

BEARINGER TOWNSHIP SPECIAL BOARD MEETING
17034 Town Hall Highway
Millersburg, Michigan
March 26, 2015

Supervisor J.G. Malaski called the meeting to order at 12:32 p.m. and led the pledge of allegiance. Present for the meeting were Board Members, Supervisor John G. Malaski, Treasurer Keitha Malaski, Clerk Beverly Rossetto and Trustees Kay Dowker, Trustee Archie Patterson II was absent. Others in attendance were Duane Walker and Irv Dedow.

Supervisor J.G. Malaski stated that this Special Board Meeting is being held for the purpose of interviewing three applicants for the position of Bearinger Township Assessor:

1. Sharon Staffan
2. Joe Lavender
3. Allan Berg

Approval of Agenda: Motion was made by Beverly Rossetto to approve the agenda, seconded by Kay Dowker. Four yes votes, motion carried.

The township board reviewed each applicants resume then asked each applicant, individually, a series of questions:

1. Would attending the Township's monthly meeting be a problem?
2. Are they aware of the number of parcels in Bearinger Township and the number of property owners?
3. What is their level of experience?
4. Have they used the BSA software?
5. What type of yearly field assessing would they use?
6. What type of Assessing would be used for taxes if a piece of property was discovered with a building or home on it and the owner had never acquired a building permit?
7. How would they prepare for a Michigan Tax Tribunal case?
8. Would they be able to start as an employee of Bearinger Township April 1, 2015?
9. What annual salary did they expect?

Sharon Staffan was the first applicant to be interview. Ms. Staffan stated that she a level one/two MAAO assessor and is currently employed as a full-time employee of Cheboygan County. She would be able to attend township monthly meetings. She is aware of the number of parcels in Bearinger Township and this would be her first time as an assessor for a township. As an employee of Cheboygan she daily works with BSA software. Salary requested is \$15,600.00 for the first year and an increase to \$16,800.00 for the second year.

Trustee Patterson arrived at this meeting at 12:58 p.m.

Joe Lavender was the second applicant to be interview. Mr. Lavender does have a conflict in regards to township monthly meeting but would send a monthly email report to the supervisor. He is a Level 3 MAAO certified Assessor and works daily with BSA software. He currently is the Assessor for four townships and is aware of the parcels and property owners in Bearinger Township. He is available to start April 1, 2015 and is requesting a salary of \$16,000.00 per year.

Allan Berg was the third and final applicant to be interviewed. Mr. Berg is a Level 3 MAAO Assessor and owns his own corporation, he would do the tax assessing of the township and his employee would do the field assessing. He has no conflict with attending the monthly township meeting. Mr. Berg has worked for Bearinger and Ocqueoc Townships and knows the area. He has worked with BSA software for several years. Mr. Berg is available to start April 1, 2015 and is requesting a salary of \$15,000.00 per year.

After a very lengthy discussion and deliberation of each applicant, Clerk Rossetto made a motion to employ Joe Lavender as the Assessor of Bearinger Township with a yearly salary of \$16,000.00. Trustee Dowker seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Kay Dowker – yes, Keitha Malaski – yes, Archie Patterson – yes, Beverly Rossetto – yes and John Malaski – yes. Five yes votes, motion carried.

Supervisor Malaski will contact each applicant regarding the township board decision.

Public Comments: Duane Walker stated that there are parcels of land that are being homesteaded that are not the resident of the owners.

Irv Dedow talked about some problems of assessments that occurred when Allan Berg was the assessor for Bearinger Township several years ago.

Motion was made by Archie Patterson, seconded by Kay Dowker that this meeting be adjourned. Five yes votes, motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 2:12 p.m.

Minutes taken and respectfully submitted by,

Beverly Rossetto

Beverly Rossetto, Clerk