

Benton Township Board Meeting

March 11th, 2020
7616 E State Road 45, Bloomington, IN, 47468

Attendance

- Joe Husk, Chair
- Hans Kelson, Secretary
- Lynn Stevens, Board Member
- Kevin Robling, Legal Counsel
- Matt Bright, Deputy Chief, Northern Monroe Fire Territory
- Melinda Husk
- Cindy Benson
- Autumn Harff

Meeting called to order at 6:30 PM

Approval of Minutes

Approval

- Motion to Approve Feb. 12th minutes: Kelson
Second: Stevens
Approved Unanimously

Financial Report - January

Rainy Day Fund

- YTD Expense: \$0
- Budget Remaining: \$0
- Cash Balance: \$150,332.29

Township Fund

- YTD Expense: \$6,471.21
- Budget Remaining: \$76,528.79
- Cash Balance: \$134,669.07

Township Assistance Fund

- YTD Expense: \$4,888.76
- Budget Remaining: \$15,111.24
- Cash Balance: \$94,165.20

Firefighting Fund

- YTD Expense: \$6,402.31
- Budget Remaining: \$367,767.69
- Cash Balance: \$373,806.00

Cumulative Fire Fund

- YTD Expense: \$103,118.00
- Budget Remaining: \$37,882.00
- Cash Balance: \$321,276.90

Recreation Fund

- YTD Expense: \$786.25
- Budget Remaining: \$3,213.75
- Cash Balance: \$9,705.30

Deposits

- Local Income Tax: \$11,440.17
- Interest from Trust Indiana: \$1,231.24
- We did not receive a restitution payment from Heather Cohee this month.

Approval

- Motion to Approve Financial Reports: Kelson
Second: Stevens
Approved Unanimously

Trustee Report

4-H “Lil’ Pantry”

- The 4-H’ers built a “Lil Pantry” and installed it this week. They will be supplying the pantry with non-perishable items.

Fire Department Update

- The Fire Department has applied for new pagers and other equipment from the DNR.
- With help from Deputy Chief Matt Bright of the Northern Monroe Fire Territory, we have applied for a grant to help us put in the required interior exhaust system in the Fire Department building.
- We are continuing to meet with Doug Bruce of Tabor Bruce Architecture to determine the best use of space for our building.
- Chief Powers has several extrication tools vendors coming towards the end of the month. This will give our volunteers hands-on experience before making a purchase.
- Notes from Deputy Chief Bright:
 - Three of our volunteers attended the NMFT training. This included a crew from the City of Bloomington Fire Department.
 - In addition to the live fire training, there was also training with the new county-wide accountability system, which should be rolling out later this year.
 - Of late, NMFT has noticed an improvement in radio communication from Benton's volunteers. This is very helpful.

Fire District

- As of March 6th, we have received 488 postcards from people affirming that they are interested in moving forward.
- Approximately a dozen postcards were filled out incorrectly.
- 15 people oppose joining. Four of those are from the same family.

Public Meeting Considerations regarding COVID-19

- We will be monitoring the situation. If everything continues as it is right now, we will hold the meetings, but we are prepared to cancel if circumstances change.

Approval

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

Township Assistance Report

- Two new applications, one of which was at the wrong township office.
- Three households received assistance:
 - 3 months rent, close to \$2,000
 - One person was on the verge of having water disconnected
 - 2 months rent, \$1,250
- Our pantry was used four times, for a total of \$100.
- No new pantry donations this month.
- Still following up with 4-H.

Approval

- Motion to Approve Township Assistance Report: Stevens
Second: Kelson
Approved Unanimously

Fire Department Reports

BTVFD Report

- Dispatched runs: 14
- Runs Responded to: 8
- We had one run which 5 volunteers responded to. This has not happened in some time, and is a major step forward.
- Volunteers participated in live fire simulation training with Northern Monroe.

Approval

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

NMFT Report

January

- BTVFD Only: 0
- NMFT Only: 5
- Both Units Respond: 7

Approval

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

Aladtec Report

- Reviewed outstanding items and issues reported since the last meeting.

New Board Business

Township Assistance Guidelines

- We have to review our Township Assistance guidelines and approve them every year.
- No changes have been made this year, other than adjusting the income levels to match the Federal Poverty Rate.

Approval

- Motion to Approve the 2020 Township Assistance Guidelines: Kelson
Second: Stevens
Approved Unanimously

Adjournment

- Motion to Adjourn: Stevens
Second: Kelson
Meeting adjourned at 7:08