

BEARINGER TOWNSHIP REGULAR BOARD MEETING

17034 TOWN HALL HIGHWAY

MILLERSBURG, MICHIGAN 49759

TUESDAY JANUARY 10, 2023

Supervisor Phillips called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. We stood for the pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL: Supervisor Phillips present, Treasurer Watt present, Clerk Diamond present, Trustee Watt present, Trustee Stawiarski present.

APPROVE THE AGENDA: Trustee Stawiarski made a motion to approve the agenda as presented, Trustee Watt supported the motion. 5 aye votes, motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA (TO PAY THE BILLS): Supervisor Phillips made a motion to pay the bills, Treasurer Watt supported the motion. 5 aye votes. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: Clerk Diamond made a motion to approve the minutes with corrections. Supervisor Phillips name was missing an L on page 2. Trustee Stawiarski supported the motion. 5 aye votes, motion carried.

REPORTS:

A. TREASURER: Treasurer Watt gave an updated CD report and financial report. There were no changes to the ARPA fund account. He is still collecting property taxes. We still don't balance.

B. CLERK: We still don't balance. Treasurer Watt and I are going to be getting together after-tax season to figure out where we went wrong. The IRS has issued the new mileage reimbursement. It went from .625 to .655 per mile. Everyone except the supervisor will be over in mileage. I will have to do many budget adjustments. Starting February 1, 2023 PIE&G will increase electricity rates. I received a bill from Election Source for \$619.50 for election equipment maintenance fees. The state paid the first year, The townships are now responsible for payment. This is a required Maintenance. The budget will have to have this added into election costs. We are over for elections costs in everything but election worker pay.

C. TRUSTEES: Trustee Stawiarski attended the Rogers City Ambulance Service Authority meeting. They approved the minutes for the previous meeting, the budget and the Treasurer's report. The RCASA have \$515,052 total assets. They are running at a \$78,324 deficit. Stryker refund was received at RCAAS had overpaid. Generator silver package was paid to Hobson Electric for propane generator. It was used 3 times this year. The repair on the ambulance expected to cost \$15,000 only cost 44,000. They purchased new tires for one of the ambulances. The RCASA has hired 3 new EMT's, two of them want to become Medics. All 3 want to stay in the area. There will be 2 full-time positions open by summer 2023, one of which

will be a Medic. The power lift cots purchase was voted and approved. Pre-ordered to save 9% with a total cost for 2 \$53,000. They plan on using ARPA funds. Their ambulance runs were October: Bearinger 3, Ocqueoc 7, November Bearinger 1, Ocqueoc 5.

Trustee Watt attended the Onaway Are ambulance meeting. They did the regular procedures for reviewing the financial reports and accepting the bills and voting to pay the bills took place. The OAA had a total of 88 runs which included 0 for Bearinger Township this month. (This does not take into account people picked up in Onaway at the Quick Care that are from Bearinger Twp.) The OAA billed out \$57,156.50 with a total of \$6,195.27 paid as of the meeting date. The ECHO Unit they found will cost \$8,000.00 and will probably need approximately \$1,000.00 to get it ready to go. They are purchasing the ECHO from the Sault St Marie Sherriff department. The OAA voted on spending \$12,528 on the ECHO unit and the life mats they need. The life mats lift up to 980 pounds and cost \$1,764.00 per mat. They need 2 of them. Hopefully the County ARPA funds will cover the cost. County ARPA fund distribution and how it will affect separate entities of the county was discussed again. The OAAS should receive \$35,900.00 from the County ARPA funds. The items have to be purchased and paid for before County ARPA fund reimburses them. Recertification for Medicare is in the process of being started.

D. SUPERVISOR: Supervisor Phillips sent the Board of Review minutes to the Assessor. The Ocqueoc/Bearinger Fire Department presented the approved budget for 2023/2024. There will be a Tri-Board meeting March for all 3 Boards to approve the budget.

CORRESPONDENCE:

A. SUPERVISOR: Supervisor Phillips received an email from the Road Commission to attend a meeting on Hopkins Road on January 10, 2023. Clerk Diamond and I attended the meeting. It was attended by the Road Commissioner, DNR, County Commissioner, State Commissioner, Brian Lofgren and Mike Johnson, Road commission from Ocqueoc and Bearinger. The reason of the meeting was about the condition of Hopkins Road and how to fix it. They discussed ditching next to the road and tree removal trying to stop the water from running over the road and eating it away. They are also going to put in some new coverts and gravel They have to call MISS DIG before they can do much. The Road Commissioner inquired if Bearinger Township would be willing to put money towards fixing the road. They were told no. They will look into matching grants and monies from Forestry and roads. Supervisor Phillips received a call from Emilie Stawiarski about using the HBCA facility to host the MTA meeting.

B. CLERK: I received a call from a Taxpayer about trying to pay taxes on the 29th of December. The news letter stated the Treasurer would be in his office all day on the 29th. The newsletter had a misprint. The newsletter was supposed to say December 28, 2022 the Treasurer would be in his office from 9-5 for tax collection without an appointment. I received the millage rate report from the Assessor, I signed it and sent it back. I have a copy for the files and in case anyone wants to see it. Beverly Rossetto the CFO, Gary Yaklin the Fire Chief and Board member Sheryl Diamond worked together on the Ocqueoc/Bearinger Fire Board budget. We made

changes to the existing budget. I received the new Assessing Bill; it went from \$1,600.00 per month to \$1,715.75. This is the second increase during Bearinger Township's budget. The Assessor sent an email about a lot split not having a legal description. I called the party involved read the email to him and he will get the information to the Assessor.

C. TREASURER: Treasurer Watt received a Thank you note with a crayon drawing on the back. He showed the board. HE said it is nice to see taxpayers are thankful for the hard work we do. He received a letter from Best Homes Title Agency that needed to go to the Assessor. Supervisor Phillips kept the letter to send it to the Assessor.

D. TRUSTEES: Neither Trustee had any correspondence.

OLD BUSINESS: J. W. Kieliszewski, CPA attended the meeting to discuss the Audit. This is the first time any of the new Board members have had an Audit. He said there were no problems to report to the State or Federal authorities about the Township. There are many corrections that have to be made to the paperwork in the audit. To many copying and pasting done. His office is going to fix all the problems and make a new book for us and replacement pages for the rest of the books.

NEW BUSINESS:

A. BOARD OF REVIEW APPOINTMENTS: Supervisor Phillips has spoken to all the current BOR members. They have all agreed they would like to continue as BOR members. Supervisor Phillips made a motion to reappoint Archie Patterson, Ray Stemple, Thomas Peterson and Thomas Stawiarski for the next 2-year term. Treasurer Watt supported the motion. 5 ayes, motion carried.

B. HBCA HALL: Emilie Stawiarski has agreed to allow Bearinger Township to use the hall for the Presque Isle County Officers Meeting for a \$25.00 cleaning fee. Supervisor Phillips made a motion to approve \$50.00 for the HBCA. Treasurer Watt seconded the motion. 5 aye votes. Motion carried. The PICO meeting with MTA will be March 7, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.

C. OBFD BUDGET: The proposed new budget for the OBFD was presented and discussed. The Tri-Board meeting will be held at the Fire Hall on March 2, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. All three boards have to vote to approve or amend what has been suggested.

BOARD COMMENT: None

PUBLIC COMMENT: NONE

ADJOURNMENT: Trustee Watt made a motion to adjourn, Trustee Stawiarski supported the motion. 5 aye votes, motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 2:20 p.m.

Our next regular Board Meeting will be February 7 at 1:00 p.m.

Minutes taken and respectively submitted by

Sheryl Diamond

Bearinger Township Clerk

BEARINGER TOWNSHIP REGULAR BOARD MEETING

17034 TOWN HALL HIGHWAY

MILLERSBURG, MICHIGAN 49759

TUESDAY FEBRUARY 7, 2023

Supervisor Phillips called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m. We all stood for the pledge of allegiance.

