

BEARINGER TOWNSHIP REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
17034 Town Hall Highway                      Millersburg, Michigan  
March 12, 2019 Minutes

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

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

**Approval of Consent Agenda:** Motion made by Emilie Stawiarski to approve the Consent Agenda and pay the bills for the month of February 2019, Duane Walker supported the motion. Five aye votes, motion carried.

**February 14, 2019 Minutes:** Supervisor Patterson inquired if everyone had reviewed the minutes and if there were any corrections. Being no corrections the Supervisor declared the minutes approved as written.

**2019/2020 Budget Public Hearing:** Supervisor Patterson recessed the regular meeting at 6:34 pm and opened the Public Hearing for the 2019/2020 Township Budget. Clerk Rossetto gave a summary of the increases and decreases of each line item in the 2019/2020 operating budget. Supervisor Patterson opened the meeting for public comment. Jim McKindles questioned the contribution to the Ocqueoc/Bearinger Fire Department and the Fire Department Equipment Fund CD's. After a lengthy discussion regarding the Township revenue and the necessity of the Fire Department having an Equipment Fund, Supervisor Patterson closed public comments. Clerk Rossetto read Resolution 2019-003 to adopt the budget:

WHEREAS, the BEARINGER TOWNSHIP BOARD has determined a Budget for the fiscal year, 2019/2020, and WHEREAS, The BEARINGER TOWNSHIP BOARD has determined this Budget at a PUBLIC HEARING on March 12, 2019, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that beginning on April 1, 2019, this determined Budget will be implemented. The foregoing Resolution offered by Bearinger Township Board Member Archie Jay Patterson II and supported by Bearinger Township Board Emilie Stawiarski. Following is a roll call vote: Patricia Frost-aye, Duane Walker-aye, Emilie Stawiarski-aye, Beverly Rossetto-aye, Archie Patterson-aye. No nay votes. On this date March 12, 2019, the Supervisor declares the Resolution adopted. The Public Hearing was adjourned at 6:58 pm and the regular meeting was resumed.

**Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer Stawiarski gave an activity report and financial statement for the month of February 2019. Fund balances ending February 28, 2019 were:

General Fund Savings Account	\$127,310.54
General Fund Checking Account	1,347.53
CD (Savings) Account	167,157.92
Township Building Fund	<u>82.58</u>
Total Ending Balance (All Accounts)	\$295,898.57

A tag report was distributed showing income and expenses from April 1<sup>st</sup> through February 28<sup>th</sup> for fiscal year 2018/2019. 98.35% of 2018 Summer Taxes and 95.1% of 2018 Winter Taxes have been paid. The penalty for delinquent taxpayers is now 5%. Final payment was submitted to the Presque Isle County Treasurer March 1<sup>st</sup> and final settlement and paperwork was submitted March 8, 2019.

**Clerk's Report:** Clerk Rossetto stated that the February 14, 2019 minutes, financial statement, balance sheet and check register for the month of February are available. Because of a referendum filed with the County there will be one election for our precinct this year, but no date has been set as yet. Clerk Rossetto will attend a required Qualified Voters File training in Gaylord, Michigan, April 8, 2019. The Presidential Primary election will be held on March 10, 2020.

**Trustee's Report:** Trustee Walker gave a report of the Onaway Area Ambulance Service held February 27, 2019. The budget was approved by six of the entities. Capital Outlay for a new ambulance is \$160,000.00 and a 2.5% raise in wages starting April 1, 2019. Each entity share will now be \$8765.63 this amount is an increase of \$985.00 from last year. The repair bill for the blown Turbo-Charger was \$3,932.37.

Trustee Walker attended the Presque Isle County Road Commission meeting and reported that a section of Black Mountain Road will be seal coated this year. The frost line law for heavy trucks will begin Monday, March 18<sup>th</sup> for one month.

**Assessor's Report:** No Assessor's report. Supervisor Patterson stated that two people attended the March 9, 2019 Board of Review meeting and that three additional cases were addressed.

