

BEARINGER TOWNSHIP REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
17034 Town Hall Highway  
Millersburg, Michigan  
March 13, 2018 Minutes

Supervisor Patterson called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. followed by the pledge of allegiance to the flag. Present for the meeting were Board Members Supervisor Archie J. Patterson II, Clerk Beverly Rossetto, Treasurer Emilie Stawiarski, Trustees Patricia Frost and Duane Walker. Others in attendance were Doug Phelps, Nancy Shutes, Jim McKindles, Terri and Ray Stemple and Assessor Elizabeth Zabik

**Approval of Agenda:** Emilie Stawiarski made a motion to approve the agenda, Duane Walker supported the motion. Five aye votes, motion carried.

**Approval of Consent Agenda:** Patricia Frost made a motion to approve the consent agenda and pay the bills, Duane Walker supported the motion. Five aye votes, motion carried.

**Minutes of February 13, 2018 Meeting:** Supervisor Patterson asked if the board members had reviewed the minutes and if there were any corrections. Being no corrections Supervisor Patterson declared the minutes approved as written.

Supervisor Patterson recessed the regular board meeting at 6:32 pm and opened the Public Hearing for the 2018/2019 Budget Hearing. Supervisor Patterson gave a brief description of the budget and asked for comments from the public. After a lengthy review and discussion of the 2018/2019 Budget, Clerk Rossetto read Resolution 2018-003 to adopt the Budget:

Resolution 2018–003: Whereas, the Bearinger Township Board has determined a Budget for the fiscal year, 2018/2019 and Whereas, The Bearinger Township Board has determined this Budget at a Public Hearing on March 13, 2018, Be it resolved, that beginning on April 1, 2018, this determined budget will be implemented. The foregoing Resolution offered by Bearinger Township Board Member Emilie Stawiarski and supported by Bearinger Township Board Member Duane Walker. Following is a roll call vote: Patricia Frost - aye, Emilie Stawiarski – aye, Archie J. Patterson II – aye, Duane L. Walker – aye and Beverly Rossetto - aye. No nay votes. On this date, March 13, 2018, the Supervisor declares the Resolution adopted. The Public Hearing was adjourned at 6:49 pm and the regular meeting was resumed.

**Treasurer’s Report:** Treasurer Stawiarski gave a summary of the February 2018 financial statement. Fund balances ending February 28, 2018 were:

1.	General Fund Savings Account	\$124,775.37
2.	General Fund Checking Account	1,042.17
3.	CD (Savings) Account	134,437.89
4.	Township Building Fund	<u>20,050.44</u>
5.	Total (All Accounts)	\$280,305.87

A tag report was presented showing income and expenses from April 1<sup>st</sup> through February 28<sup>th</sup> for fiscal year 2017/2018. 96% of winter property taxes have been paid and 98.8% of the summer property taxes have been paid. As of March 6, 2018 all taxes have been turned over to the Presque Isle County Treasurer’s Office. The County signed the affidavit for settlement of the

2017 Property taxes. It's time to start thinking about the June newsletter and data should be submitted by May 30, 2018.

**Clerk's Report:** Clerk Rossetto stated that the February 13, 2018 minutes, check register and balance sheet ending February 28, 2018 are available. The amended 2017/2018 budget as of today reflects the following amendments: General Government, from Misc. 101-101-955 (\$500.00) and Equipment Purchases 101-101-971 (\$195.00) to Community Promotion 101-101-880. From Clerk's Misc. 101-215-955 (\$76.01) to Office Supplies 101-215-727. From Assessor's Office Supplies 101-257-727 (\$11.00) to Software Support 101-257-807 and from Building & Grounds Misc. 101-265-955 (\$74.14) to Telephone 101-265-921.

Clerk Rossetto reported that she will be attending two election training sessions in April. The Ocqueoc/Bearinger Fire Dept. 2018/2019 budget was approved at the Tri-Board meeting, March 1, 2018, the finalized budget is available. The Fire Board Member-at-Large seat will be filled at the next Fire Dept. meeting. Tom Anglin, Bearinger Township resident, will be seeking this position. No nominations from the Board meeting floor were made.

**Trustee's Report:** Trustee Walker gave a report for the February 28, 2018 Onaway Area Ambulance Services meeting. Monies left in the three-year subscription account will be moved. The new office desk will be completed soon. Bank signatories for Citizen's National Bank have been completed. Ambulance runs for February were Bearinger 2 and Ocqueoc 1, there were a total of 64 runs, and 33 were not transported.

**Assessor's Report:** Assessment Change Notices have been mailed. March Board of Review is in progress and Elizabeth will attend the Wednesday evening session. The Board of Review members were provided land value and sales maps depicting the past 2 years of sales. The State of Michigan will be instituting CAMA-Data (Computer Assisted Mass Appraisal) Standards throughout the State of Michigan. The goal of the CAMA-Data Standards is to standardize values across Michigan regarding property class codes, school district codes, sales codes, terms of sale and instrument types, use codes, government unit codes, and taxable status codes.