ROLL CALL: Supervisor Phillips present, Treasurer Watt present, Clerk Diamond present, Trustee Watt present, Trustee Stawiarski present. Beverly Rossetto was also present for the meeting.

APPROVE THE AGENDA: Clerk Diamond made a motion to approve the agenda as presented, Trustee Stawiarski supported the motion. 5 aye votes, motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA (TO PAY THE BILLS): Supervisor Phillips made a motion to pay the bills. Clerk Diamond supported the motion. 5 aye votes, motion carried.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: Trustee Stawiarski made a motion to approve the minutes as corrected. Trustee Watt supported the motion. 5 aye votes, motion carried. There was a missing period that was corrected.

REPORTS:

A. TREASURER: Treasurer Watt presented the updated CD report. He also presented an updated financial Report. Treasurer Watt stated since he has been able to mail checks to the County Treasurer he isn't using as much mileage. There has been no change to the ARPA Funds we still have. Treasurer Watt stated he thinks he has found where we stopped balancing.

B. CLERK: We still don't balance, after the tax season slows down for the Treasurer, we will be getting together to correct the problems. I have the corrected pages from the Audit. Treasurer Watt said he would bring his binding machine so we can get all the pages in our books. Bills have been sent to the Governor to move the Presidential Primary from March to February 27, 2024. Another bill has been sent to combine August and May elections to the third week of June. I received the Assessors bill for \$8,671.00 for 20% of the inspections. The retiree taxes that are trying to be repealed will come off over 4 years. The proposed \$180 check the Governor is proposing will only go to each Income Tax filer. If you file joint, you will only get one check. As of the meeting 2 bills haven't come in to be paid. The new electric meters are starting to be automatically read by PIE&G. I have tried to get answers about the check I received from the IRS, after months of inquires I have given the check to the treasurer to deposit. Ray Stemple and Archie Patterson attended BOR training with the Assessor. The cost for both was \$20.00. Clerk Diamond made a motion to pay for the BOR training out of our funds instead of making them pay. Treasurer Watt supported the motion. Roll call votes Supervisor Phillips aye,

Treasurer Watt aye, Clerk Diamond aye, Trustee Watt aye, Trustee Stawiarski aye. 5 aye votes, motion carried.

C: TRUSTEES: Trustee Watt attended the Onaway Area Ambulance meeting January 25, 2023. They followed regular procedures for reviewing the financial reports and voting to pay the bills. They had a total of 71 runs which included 3 for Bearinger Township this month. This does not take into account people picked up in Onaway at the Quick Care that are from Bearinger Township. The Ambulance Authority billed \$59,657.75. So far, they received \$4,662.40 as of the meeting date. Last year had the most runs logged at 700. Usually, they log 500-600. This year so far, they have already logged 792 runs. (The Fiscal year). The Budget Committee was chosen. They will be getting it to the Townships to vote on. They plan on using some of the ARPA Funds to update the living quarters. Updates are badly needed. More employees are staying overnight because of travel in order to be available. Their next meeting is February 22, 2023.

Trustee Stawiarski didn't have a meeting at the time of our Board meeting.

D: SUPERVISOR: The supervisor has filled out the Boarder Annex Survey.

CORRESPONDENCE:

A: SUPERVISOR: Supervisor Phillips received a call from the Assessor about the McKindles lot split. There are issues that have been found stopping the lot split. The McKindles have been notified by the Assessor. The Clerk brought a copy of the denial letter. Supervisor Phillips forwarded an email to the Treasurer regarding property taxes.

B: CLERK: EAGLE has issued a new Permit. I received the 2023 Census Revenue report. I forwarded the Presque Isle County Officers Meeting minutes to all the Board members.

C: TREASURER: Treasurer Watt stated he is getting calls about Property Taxes.

D: TRUSTEES: None.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: Clerk Diamond presented the Hazard Mitigation Plan resolution. Supervisor Phillips made a motion to approve it. Nobody else was willing to approve it until we have more information on it. Bearinger Township has a lot of swampy land and we aren't sure if this would require flood insurance for most of the residents. Supervisor Phillips is going to talk to other Townships to see what they have discovered about the Resolution.

BOARD COMMENT: Trustee Watt asked why we didn't appoint a Budget Committee. We are going to work on the Budget after our regular meeting as a Board. This way everyone has input. Supervisor Phillips asked Clerk Diamond to contact Sarah Melching for more information.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Beverly Rossetto is the financial officer for the Ocqueoc/Bearinger Fire Department. She gave us the proposed Budget for the Fire Board. She stated there is still

\$5,500 in ARPA Funds from the County. The Fire Chief needs to get Air bottles replaced. This is much needed safety equipment for the Fire Fighters. The County stated they can use the \$5,500 to get the bottles replaced, there is still a short fall in doing this in the amount of \$1,500.00. Beverly said she will have to make a budget change before we vote on the Fire Board Budget in March.

ADJOURNMENT: Supervisor Phillips made a motion to adjourn, Treasurer Watt supported the motion. 5 aye votes, motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 2:11 p.m.

The next Board meeting will be March 14, 2023 at 1:00 p.m. The Budget meeting to approve the new 2023/2024 Budget will be right after the Regular Board meeting.

The Presque Isle Officers meeting will be March 7, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. at the HBCA hall.

The Ocqueoc/Bearinger Fire Board meeting will be March 2, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. at the Fire Hall.

Minutes taken and respectively submitted by

Sheryl Diamond

Bearinger Township Clerk

BEARINGER TOWNSHIP REGULAR BOARD MEETING

17034 TOWN HALL HIGHWAY

MILLERSBURG, MICHIGAN 49759

TUESDAY MARCH 14, 2023

Supervisor Phillips called the meeting to order at 1:01 p.m. We all stood for the pledge of allegiance.

ROLL CALL: Supervisor Phillips present, Treasurer Watt present, Clerk Diamond present, Trustee Watt present, Trustee Stawiarski present. Also present was Beverly Rossetto.

APPROVE THE AGENDA: Trustee Stawiarski made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Trustee Watt supported the motion. 5 aye votes, motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA (TO PAY THE BILLS): Clerk Diamond made a motion to pay the bills, Supervisor Phillips supported the motion. 5 aye votes, motion carried.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: Clerk Diamond made a motion to approve the minutes as presented, Trustee Stawiarski supported the motion. 5 aye votes, motion carried.

RECESS REGULAR BOARD MEETING. Supervisor Phillips made a motion to recess the meeting, Clerk Diamond supported the motion. 5 aye votes, motion carried. Meeting recessed.

PUBLIC HEARING ON BUDGET:

A. Review the Township Fiscal Year Budget. Everyone had a copy of the budget to review.

B. Public Comment (2 minutes each, no transfers of time to another).

C. Adopt FY Budget: Supervisor Phillips made a motion to adopt the Bearinger Township fiscal year budget. Treasurer Watt supported the motion. Roll call vote, Supervisor Phillips aye, Treasurer Watt aye, Clerk Diamond aye, Trustee Watt aye, Trustee Stawiarski aye. 5 aye votes Budget adopted.

D. Adjourn the Budget Public Hearing: Supervisor Phillips made a motion to adjourn the Budget Public Hearing, Clerk Diamond supported the motion. 5 aye votes, motion carried.

RESUME REGULAR BOARD MEETING

REPORTS:

A. TREASURER: Treasurer Watt presented a copy of the CD report. He told us there was a correction we had to put on it. The February 23, 2023, Calcite CD amount was missing. We all corrected our copies of the report. He stated he is still getting calls about property taxes.

B. CLERK: Clerk Diamond reported her, and the Treasurer don't balance. I asked when the Treasurer would be available to check our books to find out why we don't balance. I was informed the problem was with my books and I would have to go back to when we balanced and find the problems. I contacted MTA about the property tax receipts and if they were mandatory, MTA said yes you are supposed to have receipts given to the Clerk. MTA stated there is no way to account for the funds other than the bank statements and they don't tell everything. Natural Gas rates are increasing.

