

BEARINGER TOWNSHIP REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
17034 Town Hall Highway  
Millersburg, Michigan  
August 13, 2013

Supervisor J.G. Malaski called the meeting to order at 6:32 pm, followed by the pledge of allegiance. Present for the meeting were Board Members, Supervisor John G. Malaski, Treasurer Keitha Malaski, Trustee Kay Dowker and Clerk Beverly Rossetto. Trustee Archie J. Patterson II was absent. Property Owners and guests in attendance were Anthony Cripps, Irv Dedow, Lyle and Trudy Dickinson, Andrew Strelczuk, Joe Forrvesivor, Nancy Shutes, Jim McKindles, Irene Seelye, Pat Augustine, Patty and Robert Lubinski, Gale and Doug Phelps, Bill Hiscock, Chad Stevens, Jim and Barb Knight, Leslie Carmin, John Krupa, Barbara and Bill Davis, Ed Guzman, Janice J. Temple, Richard & Nancy Metty, Doug and Nancy Wood, Chris Garst and Rita Lunceford.

**Approval of Agenda:** Motion was made by Kay Dowker to approve the agenda, seconded by Keitha Malaski. Four aye votes. Motion carried.

**Approval of Consent Agenda:** Motion was made by Keitha Malaski, seconded by Kay Dowker to approve the Consent Agenda and pay the bills. Being no objections the motion was declared approved by Supervisor J.G. Malaski.

**Approval of Minutes:** **July 9, 2013 Minutes.** Trustee Dowker indicated that in both the July 9<sup>th</sup> and the July 19<sup>th</sup> minutes, Mr. Cripps name ends in an s not a. Motion was made by K. Dowker and seconded by K. Malaski to approve the June 9, 2013 minutes with the corrections. Four aye votes. Motion carried.

**Approval of Minutes:** **Special meeting, July 19, 2013 minutes.** Motion made by K. Malaski and seconded by K. Dowker to approve the July 19<sup>th</sup> minutes with the corrections. Being no objections the motion was declared approved by Supervisor J.G. Malaski

**Correspondence:** Clerk Rossetto reported that two correspondences have been received: Jean Krupa sent a letter resigning as Deputy Clerk. Correspondence received from Chemical Bank inviting the Treasurer and Clerk to attend a Municipal Banking Seminar, August 28, 2013 in Alpena, Michigan. Clerk Rossetto stated that the Seminar is free and made a motion that she and Treasurer Malaski be allowed mileage to attend this Seminar, Kay Dowker seconded the motion. Four aye votes. Motion carried.

**Treasurers Report:** Treasurer K. Malaski presented a revised financial report ending June 30, 2013, and reported that the checking account balance should have been \$12,339.13. She stated that summer taxes are coming in slowly. Township Fund balances ending July 31, 2013 were:

1	General Fund – Savings Account	\$ 159,214.19
2.	General Fund - Checking Account	6,509.85
3.	CD (Savings) Account	103,832.88
4.	EMS Money Market Account	<u>77,790.39</u>
	Total (All Accounts)	\$ 347,347.31

**Clerks Report:** Clerk Rossetto reported that copies of the July 2013 Check Register and the Standard Budget Report ended July 31, 2013 were available. She reported that it has been a long time since a Balance sheet has been presented at meetings. The current Balance Sheet shows that the Bank Statement and the Pontem General Ledger match.

**Assessor Report:** Supervisor Malaski read the Board of Review minutes of July 16, 2013.

**Trustees Report:** Trustee Dowker read the Onaway Ambulance minutes of July, 2013.

**Supervisors Report:** Supervisor J.G. Malaski read excerpts from Jim McKindles letter to the Editor of the Presque Isle Newspapers, August 8&9, 2013. The Supervisor pointed out misleading information in the article, stating there is not any noise from any group of residents in Bearinger Township; there was only one person that spoke about Planning for Bearinger Township. The Township Board has not brought up anything about Planning or Zoning.

Supervisor Malaski thanked Irene Seelye for putting him in touch with Dave Foster of Lansing regarding the process to receive a grant for the handicap parking spaces. The parking lot has been prepared for paving and the asphalt should be done by the weekend.

**Old Business:** Electric heaters - Supervisor Malaski has received two proposals for the wiring and three eight foot heaters for the meeting area and one small heater for the restroom. Both Electricians stated that the breaker box was old and needed to be upgraded to 100 Amps. The new breaker box will be a Square D Panel with capacity of 30 circuits. Supervisor Malaski recommended the Double D. Electric proposal of \$1620.00. Kay Dowker motioned that the Double D. Electric bid be accepted, Keitha Malaski seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Kay Dowker – aye, Keitha Malaski – aye, John Malaski –aye, Beverly Rossetto – aye. Motion carried.

**New Business:**

- A. Treasurer Malaski introduced Leslie Carmin as the new Deputy Treasurer. Ms. Carmin will be sworn in at the end of this meeting.
- B. NEMCOG membership, Supervisor Malaski stated that the cost of a year membership was \$650.00 and he did not feel the membership would benefit us at this time. Keitha Malaski made a motion that we will not accept the NEMCOG membership, Kay Dowker seconded the motion. Four aye votes. Motion carried.
- C. General Policy Manual of Bearinger Township, an amendment for the meeting agenda process was read by Supervisor Malaski. Amendment wording follows:
  - Meeting Agenda
  - The Township Supervisor shall prepare the agenda for the monthly meeting.
  - The proposed agenda may be amended at the meeting and shall then be approved by majority vote of the Township Board members at each Township Board meeting.

