schedule a meeting between Chief Dillard and BTVFD to talk about how this process would go
- Reached out to Baker Tilly (formerly Umbaugh) to conduct a financial analysis
- Working with someone to develop a letter to the taxpayers. This will include all the legal information that we are required to give, as well as a FAQ about the situation.
- Would like to move forward on this quickly. If this process goes ahead, then we could spend some of our money on making improvements to the station. However, we can't decide on that until we know where the District discussions are headed.

Next Meeting

- Next meeting is currently scheduled for December 12th, but may be canceled.

Approval

- Motion to Approve Trustee Report: Stevens
Second: Kelson
Approved Unanimously

Fire Department Reports

NMFT Report

- BTVFD Only: 2
- NMFT Only: 3
- Both Units Respond: 8
- Disregarded by Dispatch: 1
- No Data: 3
- NMFT responded from Station 14: 4

Approval

- Motion to Approve NMFT July Report: Kelson
Second: Stevens
Approved Unanimously

BTVFD Report

- Zach was unable to get us a report this month.
- Motion to Table the October BTVFD Report: Kelson
Second: Stevens
Passed Unanimously

Aladtec Report

- Reviewed outstanding items from Aladtec report

New Board Business

Credit Card Policy

- Added Part Time Maintenance Staffer as someone who should have a credit card

Approval

- Motion to Approve Credit Card Policy: Stevens
Second: Kelson
Approved Unanimously

Vehicle Take Home Policy

- Recently, we have had some issues regarding when it appropriate for fire trucks to be driven home. This is in accordance with language from the Volunteer Contract.

Approval

- Motion to Approve Vehicle Take Home Policy: Stevens
Second: Kelson
Approved Unanimously

Volunteer Training Reimbursement Policy

- This policy establishes a procedure for volunteers to be reimbursed for training, in accordance with the Volunteer Contract.

Approval

- Motion to approve Volunteer Training Reimbursement Policy: Stevens
Second: Kelson
Approved Unanimously

Adjournment

- Motion to Adjourn: Kelson
Second: Stevens
Meeting adjourned at 7:34