C. TRUSTEE: Trustee Watt attended the Onaway area Ambulance meeting on February 22, 2023. They had the regular procedures of reviewing the financial reports and paying the bills. They had 64 runs. None of the runs were for Bearinger Township. They billed out \$55,363.24, with a total of \$7,629.57 paid as of the meeting date. The new Budget was presented for the Townships to vote on. The ECHO unit they were going to buy from the UP was put on hold due to an accident with the seller's equipment. They are hoping to get the ECHO next month. Their next meeting is March 22, 2023, at 6:00 p.m.

D. SUPERVISOR: The organizational meeting for the Board of Review was completed. Wednesday and Thursday are the protest days. So far only a few have appointments. Supervisor Phillips was contacted by David Howell regarding Lavonne Schaeffers cemetery plot. They would like to place her cremains and a marker in the spring. Lavonne Schaeffers owns 9 plots. Since she had no paperwork stating who else would be using the plots the Township offered to buy the other 8 plots back at the price she paid for them. She paid \$10.00 per plot.

CORRESPONDENCE:

A. SUPERVISOR: Supervisor Phillips stated he received questions from a taxpayer and forwarded them to the Treasurer.

B. CLERK: I received the Certificate of Compliance for the Treasurer. I gave it to him to fill out. We don't have anything to do with supporting the Police or Liquor in the Township. I also received an Implantation Survey from the County Clerk's office about Elections. I filled it out and faxed it back to her.

C. TREASURER: Treasurer Watt stated he is still getting property taxes. After February 28, 2023, the taxes are supposed to go to the County Treasurer.

TRUSTEES: None.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

A. OAAS BUDGET PRESENTATION:

The proposed Budget for the Onaway Area Ambulance Service was presented to the Board for approval. Treasurer Watt motion to approve the OAAS Budget. Trustee Stawiarski supported

the motion. Roll call, Supervisor Phillips aye, Treasurer Watt aye, Clerk Diamond aye, Trustee Stawiarski aye, Trustee Watt aye. 5 aye votes, motion approved.

BOARD COMMENT: Trustee Watt stated she is going to do research on the Board Members salary for all the Townships in our County. She stated some of the other Boards pay Trustee's extra money for attending meetings. Trustee Watt asked if we had seen the article in the MTA monthly magazine about assessing the Assessor. She is going to personally purchase the book MTA has.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Beverly Rossetto praised the Board for all their hard work and for a job well done hosting the Presque Isle County Officers meeting at the HBCA.

ADJOURNMENT: Supervisor Phillips made a motion to adjourn, Treasurer Watt seconded the motion. 5 aye votes. The meeting was adjourned at 1:50 p.m.

The next Regular Board meeting will be April 11, 2023, at 6:30 p.m.

Minutes taken and respectively submitted by

Sheryl Diamond

Bearinger Township Clerk

BEARINGER TOWNSHIP REGULAR BOARD MEETING

17034 TOWNHALL HIGHWAY

MILLERSBURG, MICHIGAN 49759

TUESDAY APRIL 12, 2022

Supervisor Phillips called the meeting to order at 6:40 p.m. We all stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present for the meeting were: Supervisor Michael Phillips, Treasurer James Watt, Clerk Sheryl Diamond, Trustees, Lee Stawiarski, and Cheryl Watt. Also, in attendance were Beverly Rossetto and Archie Patterson III.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Trustee Stawiarski made a motion to approve the agenda, Treasurer Watt supported the motion. 5 aye votes, motion approved.

CONSENT AGENDA (TO PAY BILLS): Treasurer Watt made a motion to pay the bills, Supervisor Phillips supported the motion. 5 aye votes. Motion carried.

APPROVE THE MINUTES: Trustee Stawiarski made a motion to approve the minutes as written, Trustee Watt seconded the motion. 5 aye votes, minutes approved as written.

REPORTS:

- A. TREASURER:** The ARPA funds total \$18,233.31 with the \$73.10 check added. Currently no movement of the ARPA funds. The CD will be turned in this month and the amount temporarily deposited in the Township savings account (April 2022 CD with Huron State bank). We attempted to open a CD at Citizens National Bank in Onaway, MI but did not have the paperwork to do it. The money in question is the Township Building Fund in the amount of \$51,294.21. Treasurer Watt also suggested we consider what to do with the other 2 CD's that were turned in August for \$28,353.54 and from the May CD in the amount of \$28,399.52. We are gaining interest with the savings account at Huron State Bank. Treasurer Watt has been making attempts to get the ARPA Treasurers report submitted but is having problems getting into the portal. Other Treasurers are having problems getting their reports submitted even after getting on the site.
- B. CLERK:** We still do not balance. I need closing bank statements from Huntington Bank. I also need all the bank statements. The audit is upon us. The treasurer gave me a receipt for moving the building fund from Huntington to the Savings account at Huron State Bank, He never moved it in his financial sheet, so we are off by \$51,147.99. As soon as I get the corrected information from Treasurer Watt our report will match in the savings account. The checking account is off by \$1,999.70, still looking for the problem. Clerk Diamond stated she had to adjust the budget, I moved \$15.25 from miscellaneous to Trustee Stawiarski's mileage. I had to move \$50.44 from miscellaneous to office supplies for clerk, \$5.00 for Software and \$3.21 to mileage. The total moved was \$58.65. Clerk Diamond stated she had to move \$12.50 from miscellaneous to Board of Review Salary. I also moved \$302.83 in total, \$200.87 from Data Processing and \$101.96 from Seminars to mileage for Treasurer. I moved \$1,500.00 from Assessor salary to Building and Grounds due to using the wrong account numbers. I also moved \$74.09 from miscellaneous To Telephone at the hall. Instead of taking off \$700.00 for office supplies I only took off \$200.00

due to the increase of office supplies. Clerk Diamond also asked why we have not done anything with the ARPA funds. We are waiting for the Ambulance Authorities to let us know what they want the money for so we can do the reports necessary.

- C. **TRUSTEES:** Trustee Watt was the only one to have a meeting this month. She reported the meeting was basic. They reviewed and approved the minutes and paid the bills totaling \$7,797.54. The Financial report was read, and they went over it. They had 65 runs. It was also mentioned the shortage of people to fill positions. Their next meeting is April 27, 2022.
- D. **SUPERVISOR:** There is going to be new work done at the Cemetery. There are trees down and standing dead trees that need to be removed. There is a dead tree at the parking lot at the Township Hall that must come down also. Supervisor Phillips has plans to remove the dead and downed trees. Trustee Stawiarski stated he will give assistance. The Board of review went well.

CORRESPONDENCE:

A. **SUPERVISOR:** Supervisor Phillips said he has been contacted by Bois Blanc Township; they are struggling. They would like support from all the small Townships. There is a big interest in Planning and Zoning for Solar and in other Townships planning for Wind Works.

B. **CLERK:** Clerk Diamond reported she received a US Dept of Commerce Census Bureau; it was an online report that had to be filed. It was completed and filed on March 27, 2022. Clerk Diamond made a copy of the Township InSite's about the ARPA funds reporting and gave to the treasurer. I received 2 packets from USPS about election envelopes. I will contact the County Clerk and see if these are new envelopes we will have to use. Still do not have any dates for Election Inspector Training. County Clerk said sometime either June or July.

C. **TREASURER:** Treasurer Watt stated there have only been a few inquiries about taxes that people have paid which we still have records of. Some tax payments have come in that he had to transfer to the County Treasures office.

D. **TRUSTEES:** No correspondence.

OLD BUSINESS: There was no old business.