Example of a typical meeting agenda:

- 1. Call to order and Pledge of Allegiance
- 2. Roll call

3. Approval of the meeting agenda
4. Approval of the consent agenda (township expenditures)
5. Approval of minutes
6. Correspondence
7. Reports
8. Old Business
9. New Business
10. Public comments
11. Adjournment

Motion made by Keitha Malaski to adopt the amendment as read, Kay Dowker seconded the motion. Four aye votes. Motion carried

D. Township charge cards. Clerk Rossetto has completed the application for two charge cards with the same account number for the Supervisor and Clerk. Each card will have a \$500.00 credit limit. Motion made by Clerk Rossetto, seconded by Kay Dowker that we proceed in acquiring the cards. Four aye votes. Motion carried.

E. MTA Seminar in Gaylord for Planning & Zoning. Motion made by Beverly Rossetto and seconded by Keitha Malaski that Supervisor Malaski and Trustee Patterson attend this seminar with mileage. Four aye votes.

Supervisor Malaski stated that he will also attend a meeting in Onaway regarding fracking in the state of Michigan.

**Guest Speaker:** Jim McKindles introduced Chad Stevens of Patriot Radio 94.5 FM. Mr. Stevens stated that he has vast knowledge of Planning and Zoning and gave a brief history of how Planning has changed our communities. Planning has been around for hundreds of years, large cities like Washington D.C and Detroit used Planning and Zoning. Many times it was used to prevent certain ethnic groups from living in various areas of the cities. The Planning of large commercial areas put businesses like Mom & Pop stores out of business. As the smaller business left the neighborhoods and people had to drive farther to get supplies, this caused congested traffic and the need for more roads and freeways.

Mr. Stevens recommended that Planning and Zoning be controlled by passing laws to protect the rights of people. If someone or groups are doing something wrong use the laws and government to control the issue. Mr. Stevens stated that Planning & Zoning should be at the Local level and not by the County or State.

**Public comments:** Pat Augustine commented that the US Census every ten years is used to rezone area to benefit one party or the other either, Republicans or Democrats. Can't a system like this be used for Planning & Zoning in various districts in the County?

Gale Phelps said that the Board had spoken about Planning & Zoning at two meetings. Supervisor Malaski repeated that only one person had asked to be on the agenda regarding this subject. Gale agreed that Planning is very important, but we cannot afford it at this time.

John Krupa wants to see transparency and said a husband and wife should not be on the board because they will always vote the same way. It was explained that it is not illegal to have a married couple on the

board and that the Treasurer was talked into running for the Treasurer office because no one else wanted the job. Treasurer Malaski stated that she had worked for and managed a large firm for many years and was capable of making her own decisions. She assured everyone that she and the supervisor were two different and independent people.

Nancy Shutes asked why all the correspondence was not read by the Clerk such as the thank you note from Irene Seelye regarding the Hippo Arts and Crafts Show. Andrew Strelczuk interjected that all correspondences do not have to be read at a business meeting because of various reason. Clerk Rossetto said she will try to read all thank you notes in the future.

Barb Knight thanked the Board for all their hard work and for all that has been accomplished.

Irene Seelye questioned when the parking lot would be completed. Supervisor Malaski replied that the asphalt would be spread Wednesday or Thursday of this week. Supervisor Malaski also spoke about the fact that the State has cut grant funding. Many of the cuts will affect seniors and people with disabilities but we still have hopes of receiving some funding for the handicap parking spaces.

Doug Thompson asked how much it is going to cost the Township for the parking lot. Supervisor Malaski replied \$11,900.00, this is higher than the previous bid received almost five years ago but, we have fourteen parking places instead of two, which is a lot more cost effective.

It was announced that a meeting regarding fracking in the State of Michigan will be held at the VFW Hall in Onaway, August 22, 2013.

Andrew Strelczuk spoke about Michigan State Grant Programs, it seems that at the end of the fiscal year all the grant programs money disappears, but somehow in September we can expect to see the money return. Mr. Strelczuk told the Board not to give up on the parking lot grant.

Pat Augustine spoke about husbands and wives being on the Township Board and about the Electric Heaters, some people are away in the winter and don't realize how cold the building gets. As far as husbands and wives, we have heard this issue before when Dick and Nancy Mowers were on the Board.

John Krupa said that many of the Townships have meetings every other month in the winter.

Chris Garst asked how many bids we received for the electrical work and heaters. The Supervisor replied two. Mr. Garst said he was an electrician.

Irene Seelye asked what the square footage of the parking lot was. The Supervisor did not have the exact footage paper work on hand.

Mike Smith asked if Bearinger Township has its own Planning & Zoning because he was informed by the County Building Inspector that we did. Supervisor Malaski replied that Bearinger Township does not have Planning & Zoning.

Rita Lunceford questioned the cost of the of the MTA workshop that Supervisor Malaski and Trustee Patterson were going to attend. Reply, \$79.00 each.

Gale Phelps questioned the payment of the MTA workshop. Reply, payment was made to take advantage of the early bird discount.

Doug Wood stated that someone was taking pictures of his neighbor's property and wanted to know if the township was involved. Supervisor Malaski stated that no one with the Township has been taking pictures and he has no idea who it could be.

Next regular Township Board meeting, Tuesday, September 10, 2013 at 6:30 p.m.

Motion was made by Trustee Dowker and seconded by Treasurer Malaski that this meeting be adjourned. Meeting adjourned at 8: 10 p.m.

Minutes taken and respectfully submitted by,

Beverly Rossetto, Clerk