

Benton Township Board Meeting

November 9th, 2022
7616 E State Road 45, Bloomington, IN, 47468

Attendance

- Joe Husk, Chair
- Hans Kelson, Secretary
- Lynn Stevens, Board Member
- Michelle Bright, Township Trustee
- Sean McInerney
- Jake Dodds
- Josh Dodds
- Lesa Hacker

Meeting called to order at 6:30 PM

Approval of Minutes

- Motion to Table October 12th Minutes: Kelson
Second: Stevens
Approved Unanimously

Reports

Financial Report

- The board reviewed Trustee Bright's Financial Report. A summary of that report is attached to this document.

Approval

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

Trustee's Report

- Trustee Bright presented her Trustee's Report.

Township

- Trustee Bright has worked with the State of Indiana to create a verified email address called bentontownship53@in.gov, which will allow for consistency regardless of who is in office
- There were two Halloween events, at Danny Smith Park and the Fire Station. Trustee Bright distributed updated flyers about township government and the services we provide.
- Cub Scouts troop 133 has reached out to sponsor families for thanksgiving or holiday baskets.

Senior Center

- There are no Senior Center updates at this time.

Danny Smith Park

- There are no Danny Smith Park updates at this time.

Cemeteries

- Mary McInerney and Ashlie Kehrberg did two work days at Stepp Cemetery to clean the stones and pick up trash.

Fire Department

- The 2022 Benton Township Halloween Event went well, with a steady stream of kids attending.
- Trustee Bright specifically thanks the Fire District for providing a photo printer and supplies.
- We are still waiting for the Monroe County Planning Department to work out the final details of our legal description change.

Next Meeting

- The next meeting of the Township Board will be on December 7th.

Approval

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

Township Assistance Report

- Mary McInerney submitted her Township Assistance Report for October. A copy of that report is attached to this document.

Approval

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

Old Business

- There was no Old Business at this meeting.

New Business

Dormant Funds Resolution

- The Board reviewed a resolution to declare our Fire and Cumulative Fire funds dormant, and transfer the remaining balance of those funds to the Rainy Day Fund.
- A copy of the resolution is attached to this document.
- Motion to Approve Dormant Funds Resolution: Stevens
Second: Kelson
Approved Unanimously

Meeting Schedule Changes

- Board Member Kelson requests that the date of the December meeting be changed from the 14th to the 7th.
- Motion to change the date of the December meeting: Kelson
Second: Stevens
Approved Unanimously

Public Comment

- There was no public comment at this meeting.

Adjournment

- Motion to Adjourn: Kelson
Second: Stevens
Meeting adjourned at 6:47 PM.

FINANCIAL REPORT

SEPTEMBER 2022	2022 Budget	Month to date Expense	Year to date Expense	Remaining Approved Budget	Cash Balance	Deposits	Local Income Tax	Trust Indiana
Rainy Day Fund	\$ 20,000.00	\$ -	\$ 19,215.00	\$ 785.00	\$ 56,735.29	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 25.38
Township Fund	\$ 63,000.00	\$ 3,975.09	\$ 35,493.57	\$ 27,506.43	\$ 249,876.07	\$ 599.00	\$ 11,642.33	\$ 48.89
Welfare Admin/Direct Asst	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 1,814.19	\$ 10,121.35	\$ 9,878.65	\$ 86,839.13	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 151.38
Firefighting Fund	\$ 80,794.00	\$ -	\$ 80,557.73	\$ 236.27	\$ 286.50	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Cumulative Fire Fund	\$ 2,800.00	\$ -	\$ 2,800.00	\$ -	\$ 29.55	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 0.55
Recreation Fund	\$ 7,200.00	\$ 103.49	\$ 2,091.65	\$ 5,108.35	\$ 16,798.37	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 20.15
COVID Donation Fund	N/A	\$ -	\$ -	N/A	\$ 510.68	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
COVID Reimbursement Fund	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Township Donation Fund	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$ 194.33	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
FEMA Grant Fund	N/A	\$ -	\$ 7,261.64		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
TOTALS					\$ 411,269.92	\$ 599.00	\$ 11,642.33	\$ 246.35