NEW BUSINESS:

A. **MAINTENANCE CONTRACT:** Lee Stawiarski has submitted paperwork asking for a \$35.00 a month increase in pay for cleaning the hall and mowing and weed whacking the hall and Cemetery and the general maintenance he does. Treasurer Watt made a motion to increase the raise from \$35.00 to a \$50.00 increase due to the amount of work and cost of equipment and supplies he must buy. Clerk Diamond supported the motion. Roll Call; Supervisor Phillips, Aye. Treasurer Watt, Aye, Clerk Diamond, Aye, Trustee Watt, Aye. 4 aye votes. The \$50.00 pay increase was overwhelmingly passed.

B. **ASSESSING CONTRACT:** We received an updated Assessing contract. Clerk Diamond made a motion to accept the new contract as written, Supervisor Phillips supported the motion. Roll Call vote, Supervisor Phillips, aye, Treasurer Watt, aye, Clerk Diamond, aye, Trustee Stawiarski, aye, Trustee Watt, aye. 5 aye votes. Motion carried.

C. **CD:** Treasurer Watt made a motion to place \$51,294.21 into a 3-year CD at Citizens National Bank in Oneway, MI. Supervisor Phillips seconded the motion. Roll Call vote, Supervisor Phillips, aye, Treasurer Watt, aye, Clerk Diamond, aye, Trustee Watt, aye, Trustee Stawiarski, aye. 5 aye votes. Motion carried. We will place the money into Citizens National Bank.

Supervisor Phillips made a motion to open 2 CDs at Huron State Bank in the amounts of, \$28,399.52 for one of the CDs and the second CD in the amount of \$28,353.54. Clerk Diamond supported the motion. Roll call vote: Supervisor Phillips, aye, Treasurer Watt, aye, Clerk Diamond, aye, Trustee Watt, aye, Trustee Stawiarski, aye. 5 aye votes, motion carried. We will be opening 2 new CDs at Huron State bank.

The April CD will not be deposited into the savings account at Huron State Bank until after the next meeting.

BOARD COMMENT: Trustee Stawiarski told Supervisor Phillips he will help with the tree removals.

PUBLIC COMMENT: No public comment.

ADJOURNMENT: Treasurer Watt made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Trustee Watt supported the motion. 5 aye votes. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

The next Regular Board Meeting will be held on Tuesday May 10, 2022, at 6:30 p.m.

Minutes taken and respectively submitted by Sheryl Diamond, Bearinger Township Clerk

Board Approval Amendments

For physical year ending March 31, 2023

The Audit went over in cost due to the F65 and the Audit price increase

I need board approval to move money from the Attorney fund 101-266-801 to the Audit fund 101-223-801 in the amount of \$150.00.

I need Board approval to move money from the Attorney fund 101-266-801 to Election funds Meals 101-262-703=\$47.16, Postage 101-262-737=\$28.00,

Transportation 101-262-860=\$163.85 Equipment and Program support 101-262-870=\$640.29

Michael aye, James aye, Sheryl aye, Cheryl aye, Lee aye

5 Aye Votes. Motion carried.

Category Amendments

To fix overages in the budget within the categories I moved money

Miscellaneous 101-101-955 to Cheryl's Transportation 101-101-860-004 \$119.74

Miscellaneous 101-215-955 to Sheryl's Transportation 101-215-860 \$100.29

Data processing 101-253-803 =\$33.62 Seminars and workshops 101-253-950 =\$300.00

Miscellaneous 101-253-955=\$200.00 and moved the money to James' 101-253-727 Office supplies =\$404.80 Due to the new computer and Printer, Software Purchase 101-253-860 =\$23.00, Transportation 101-253-860=\$105.82

Assessor's Professional and Contractual fees 101-257-801=\$552.36 to Assessor's Office supplies 101-257-727 =\$6.36, 101-257-805 Lot Split Fees=\$525.00, Software Purchase Expense 101-257-810=\$21.00.

Building and Grounds Repairs 101-265-930=\$1,400.00, Electricity 101-265-921=\$293.00 to Professional and Contractual Services 101-265-801=\$1,068.00 and Insurance 101-265-857=\$625.00

Board of Review miscellaneous 101-247-955=\$56.10 to Board of Review Transportation and mileage 101-247-860=\$56.10

Michael aye, James aye, Sheryl aye, Cheryl aye, Lee aye

5 Aye Votes. Motion carried.

BEARINGER TOWNSHIP REGULAR BOARD MEETING

17034 TOWN HALL HIGHWAY

MILLERSBURG, MICHIGAN 49759

TUESDAY MAY 9, 2023

Supervisor Phillips called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. We stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL: Supervisor Michael Phillips present, Treasurer James Watt present, Clerk Sheryl Diamond present, Trustee Lee Stawiarski present, Trustee Cheryl Watt present, also present for the meeting were new property owners Lisa and Aaron Kipfmiller. Welcome to the Township.

APPROVE THE AGENDA: Treasurer Watt made a motion to approve the agenda as presented, Trustee Stawiarski supported the motion. 5 aye votes, motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA (TO PAY THE BILLS): Supervisor Phillips made a motion to pay the bills. Trustee Watt seconded the motion. 5 aye votes, motion carried.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: Trustee Stawiarski made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Clerk Diamond supported the motion. 5 aye votes, motion carried.

REPORTS:

A. TREASURER: Treasurer did some research and said the policy for the Tax Account he has discovered that a procedural change can be made. The habit of writing a 3-part receipt is not a required procedure for the Tax Account. We ran out of receipts, He checked with other Townships, and found that Bearinger Township was adding an unnecessary step and the cost to reorder receipts would cost the Township \$200.00-\$275.00. The Treasurer also included a copy from page 16 of the most recent handbook for the Township Treasurer. The handbook is put out by MTA. Treasurer Watt stated he made his decision to not use the receipts, based on fact not on hearsay nor opinions. The Treasurer thanked the Clerk for setting a definite date for when she needs the financial reports. This allows him to prepare them in advance instead of them being requested the day prior, which doesn't allow him to get the information. He is requesting one week's notice if some report is needed if possible.

B. CLERK: Thank you to the Treasurer for the receipts so we could balance. I have asked that I get all the receipts and the financial report by the Friday before the next meeting so we can balance. We balance. I have been invited to the PIE&G Liaison Board meeting on May 30, 2023. At the next Regular Board meeting I will give a report on it. I had to call Pontem to put the AAACU back on the Balance sheet. The exterminator was here. They sprayed inside and outside. They also removed 2 dead snakes and a few sheds, 2 dead mice. PIE&G is raising electric rates and delivery. The availability charge is also going up on June 1, 2023. I just paid

BEARINGER TOWNSHIP REGULAR BOARD MEETING

17034 TOWN HALL HIGHWAY

MILLERSBURG, MICHIGAN 49759

TUESDAY JUNE 13, 2023

Supervisor Phillips called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. We all stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL: Supervisor Phillips present, Treasurer Watt present, Clerk Diamond present, Trustee Stawiarski present, Trustee Watt present. Also attending were Tom Sobeck from PIE&G and Roger Kopernik.

APPROVE THE AGENDA: Clerk Diamond made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Trustee Stawiarski supported the motion. 5 aye votes, motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA (TO PAY THE BILLS): Supervisor Phillips made a motion to pay the bills, Clerk Diamond supported the motion. 5 aye votes, motion carried.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: Trustee Stawiarski made a motion to approve the minutes as corrected. Supervisor Phillips supported the motion. 5 aye votes, motion carried.

GUEST PRESENTATION: President and CEO of PIE&G Tom Sobeck, brought a packet that he went over with us. He explained the rate hikes in electricity. He also said PIE&G was the very first Co-Op in Michigan. We have 34,800 active electricity members, 13,200 active gas members, 11,088 on the new internet, and only 8 so far on the voice. He stated there are a lot of bugs to be worked out on the voice.