**Supervisor's Report:** Supervisor Patterson reported that the Rogers City Ambulance Services Authority is purchasing a new Ford F-series chassis. A new box is being purchased for the chassis that will be reused in the future.

The Board of Review had their organizational meeting and first March appeals meeting. The second appeals meeting will be held March 13, 2019. It is recommended that all appeals be sent to the assessor prior to appearing at the Board of Review meeting to allow the assessor to investigate the appeal.

Supervisor Patterson contacted Robert Brown, Supervisor and Zoning Administrator of Dafter Township. Mr. Brown suggested that we have an enforcement procedural manual for our ordinances and that our ordinances need to have an appeal process stated in the ordinance. Their ordinances site a misdemeanor criminal offense as oppose to ours which are a civil infraction.

Supervisor Patterson thinks that our website should have a small picture of each office holder next to their contact information. Along with the picture background information and each officer holders goals of their office could be entered.

**Correspondence:** Supervisor received information from the US Dept. of Commerce regarding the US Census Bureau conducting a Boundary and Annexation Survey.

Correspondence from PIE&G with monthly rates charge for Residential, General Service and Industrial.

Treasurer Stawiarski's correspondence included 3 bankruptcy notifications from the Southern District of New York regarding DiTech Holding Corporation. Copies of these documents were submitted to the Presque Isle County Treasurer's office who stated many other townships in the area also received these letters. After research, the Treasurer determined there was no reason to respond to the NY District regarding the bankruptcies. Other correspondence included a letter

from Chemical Bank changing our Municipal Now account to a non-interest bearing account. The Treasurer has contacted Chemical Bank in Cadillac to correct this error. Additional correspondence received was from the State of Michigan DNR, with documentation on the PILT payment

**Old Business:** In response to a statement by taxpayer, Irvin Dedow, at the February Township meeting. Treasurer Stawiarski conducted research on MCL 211.601 responsibilities of the township with regard to documents retention. While MCL 211 states all regular documentation should be retained by the Township Clerk, taxpayer record cards should be permanently retained by the Township. Supervisor Patterson will review record cards in storage and report back to the Board on how and where these records are maintained.

**New Business: Ocqueoc-Bearing Fire Dept. Resolution** After a brief discussion regarding the Tri-Board meeting held March 7, 2019 where each township approved the 2019/2020 Fire Dept. Budget. Clerk Rossetto read Bearinger Township's Resolution 2019-004 to adopt the Ocqueoc-Bearinger Fire Dept. operating budget for 2019/2020: WHEREAS, it is the responsibility of the Ocqueoc-Bearinger Fire Board to submit a proposed 2019/2020 budget to the townships for approval before the beginning of the fiscal year commencing April 1, 2019, and WHEREAS, according to MCL 41.812, it is the responsibility of the Township Boards to review, and adopt the proposed budget for the Ocqueoc/Bearinger Fire Department before the beginning of the fiscal year commencing April 1, 2019, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the proposed Ocqueoc/Bearinger Fire Department budget for 2019/2020, was reviewed, approved and adopted at a Tri-Board meeting dated March 7, 2019. The foregoing Resolution offered by Bearinger Township Board Member Archie J. Patterson II and supported by Bearinger Township Board Member Emilie Stawiarski. Following is a roll call vote: Patricia Frost-aye, Duane Walker-aye, Emilie Stawiarski-aye, Beverly Rossetto-aye and Archie J. Patterson-aye. No nay votes. On this date, March 12, 2019, the Supervisor declares the Resolution adopted. Emilie Stawiarski stated that her only concern this year was the Fire Department receives the money in May and October of the fiscal year and doesn't spend it until the end of the fiscal year.

**Public Comment:** No public comments.

Being no comments, Motion was made by Patricia Frost and supported by Duane Walker to adjourn the meeting. Five yes votes, meeting adjourned at 7:36 pm.

Next regular Township Board meeting will be held, Tuesday, April 9, 2019 at 6:30 pm

Minutes taken and respectfully submitted by,

*Beverly Rossetto*

Beverly Rossetto, Township Clerk