**Supervisor's Report:** No Report

**Correspondence:** Clerk Rossetto received the Presque Isle Township Officers Association January 2, 2018 minutes and the agenda for the March 3, 2018 meeting to be held at the Bismarck Township Hall (copies were available for the board members).

PIE&G gas rate hearing in Lansing, MI, March 21, 2018.

Report was completed and sent to State of Michigan Retirement Fund System.

Federal Government Center for Medicare & Medicaid Services regarding mailing of new cards starting April 2018 through April 2019.

Correspondence regarding free training to apply for Brownfield Grants, Clerk Rossetto stated that she doesn't know of any area in Bearinger Township that would be awarded a Brownfield Grant.

**Old Business: Township Bi-Annual Audit Proposal/Contract.** Clerk Rossetto stated that to comply with the action of the February 13, 2018 meeting, ads seeking bids for the Bi-Annual audit were placed in the Alpena News and Presque Isle Advance newspapers for the sum of \$59.50, no response was received from the newspaper ads. Supervisor Patterson contacted Schultz, Oswald, Miller & Edwards PC requesting a bid and Clerk Rossetto received a bid from J.W. Kieliszewski PC. Clerk Rossetto made a motion to accept the bid offered by J.W. Kieliszewski. Motion was supported by Chairman Patterson. Roll call vote: Voting yes were

Patricia Frost, Emilie Stawiarski, Duane Walker, Beverly Rossetto and Archie Patterson. Five yes votes, motion carried.

Clerk Rossetto contacted MTA regarding the requirements of seeking bids for contract services. Townships are not required to seek bids for re-occurring contract expenses and if bids are received the Township does not have to accept the lowest bid.

**New Business: A. Poverty Exemption Resolution for 2018.** Supervisor Patterson distributed three different sample forms and explained the asset test with and without the dollar amount that shall not exceed total assets. After a lengthy discussion, Clerk Rossetto made a motion to approve the poverty exemption form that will indicate the total assets shall not exceed \$25,000.00. Trustee Walker supported the motion. Five yes votes, motion carried. Supervisor Patterson presented a Property Exemption Application form that will be posted on the Township's website.

**B. Cemetery Ordinance Review/Discussion.** Supervisor Patterson distributed a draft copy of the Bearinger Township Cemetery Ordinance, the ordinance is to protect the public health, safety and general welfare by establishing regulations related to the operation, control and maintenance of the Bearinger Township Cemetery. After discussion, Emilie Stawiarski suggested to table the Cemetery Ordinance until our April meeting to provide ample time for the board to review the ordinance.

**C. Property Transfer Affidavit Resolution 2018-004. Resolution not to Waiver Penalty Fees and Interest for Failure to File a Property Transfer Affidavit.** WHEREAS, Section 211.27a of the General Property Tax Act requires the buyer, grantee or other transferee of property to file a property transfer affidavit as prescribed by the State Tax Commission, with the appropriate Assessing Officer in the local unit of government in which the property is located; and WHEREAS, Section 211.27b of the General Property Tax Act imposes penalties for the failure to file a Property Transfer Affidavit after 45 days have elapsed; and WHEREAS, the Township of Bearinger hereby **shall not** waive the penalties for the failure to file a Property Transfer Affidavit within 45 days of transfer. NOW THEREFORE BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED, that the Township Board of the Township of Bearinger **shall not** waive penalties under Section 211.27b of the General Property Tax Act. IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that the Township Clerk of the Township of Bearinger is hereby directed to send a certified copy of this Resolution to the Township Assessor and to the Director of Presque Isle County Equalization Department.

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that all resolution or parts of resolution in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

Motion made by Emilie Stawiarski and seconded by Patricia Frost to adopt the foregoing Resolution.

Upon roll call vote the following voted "Aye": Duane Walker, Patricia Frost, Emilie Stawiarski, Archie Patterson and Beverly Rossetto.

The following voted "Nay": None

The Supervisor declared the motion carried and the resolution duly adopted.

**CERTIFICATION;** The foregoing constitutes a true and complete copy of a resolution adopted at a regular meeting of the Bearinger Township Board held on March 13, 2018, that the meeting was conducted and public notice of the meeting was given pursuant to and in compliance with the Michigan Open Meetings Act; that a quorum of the Board was present and voted in favor of the resolution; and that the minutes of the meeting will be made available as required by the Open Meeting Act. This document was signed by Archie Jay Patterson II and Beverly Rossetto.

**Public Comment:** No Public comments

Being no comments, Clerk Rossetto made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Treasurer Stawiarski supported the motion. Five aye votes, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:06 pm.

Next regular Township Board meeting will be held, Tuesday, April 10, 2018 at 6:30 pm.

Minutes taken and respectfully submitted by,

Beverly Rossetto, Township Clerk