REPORTS:

A. TREASURER: Treasurer Watt presented the financial report, the CD report. He stated we balanced. There has been no change in ARPA funds. We are waiting for the bill for the parking lot re-surfacing. He also stated we try not to have excess money in the checking account since we get no interest on the checking account.

B. CLERK: Supervisor Phillips and Clerk Diamond attended the MTA meeting. The next meeting is at Bismark Township on September 5, 2023 at 7 p.m. County Road 489 between Abby Lane and White Pine Highway will be redone after the 4th of July holiday. The County Register of Deeds informed us we can sign up with the county for land records to check for fraud alerts. If someone tried to sell your property it would send you a notice about it. The County Treasurer told us on the first right of refusal all townships should just say no. There is a problem with how much you pay for the property and if a Township buys the property, it must be used for the good of the Township only. All Townships are now required to have a Ballot Drop Box at the Township Hall before the February 27, 2024 Presidential primary. The box also must be secured

to a fixture and have a camera on it. The State of Michigan is paying for the boxes and cameras. The man from Northern Sealers called to get my address so he could send the bill for re-surfacing the driveway. This will be paid for with ARPA funds.

C. TRUSTEES: Trustee Watt stated regular procedures were followed to approve the financial reports and pay the bills. They had a total of 61 runs, none of the runs were for Bearinger Township. The ECHO unit is waiting for the police department to remove their cage, radio, and other things so the Onaway Ambulance Authority can get the unit set up for them. There will be a need for a new ambulance. It will have to be ordered two years in advance. The cost for a new ambulance is \$220,000.00. The next meeting is June 28,2023.

Trustee Stawiarski did not have a meeting this month.

D. SUPERVISOR: Supervisor placed the Flags at the cemetery. He marked one plot for a burial that happened over the weekend. He received a call asking about parent's plots. There is no record he could find that they owned any plots. He has had several calls about easements on lots along Lake Huron. Belknap Township MTA meeting was good. There were about 50 attendees. We received good reports from the County Clerk, County Treasurer, Register of Deeds, The Road commission, and our District MTA representative. The Fire Department recruiting signs are back out at some locations.

CORRESPONDENCE:

A. SUPERVISOR: Supervisor Phillips received a letter from Ocqueoc Township authorizing Bearinger Township to apply for a State Fire Department grant that would cover the cost of up to \$10,000.00 in turnout gear.

B. CLERK: I received a letter from DNR about a property for auction coming up. I received a dividend check from PAR Plan for \$50.00, I gave it to the Treasurer. I passed out the new County Directories. The post office sent a packet containing suggested mailing envelopes for Elections. I received the paperwork for an EGLE Permit. Supervisor Phillips stated it is by his house. The road commission sent a packet explaining the work they are going to do this year.

C. TREASURER: Treasurer Watt stated he received another request from the Liquor Control Board that he had already sent in. He made a copy and sent it again. He presented us with the Summer 2023 Newsletter.

D. Trustees: Neither Trustee had any correspondence.

OLD BUSINESS: There was not any old business.

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Roger Kopernik presented paperwork for Five Nations Lane in Millersburg, MI that has an issue with an encroachment on unplotted property. One landowner built his barn on a piece of a neighbor's property. The property owners are asking the Board for approval to make

a lot-line adjustment. Supervisor Phillips made a motion to approve the Lot line adjustment. The land- owner is giving the slice of property to the barn owner at no cost. Treasurer Watt supported the motion. 5 aye votes, motion approved.

B. Supervisor Phillips read a Policy update Resolution from the Assessor. Supervisor Phillips made a motion to approve the resolution, Treasurer Watt supported the motion. 5 aye votes, motion carried. Supervisor Phillips made a motion to pass the Policy for the Canvass of Personal Property resolution. Trustee Stawiarski supported the motion. 5 aye votes, motion carried. The resolutions were numbered 2023-06, 2023-07 and copies mailed to the Assessor

PUBLIC COMMENT (2 MINUTE PER PERSON ADDRESSED TO THE BOARD ONLY): None

BOARD COMMENT: Trustee Watt suggested we put up a shed and check into getting a riding lawnmower that will stay on the property. Trustee Watt will check prices on the sheds and mowers. She suggested we could use ARPA funds to pay for them. Clerk Diamond is going to contact Tony Bischer Construction to get a price for changing the ceiling tiles and fixing the door jams. The exterminator said he thinks that is where the snakes are coming in. Also see if he can do repairs under the kitchen sink.

ADJOURNMENT: Treasurer Watt made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Supervisor Phillips supported the motion. 5 aye votes, motion carried. The meeting was adjourned.

The next Bearinger Township Board meeting is July 11,2023 at 6:30 p.m.

Minutes taken and respectively submitted by

Sheryl Diamond

Bearinger Township Clerk

BEARINGER TOWNSHIP REGULAR BOARD MEETING

17034 TOWN HALL HIGHWAY

MILLERSBURG, MICHIGAN 49759

TUESDAY JULY 11, 2023

Supervisor Phillips called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. We stood for the pledge of allegiance.

ROLL CALL: Supervisor Phillips present, Treasurer Watt present, Clerk Diamond present, Trustee Stawiarski present, Trustee Watt present, also in attendance was Beverly Rossetto and Anthony Bischer.

APPROVE THE AGENDA: Trustee Stawiarski made a motion to approve the agenda as presented, Trustee Watt supported the motion. 5 aye votes, motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA (TO PAY THE BILLS): Supervisor Phillips made a motion to pay the bills, Clerk Diamond supported the motion. 5 aye votes, motion carried.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: Trustee Stawiarski made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Trustee Watt supported the motion, 5 aye votes, motion carried.

REPORTS:

A. TREASURER: Treasurer Watt passed out new CD reports and his financial sheet. Taxes have gone out and he has been accepting tax payments.

B. Clerk: Clerk Diamond reported she finally got the bill for the parking lot sealing. Her printer quit printing; Supervisor Phillips ordered a new one. Still waiting for 2 bills for the middle of the month payments. Deputy Clerk Rossetto has kindly agreed to be my replacement while I recover from shoulder surgery. We need to figure out what to pay her and what fund it comes from. The Deputy pays \$200.00 per year and does not even come close to covering the amount of work that she will have to do for a couple of months.

C. TRUSTEES: Trustee Watt attended the Onaway Area Ambulance meeting on June 28, 2023. They did all the regular procedures for reviewing financial reports and paying the bills. They had a total of 73 runs, only 1 was for Bearinger Township. The ECHO unit is still not ready. Dallas will start looking into the possibility of finding another unit. They billed out \$69,181.50 for the 70 runs. This does not show the amount received.

Trustee Stawiarski attended the Rogers City Ambulance Service Authority meeting on June 14, 2023. They went over the normal procedures for reading the minutes, accepting the Treasurer's report. Huntington Bank interest \$180 per quarter. They have \$490,00.00 in tax revenue and \$16,000.00 expected to be paid. Fuel expenses are \$3,000.00 to \$3,600.00 per month. Dallas is

expected to reduce his CLLS contract fee for continuing service. They used ARPA funds to purchase equipment that was received June 14, 2023. They expect \$23,000.00 in supplies under ARPA. They purchased a new water heater and had it installed and inspected. They are expecting 1400 calls in 2024. That is double the volume run on the same millage funds. There are issues with Cheboygan CLSS sending transport to Petoskey due to a detour in Alanson. It is quicker to take patients to Alpena or Gaylord. There will be a new full-time medic coming from Onaway Ambulance Service. 3 EMT's are getting medical licensing that will be paid for by Grants over the next two years. Zoll update, 36-month payment plan is expected to be paid off January 2024. For April 1 call for Bearinger Township and 5 for Ocqueoc Township. May had 2 calls for Bearinger Township and non for Ocqueoc Township.

D. SUPERVISOR: Supervisor Phillips applied for a joint Fire Department grant. If we get the full amount, it will be \$20,000.00. It covers items that are worn or used by firefighters, like radios and helmets. Only departments with a majority of paid on call or volunteers can qualify for this grant. We are 100 percent on call or volunteer.

