

Benton Township Board Meeting

March 10th, 2021
7616 E State Road 45, Bloomington, IN, 47468

Attendance

- Joe Husk, Chair
- Hans Kelson, Secretary
- Lynn Stevens, Board Member
- Michelle Bright, Township Trustee
- Matt Bright
- Jeffrey Combs
- Josh Hall

Meeting called to order at 6:41 PM

Approval of Minutes

- Motion to approve February Minutes: Kelson
Second: Stevens
Approved Unanimously
- Motion to amend January 20th Minutes to correct the date: Kelson
Second: Stevens
Approved Unanimously

Reports

Financial Report

Rainy Day Fund

- YTD Expense: \$1,352.50
- Budget Remaining: \$223,647.50
- Cash Balance: \$224,278.27

Township Fund

- YTD Expense: \$6,956.68
- Budget Remaining: \$56,043.32
- Cash Balance: \$88,504.61

Township Assistance Fund

- YTD Expense: \$1,326.74
- Budget Remaining: \$38,673.26
- Cash Balance: \$95,502.26

Firefighting Fund

- YTD Expense: \$63,949.28
- Budget Remaining: \$491,050.72
- Cash Balance: \$231,836.85

Cumulative Fire Fund

- YTD Expense: \$545.00
- Budget Remaining: \$198,524.00
- Cash Balance: \$111,365.33

Recreation Fund

- YTD Expense: \$911.61
- Budget Remaining: \$4,088.39
- Cash Balance: \$6,394.31

Shelter Insurance COVID Fund/Donation Fund

This is a combination of anonymous donations and money donated by Jenny Burton of Shelter Insurance for COVID-19 relief food boxes.

- Cash Balance: \$1,110.68

Deposits

- Local Income Tax: \$25,114.82
- Trust Indiana: \$37.33

Approval

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

Trustee's Report

Senior Center/Township Office

- HVAC in the Senior Center is going out. Trustee Bright has contacted Fyffe Heating and Cooling to get a quote for replacing it.

Danny Smith Park

- A number of people are registered for their programs already this year.
- Received \$1,800 worth of donations for mulch.
- Ordered fill dirt, we will receive an invoice.
- Purchased a Gator/Utility Vehicle for \$8,000.

Fire Department

- The fire department has been doing a lot of moving.
- Firefighters found some files from the 1960s in the attic.
- Career Firefighters stayed at the Fire Station for the first time on Friday, March 5th.
- The current shift at the time of this meeting was in attendance and gave introductions to the board.
 - Jeffrey Combs, House Captain
 - Josh Hall
- The Fire District currently has 2 people scheduled to be in Benton Township daily, plus a float person who may or may not be stationed here on any given day.
- ISO will be conducting a review in Monroe County in April. We will likely be considered part of the district, due to our contract with them.

Approval

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

Township Assistance Report

- One call asking for rent assistance for 4 months, got application filled out online but did not complete the rest of the process.
- One request approved for rent assistance to prevent eviction, \$870.
- Paid money out for a Township Assistance case from February.
- One call asking for help finding bathroom repair services. We directed them to HAND and CAP.

Approval

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

Fire Reports

We did not receive Fire Reports this month.

Tabling

- Motion to Table all Fire Reports: Kelson
Second: Stevens
Approved Unanimously

New Business

BTVFD Modification of Contract

- This documents states that we had a contract with the Benton Township Volunteer Fire Department as of November 8th, and that we have mutually agreed to terminate the contract as of March 10th, 2021.
- BTVFD will provide a final report to the township within 30 days, which will include:
 - Final Monthly Run Report
 - Final Annual Report
 - Final Accounting for all Department funds
 - Final Inventory of all Township equipment provided to BTVFD
- All recruitment will be terminated.
- The Fire Chief will be responsible for all communication of termination of Fire Service Agreements.
- All protocols or arrangements for winding down the organization should be done in cooperation with the township.
- All Township Equipment used by the department will be returned within 30 days.
- BTVFD is released from providing any services to the Township.
- The Township is released from providing any payment to BTVFD.
- Any claims for runs and other expenses are hereby considered good, and are released.
- Any members of BTVFD who wish to do so may apply immediately with the Fire District.
- BTVFD agrees to purchase and donate certain fixtures and improvements to the Township fire station.
- After 30 days, any additional funds held in BTVFD's reserves shall be donated to the township, and the township agrees that such funds will be reserved for improvements to the Fire Station.

Approval

- Motion to Approve Transfer to Rainy Day: Kelson
Second: Stevens
Approved Unanimously

Resolution for Declaration of Surplus Fire Department Property

- In the process of cleaning things out of the Fire Station, we have discovered various things that we will declare surplus, either due to duplicate functionality or no planned future use. Some of this will be repurposed by the district, and some will be disposed of.
 - 2008 Dodge 3500 (Support 14-8)
 - 2001 Dodge Ram Dakota (Squad 14)
 - Old appliances which were in use prior to the Fire Department remodel
 - Other Miscellaneous Equipment

Approval

- Motion to Approve Declaration of Surplus Property: Stevens
Second: Kelson
Approved Unanimously

Memorandum of Understanding for Support 14-8 and Squad 14

- As stated above, these vehicles have been declared surplus. We will allow the Fire District to borrow these vehicles until the end of the year.
- Motion to Approve Memorandum of Understanding for Support 14-8 and Squad 14: Stevens
Second: Kelson
Approved Unanimously

Revised Form 17 (Resolution Establishing Salaries of Township Officers and Employees)

- Added a Temporary Fire Chief to be responsible for the transition from BTVFD to the Fire District, to be paid at a rate of \$18 per hour. Chief Powers says he expects to work between 6 and 8 hours in this position.

Approval

- Motion to Approve Revised Form 17: Stevens
Second: Kelson
Approved Unanimously

Additional Appropriation and Reduction to the Firefighting Fund

- This is to fund the Temporary Fire Chief position which we established in the previous resolution.
- This is, in effect, a transfer, but we write it out as an additional appropriation and then a reduction.
- Adds an Additional Appropriation of \$1,000.00 to the Firefighting Fund, detailed by budget line below:
 - Personal Services: \$1,000.00
- Reduces the appropriated budget of the Firefighting Fund by \$1,000.00, detailed by budget line below:
 - Other Services and Charges: \$1,000.00

Approval

- Motion to Approve Additional Appropriation and Reduction: Kelson
Second: Stevens
Approved Unanimously

Public Comment

- Matt Bright expressed admiration towards the efforts of the Benton Township Fire Department. The Volunteers are to be commended for the work they did to procure such a well-appointed fire station, which will continue to be used by the Monroe Fire District. He also hopes that we can do something nice for the Volunteers once the fire station can be opened.

Adjournment

- Motion to Adjourn: Kelson
Second: Stevens
Meeting adjourned at 7:26 PM.