OCTOBER 2022	2022 Budget	Month to date Expense	Year to date Expense	Remaining Approved Budget	Cash Balance	Deposits	Local Income Tax	Trust Indiana
Rainy Day Fund	\$ 20,000.00	\$ -	\$ 19,215.00	\$ 785.00	\$ 56,771.67	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 36.38
Township Fund	\$ 63,000.00	\$ 2,940.36	\$ 38,433.93	\$ 24,566.07	\$ 258,648.16	\$ -	\$ 11,642.33	\$ 70.12
Welfare Admin/Direct Asst	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 850.45	\$ 10,971.80	\$ 9,028.20	\$ 86,205.75	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 217.07
Firefighting Fund	\$ 80,794.00	\$ -	\$ 80,557.73	\$ 236.27	\$ 286.50	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Cumulative Fire Fund	\$ 2,800.00	\$ -	\$ 2,800.00	\$ -	\$ 30.23	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 0.68
Recreation Fund	\$ 7,200.00	\$ 644.79	\$ 2,736.44	\$ 4,463.56	\$ 16,182.47	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 28.89
COVID Donation Fund	N/A	\$ -	\$ -	N/A	\$ 510.68	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
COVID Reimbursement Fund	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Township Donation Fund	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$ 194.33	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
FEMA Grant Fund	N/A	\$ -	\$ 7,261.64		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
TOTALS					\$ 418,829.79	\$ -	\$ 11,642.33	\$ 353.14

Township Assistance Report

October 2022

Benton Township, Monroe County, IN

1. An ongoing client requested help buying a used vehicle. His application to the Military Family Relief Fund grant was denied. He is unable to document his expenses. The process for FSSA food stamps has ended due to a missed telephone appointment. This client comes to the office at least once a week asking for help.
2. A self-employed applicant has been unable to work since contracting Covid-19 in the spring of 2022 due to ongoing health limitations. She requested help with her REMC bill to avoid disconnection. We provided that payment. This applicant returned in October asking for help with lot rent. This request was denied. The corporation controlling the property wished to continue eviction proceedings instead of working with the Trustee office. The applicant is not on the expired lease.
3. The office is promoting the SCCAP application for assistance with heat, electric and water bills for the 2022-2023 Fall, Spring and Summer. The South Central Community Action Program is the Monroe County distributor of the Energy Assistance Program. EPA is a federally-funded program through the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).
4. Our in-house pantry has distributed personal hygiene items and cleaning products to 3 clients, all of which came into the office during the Township Assistance application process. These items include toothpaste, Pine-Sol, laundry detergent and toilet paper.

Submitted, in service, Mary McInerney

MM/mbm 11/07/2022

Households (3), Individuals (3), phone contacts (28).

**RESOLUTION OF BENTON TOWNSHIP, MONROE COUNTY
APPROVING RE-ALLOCATION OF DORMANT FUNDS**

WHEREAS, Benton Township, Monroe County (“Township”) operated its own fire department (“Department”);

WHEREAS, in 2020, it was determined that the Township would enter the Monroe County Fire District (“District”) would be responsible for all fire and EMS operations throughout the Township;

WHEREAS, as a result, the Township’s property tax levies for Fire and its Cumulative Fire and Equipment Replacement Fund (“Cumulative Fire”) have ended and those levies will be directed to the District going forward.

WHEREAS, the Township’s purposes of the Fire and Cumulative Fire of tax levies have been fulfilled and there is an unused and unencumbered balance remains in those funds;

WHEREAS, the Township has determined that pursuant to Indiana Code § 36-1-8-5 that the Fire Fund and Cumulative Fire Fund are “Dormant Funds”, are unused and unencumbered, are not dedicated funds or debt service funds, and that those funds may be re-allocated into a general fund or the Township’s Rainy Day Fund;

WHEREAS, as the time of this Resolution, the balance in the Fire Fund is \$286.50 and the balance in the Cumulative Fire Fund is \$30.23;

WHEREAS, it will be in the best interest of the Township to re-allocate the funds in the Dormant Funds to the Township’s Rainy Day Fund, to permit the Township to perform any necessary transfers or transactions to fulfill this directive, and take all other steps necessary;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF TOWNSHIP, AS FOLLOWS:

1. The Trustee is authorized to transfer funds from the Dormant Funds into the Rainy Day Fund or to perform any sequence of transfers needed to perform this goal.
2. The Trustee shall have the power to perform every act necessary or appropriate for the purposes of this transfer and the best interests of Township and the public including the powers outlined in I.C. § 30-5-5-5 with respect to banking transactions, and I.C. § 30-5-5-6 with respect to business operating transactions.
3. All actions heretofore taken by Township’s Board, Trustee, and designated representatives related to this resolution are hereby approved and ratified.
4. The Township Board, Trustee, and designated representatives shall each have the power to perform every act necessary or appropriate for the purposes of Township’s interests including, by way of illustration and not of limitation, the powers to represent Township and its interests before any governmental body, to receive and inspect confidential information, and to perform acts necessary with respect to the transfer of funds.

5. The Trustee is hereby authorized and directed to take all actions necessary or appropriate to affect the foregoing resolutions and to comply with applicable laws and regulations.

ADOPTED AND APPROVED at a meeting of Township's Board held on the _____ day of November, 2022.

AYE

NAY

ATTEST:

Michelle Bright, Trustee