CORRESPONDENCE:

A. SUPERVISOR: Supervisor Phillips received a letter from the Assessor with Summer Tax Warrant to sign and return. He stated he has been getting emails about the newsletter with no coupon and wanted information on how to get a coupon for Big Trash Day. He was asked about moving Big Trash Day to a different day due to tax bills not going out until July first. He had a call from an electric service company asking about permits for work and where to submit them. Had a property owner ask Supervisors opinion on the correctness of his quit claim deed.

B. CLERK: Clerk Diamond reported she received the new bill for Lappin Insurance. The cost went from \$2,300.00 to \$3,000.00. I have received calls about Big Trash Day, the tax bills have not been mailed yet. Postage Stamps went up on July 9, 2023. A lady called about trying to sell property, she had paid her taxes but was told she had back taxes due. I gave her the information for the County Treasurer. I am requesting all paperwork for invoices and mileage be in by July 26, 2023. There are a lot of updates for elections coming in daily.

C. TREASURER: Treasurer Watt has been accepting tax bills and printing receipts. He asked the Supervisor to get him a new ink cartridge for his printer.

D. TRUSTEES: None

OLD BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Anthony Bischer Construction came to get information on repairs at the hall. We decided on a new drop ceiling saving the framework if possible. Replace the door seals. The chimney needs a better fire collar. Check to see if the boot is leaking. So far, the rough estimate is \$5,000.00. He will submit an actual estimate in a few weeks.

B. We received a Mutual Aid Agreement from the Fire Department. Everyone was given a copy to take home to be better prepared for the next meeting to vote on it.

C. Supervisor Phillips made a motion to use ARPA funds to pay for a new printer for the Clerk. Trustee Watt supported the motion. Roll call vote, Supervisor Phillips aye, Treasurer Watt aye, Clerk Diamond aye, Trustee Stawiarski aye, Trustee Watt aye. The cost was \$179.00. 5 aye votes, motion approved. Treasurer Watt made a motion to buy a new computer for the Supervisor, Trustee Stawiarski supported the motion to allow up to \$700.00 in ARPA Funds. Roll call vote, Supervisor Phillips aye, Treasurer Watt aye, Clerk Diamond aye, Trustee Stawiarski aye, Trustee Watt aye. 5 aye votes, motion carried.

A proposal was made to get a shed 10x14 for the Township that costs \$3895.00, a riding lawnmower that is expected to cost \$2,500-\$3,000. The Treasurer will check to see if we can get the shed tax exempt since we are a government entity.

Trustee Watt made a motion to get the building and mower with a price cap of \$7,000.00. Treasurer Watt supported the motion to pay for them with ARPA Funds. Roll Call, Supervisor Phillips No, Treasurer Watt aye, Trustee Watt aye, Clerk Diamond no. Motion failed for lack of support. We will eliminate this motion.

D. A motion was made for the 10x14 storage shed. Supervisor Phillips made a motion to approve up to \$4,400 for the building with ARPA Funds. Clerk Diamond supported the motion. Roll call vote, Supervisor Phillips aye, Treasurer Watt aye, Clerk Diamond aye, Trustee Watt aye, Trustee Stawiarski aye. 5 aye votes, motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT: (2 minutes per person, comments addressed to the Board only)

BOARD COMMENT: Treasurer Watt thanked the Board for approving the shed.

ADJOURNMENT: Trustee Watt made a motion to adjourn, Treasurer Watt supported the motion. 5 aye votes. The meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

The next meeting will be August 8, 2023 at 6:30 p.m.

Minutes respectfully taken and submitted by

Sheryl Diamond

Bearinger Township Clerk

the BS&A required software for the Treasurer, already there will have to be budget adjustments. This bill put the software support over budget by \$80.00. I am waiting for the Verizon bill and the Township Credit card bill.

C. TRUSTEES: Trustee Stawiarski attended the April 12, 2023 Rogers City Ambulance Service Authority meeting. The minutes were approved. The Treasurer's report was approved. They have \$819,493 total assets. They overpaid Stryker and underpaid Zoll so amendments will be made. The ARPA fund contributions received were \$27,000 from Presque Isle County. Most of the money will be used to replace the cots and other routine purchases. The money must be spent by 2024. They could also use the money to offset re-mount. The water heater from 1995 will be replaced with a 50-gallon heater. ARPA funds may be used to purchase it. The cost installed is \$736.80. They are in discussions about replacing the Ambulance building sign, the discussion is tabled until the next meeting. Lawn maintenance worker from last year will probably be re-approved for 2023. One person retired and one resigned. Two EMT's from Buckley will be hired and will attempt to get them into the Medic program. One Medic may leave to become ER nurse. One Sherriff Deputy may return to the service as an EMT. February ambulance runs had 3 for Bearinger Township and 3 for Ocqueoc Township. March had 4 For Bearinger Township and 5 for Ocqueoc Township.

Trustee Watt attended the Onaway Area Ambulance Authority meeting on April 26, 2023. The regular procedures for reviewing the financial reports, accepting the bills and voting to pay the bills took place. They had a total of 53 runs, 3 for Bearinger Township. They billed out \$43,340.40 with a total payment received of \$4,017.65. The ECHO unit has been released and it is hoped that by next month it will be delivered. The three lift mats that were ordered arrived and were paid for with ARPA funds. They are down to 2 full-time people. There is discussion about offering some type of health insurance. There is a danger with being so low on employees. The next meeting is May 24, 2023.

D. SUPERVISOR: Supervisor Phillips stated he has completed the ARPA annual project submission. He has had several calls about taxes and assessments, one person hung up on him. From the Fire Board meeting it was reported they had 3 calls and only 1 was for Bearinger Township. The new Composit air tanks are on order and ARPA reimbursement forms have been sent to the Presque Isle County for payment. There was a massive fire on lane 56. They had 4 fire departments to get it put out. The residents will try to get their insurance to pay for Curtis to remove the metal roof when it was reigniting.

CORRESPONDENCE:

A. SUPERVISOR: PIE&G President & CEO would like to come do a presentation. Supervisor Phillips will get that scheduled.

B. CLERK: PIE&G sent a card to the Township to save electrical costs and energy. They are offering Optimization programs to provide businesses, farms, and non-profits with resources and incentives to help save energy and reduce electric costs. The Assessor sent an email about

Standard Operating Procedures. A copy was given to all Board members. This was due to a person with a Veterans Exemption not granted. The Assessor moved and this person kept bringing his forms to the Assessor's house. Since he moved, the exemption wasn't delivered to him. The Assessor has a P.O. Box the mail is supposed to go to. I received an email about a property sale. They were asking if there were utilities or any special assessments on the property. I had to update the Elections Official Directory.

C. TREASURER: Treasurer Watt said he is still getting checks and calls about taxes that need to go to the County Treasurer. He has been getting information about a lot being changed to a business name.

TRUSTEES: None.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: The MTA officers meeting is June 6, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. at Belknap Township Hall. The meeting is also a picnic. Supervisor Phillips is going to make fruit salad and Clerk Diamond is going to make cookies. We are discussing repairs for the Township Hall. The doors need fixing as does the ceiling. Clerk Diamond will put an ad in the paper for bids. We also are going to get the parking lot re-surfaced and the windows cleaned.

PUBLIC COMMENT (2 MINUTE PER PERSON, COMMENTS ADDRESSED TO THE BOARD ONLY.)

The new property owners have vacant land. They asked questions about Associations and if they must join them. They asked about ordinances. We told them about the RV laws in the Township. Only 90 days per year are allowed to be on the property.

BOARD COMMENT: Clerk Diamond asked Trustee Stawiarski to check with the County about the ARPA funds being used for cots and routine purchases.

ADJOURNMENT: Treasurer Watt made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Supervisor Phillips supported the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 7:18 p.m.

The next Bearinger Township Board meeting is Tuesday June 11, 2023 at 6:30 p.m.

Minutes taken and respectively submitted by

Sheryl Diamond

Bearinger Township Clerk

BEARINGER TOWNSHIP REGULAR BOARD MEETING
17034 TOWN HALL HIGHWAY
MILLERSBURG, MICHIGAN 49759
TUESDAY August 8, 2023

Supervisor Phillips called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. We stood for the pledge of allegiance.

ROLL CALL: Supervisor Phillips present, Treasurer Watt present, Deputy Clerk Rossetto present, Trustee Stawiarski present, Trustee Watt present, also in attendance were Clerk Diamond and Lee Diamond.

APPROVE THE AGENDA: Supervisor Phillips made a motion to approve the agenda as presented, Treasurer Watt supported the motion. 4 aye votes, motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA (TO PAY THE BILLS): Trustee Stawiarski made a motion to pay the bills, Supervisor Phillips supported the motion. 4 aye votes, motion carried.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: Trustee Stawiarski made a motion to approve the July 11, 2023, minutes as presented. Trustee Watt supported the motion, 4 aye votes, motion carried.

REPORTS:

A. TREASURER: Treasurer Watt passed out new CD reports and his financial sheet. Property taxes payments are being received. The CD's current balance is \$195,004.83. Two ARPA checks were issued in July for Parking Lot sealing and new Storage Shed.

B. Clerk: Deputy Clerk Rossetto presented copies of the July 2023 Balance Sheet, Check Register and Standard Budget

C. TRUSTEES: Trustee Watt attended the Onaway Area Ambulance meeting on July 26, 2023. They did all the regular procedures for reviewing financial reports and paying the bills. They had a total of 62 runs, which included 2 for Bearinger Township. The new ECHO unit that they are looking at is a 2020 Ford Explorer with 34,000 miles and the ok was given to purchase it for \$30,990.00. They billed out \$44,058.00 for the 62 runs with \$7,268.68 coming in as of the date of the meeting. Next meeting is August 23, 2023

Trustee Stawiarski will attend the Rogers City Ambulance Service Authority meeting tomorrow August 9, 2023.

D. SUPERVISOR: Supervisor Phillips has received his new laptop and has purchased a new printer for the Township Clerk. As Cemetery Sexton he marked a plot for the placement of a headstone.

CORRESPONDENCE:

A. SUPERVISOR: Supervisor Phillips received a call from an Alpena News reporter, he was going to come to the meeting tonight but changed his mind. He wants to talk about First Responders. The next Presque Isle County Officers Association meeting will be held at Bismarck Township, September 5, 2023, at 7:00 pm.

B. CLERK: None

C. TREASURER: Treasurer Watt received a letter from the Local Community Stabilization Authority regarding the May 31, 2023, METRO Act distribution to Bearinger Township for the sum of \$4,613.88, the correct amount should have been \$2,891.38. The overpayment of \$1,722.50 will be corrected in the May 2024 METRO Act payment.

D. TRUSTEES: None

OLD BUSINESS: The new storage shed has been delivered, Treasurer Watt explained how the 10x14 shed should be anchored to the ground. Clerk Diamond will contact the Lappen Insurance Company to assure that the shed is added to our insurance policy.

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Ocqueoc Bearinger Fire Department Mutual Aid Box Alarm System Association Agreement. Supervisor Phillips stated that everyone had received a copy of the Agreement prior to this meeting. Following a brief discussion Trustee Stawiarski made a motion to approve the Agreement. Supervisor Phillips supported the motion. 4 aye votes, motion carried.

B. Caretakers Contract: A help wanted ad was published in the Presque Isle County Advance Newspaper. One letter of interest was received from Clayton Lee Diamond stating that he was aware of the responsibilities and requirements and is willing to take care of the duties for the monthly sum of \$270.00. A motion was made by Trustee Stawiarski to approve Clayton Lee Diamond as the Bearinger Township Caretaker. Supervisor Phillips supported the motion. 4 ayes votes, motion carried.

C. Deputy Clerks wage: After a brief discussion, Treasurer Watt made a motion to pay the Deputy Clerk an hourly wage of \$12.00 per hour. Motion was supported by Supervisor Phillips. Roll call vote: Supervisor Phillips yes, Treasurer Watt yes, Trustee Watt yes and Trustee Stawiarski yes. 4 yes vote, motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT: No Public Comments.

BOARD COMMENT: None

ADJOURNMENT: Trustee Watt made a motion to adjourn, Treasurer Watt supported the motion. 4 aye votes, motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 7:03 p.m.

The next meeting will be September 12, 2023, at 6:30 p.m.

Minutes respectfully taken and submitted by

Beverly Rossetto
Bearinger Township Deputy Clerk

BEARINGER TOWNSHIP REGULAR BOARD MEETING

**17034 TOWN HALL HIGHWAY
MILLERSBURG, MICHIGAN 49759**

Tuesday September 12, 2023

Supervisor Phillips called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. We stood for the pledge of allegiance.

ROLL CALL: Supervisor Phillips present, Treasurer Watt present, Deputy Clerk Rossetto present, Trustee Stawiarski present, Trustee Watt present, also in attendance was Clerk Diamond and Michele and John Haines.

APPROVE THE AGENDA: Trustee Stawiarski made a motion to approve the agenda as presented, Treasurer Watt supported the motion. 4 aye votes, motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA (TO PAY THE BILLS): Supervisor Phillips made a motion to pay the bills, Trustee Watt supported the motion. 4 aye votes, motion carried.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: Supervisor Phillips made a motion to approve the August 8, 2023 minutes as presented. Treasurer Watt supported the motion, 4 aye votes, motion carried. Trustee Watt stated that the Caretakers letter of resignation was not read at the meeting and that it should have been a Board motion to place a Want Ad in the Presque Isle Newspaper. Supervisor Phillips suggested that this issue be placed on October's meeting agenda to establish the process and steps to handle this type of issue.

REPORTS:

A. TREASURER: Treasurer Watt passed out CD reports and his financial sheet. Property taxes payments are steal being received, many tax payers are hand delivering or just leaving their payments in his mail box. Current balance of the CD's Account is \$195,151.34, General Fund Savings \$151,999.28, General Fund Checking \$6,568.40 and ARPA Fund \$19,064.20.

B. Clerk: Deputy Clerk Rossetto presented copies of the August 2023 Balance Sheet, Check Register and Standard Budget.

C. TRUSTEES: Trustee Watt attended the Onaway Area Ambulance meeting on August 23 , 2023. They did all the regular procedures for reviewing financial reports and paying althe bills. They had a total of 62 runs, which included 2 for Bearinger Township. The new ECHO unit is at the Onaway Ambulance garage and was awaiting final updates as of the meeting date. They billed out \$53,255.15 with \$12,170.53 coming in as of the date of the meeting. Discussion regarding needing more employees and the problems of availability of people to hire, pay rate is an issue. Next meeting is September 27, 2023

Trustee Stawiarski attended the Rogers City Ambulance Service Authority meeting August 9,

2023. There was \$107,698.35 net income for ambulance runs for the Fiscal year July 2022 to June 2023 This has been the busiest year since 2010. The four wheel drive ambulance oxygen door won't open and it may end up in the body shop. Year to date Bearinger has had 37 runs and Ocqueoc has had 51 runs.

Trustee Stawiarski attended the PIE&G meeting August 30, 2023 and reported that there will be no return of funds this year as PIE&G needs the capital for high-speed internet and operating cost. They lost \$3,632,000 is due to inflation, internet and hiring new staff. Rate hike currently in effect should alleviate the lost in 2023, residential increase should be \$9.34 per monthly. New gas meters, 99% have been installed and 31,500 are being read at the headquarters. Future use of wind generation will be needed because of the retirement of coal plants.

D. SUPERVISOR: Supervisor Phillips reported that Ocqueoc Bearinger Fire Department Audit has been completed. HBCA funds was used to purchase a Flag Pole and flags for the Fire Department.

CORRESPONDENCE: No Correspondence was reported.

OLD BUSINESS: Treasurer Watt reported that the keys for the new shed are to big and that they will be returned for the correct size keys.

NEW BUSINESS: A. Election Cycle: Clerk Diamond informed the Board that the Township will have an election November 7, 2023 for the Onaway School Board. Clerk Diamond detailed the up coming elections in 2024 and explained that Bearinger Township pay for Election Inspectors was the lowest and request that the hourly pay be increased to \$15.00 per hour. Supervisor Phillips made a motion to raise the Election Inspectors wage to \$15.00 per hour. Treasurer Watt supported the motion. Role call vote, voting yes was Supervisor Phillips, Treasurer Watt, Trustee Watt and Trustee Stawiarski. Four yes votes, motion carried.

Clerk Diamond explained the new Nine Days of election voting. For the nine (9) days of voting, new Tabulators will need to be purchased. Four Precinct, Allis, North Allis, Onaway and Bearinger, can be combined for the nine days of voting to save money. One location would be used for all four precincts, Each Precinct would provide one Election Inspector to work each of the nine days. Treasurer Watt made a motion to join with the other Precincts for the nine days of voting for all upcoming elections, Trustee Stawiarski supported the motion. Four yes votes, motion carried.

B. Assessor Policy: Supervisor Phillips read the Assessors Resolution for the Policy and Procedures for the Inspection of Real Pproperty. Supervisor Phillips made a motion to adopt the resolution, Treasurer Watt supported the motion. Four yes votes, motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT: (2 minutes per person, comments addressed to the Board only)

Michele and John Haines asked for advise regarding the procedure to get speed limit signs put up on Grace Habor Road. They stated that drivers are going to fast for this type of road and wanted to know if the Bearinger Township Board would give them a letter of support addressed

to the Presque Isle Road Commission. Supervisor Phillips agreeded to the letter of support and explained the yellow speed control signs that were put up on Bluffs Highway.

Board Comment:Trustee Watt inquired about the winter meetings that will be held at 1:00 pm., the December 2023 to March 2024 meeting will start at 1:00 pm.

ADJOURNMENT: Trustee Watt made a motion to adjourn, Trustee Stawiarski supported the motion. 4 aye votes. The meeting was adjourned at 7:19 p.m.

The next meeting will be October 10, 2023, at 6:30 p.m.

Minutes respectfully taken and submitted by

Beverly Rossetto
Bearinger Township Deputy Clerk

Bearinger Township Election Commission
October 10, 2023 Meeting
17034 Towns Hall Hwy.
Millersburg, MI 49759

Clerk Sheryl Diamond called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm. Commissioners present for this meeting were Supervisor Michael Phillips, Treasurer James Watt and Clerk Sheryl Diamond

Clerk Diamond read the following names for the Election Inspectors scheduled to work the Onaway School District Election, November 7, 2023.

Public Accuracy Test at Bearinger Township Hall, October 16, 2023, 1:00 pm:
Beverly Rossetto, Witness

Names recommended for the morning shift 6:30 am to 1:30 pm are:
Beverly Rossetto, Chairperson
Kay Dowker, Election Inspector
Ann Patterson, Election Inspector/Receiving Board

Names recommended for the afternoon shift 1:30 pm until closing are:
Emilie Stawiarski, Chairperson
Margraret Thompson, Election Inspector
Sheryl Diamond, Election Inspector

Names recommended for the Closing Receiving Board:
Ann Patterson
Thomas Stawiarski

Michael Phillips made a motion to accept the recommended names for Election Chairpersons, Election Inspectors, Receiving Board and Public Accuracy Test Witness for the Onaway School District Election, November 7, 2023, James Watt seconded the motion. Three yes votes, motion carried.

Being no further business, Michael Phillips made a motion to adjourn, James Watt seconded the motion. Three yes votes, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:06 pm.

Minutes taken by,

Sheryl Diamond, Clerk
Bearinger Township

BEARINGER TOWNSHIP REGULAR BOARD MEETING

17034 TOWN HALL HIGHWAY

MILLERSBURG, MICHIGAN 49759

TUESDAY NOVEMBER 14, 2023

Supervisor Phillips called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m. We stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL: Supervisor Phillips present, Treasurer Watt present, Clerk Diamond present, Trustee Watt present, Trustee Stawiarski present. Also present for the meeting was the Deputy Clerk Beverly Rossetto.

APPROVE THE AGENDA: Trustee Stawiarski made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Clerk Diamond supported the motion. 5 aye votes, motion carried

CONSENT AGENDA (TO PAY THE BILLS): Supervisor Phillips made a motion to pay the bills, Treasurer Watt supported the motion. 5 aye votes, motion carried.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: Trustee Watt made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Clerk Diamond supported the motion. 5 aye votes, motion carried.

REPORTS:

A. TREASURER: Treasurer Watt presented the new CD report and Financial Report. His computer went down and didn't have access to the past reports. The County Treasurer gave him a backup of his needed information. He now has a new computer and software. We paid for them with ARPA Funds.

B. CLERK: The school elections went ok. In the middle of the morning, we had to call and get a new tabulator. A ballot got stuck and tore in the Tabulator. The information the Tabulator had was all on the Memory Cards and was swapped out and put in the new one. The balance sheet and financial report were \$0.10 off due to a receipt error and have since been corrected. The check register and budget reports were included in the reports.

TRUSTEES: Trustee Stawiarski attended the Onaway area Ambulance Authority meeting. They called the meeting to order and approved the minutes. The new ECHO Unit doors will take 4 weeks to complete. They must get the radio to plug in, a new siren and a deer catcher. Trevor took care of opening a \$51,000 CD at approximately 5% at a private facility. September billing and run report, profit collected \$77,000. The Audit was off by \$50.00. Bearinger Township had 0 runs. The old ECHO Unit has interested parties to purchase it. They are accepting bids over \$6,000. It is a Ford F-350 with 170,000 miles. Their next meeting is November 29, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. Trustee Stawiarski also attended the Rogers City Ambulance Service Authority meeting.

They called the meeting to order, approved the minutes, and the Treasurer's report was approved. There were incomplete financials at the time of the meeting. The Invoices were approved for payment. The RCASA has paid for cots, mattresses, splints and two mannequins for training. They were all paid for with ARPA Funds. The mannequins are good for training 3 potential medics. Payroll is consistent and keeps wages in line with other communities. Under Old Business the ambulances are experiencing wiring problems. The new remount could be on the road by the end of May 2024. There was a 10-15% increase in costs due to the strike. Bishop Dealership in Rogers City if not good for ambulance repair. The RCASA bought a new remount for \$240,000. Posen bump and run had 5 calls-no transports. RCASA is purchasing the blow-up bags for \$1800. There is a possible \$200 mil solar project in the area. August and September had 2 calls for Bearinger and 1 transfer to the ER. August had 8 calls for Ocqueoc with 5 transfers to ER. September had 2 calls for Ocqueoc and 2 transfers to the ER. The ZOLL bill was overpaid due to not having the tax-exempt paperwork. They have it now and reimbursed the taxes paid. Presque Isle and Rogers City were talking about merging, they have decided not to since Alpena is closer and most of the area is in Krakow Township.

D: SUPERVISOR:

CORRESPONDENCE:

A. SUPERVISOR:

B. CLERK: I received an EGLE application that was denied. The application was denied due to the request to enclose 99 feet of a stream that would adversely affect fish and wildlife by restricting access and usage of the water, affect the public trust by enclosing public trust water, altering the water quality of the stream through enclosure and would have more than minimal impacts to the environment.

C. TREASURER: The Treasurer is getting phone calls about taxes. He doesn't know how to get people to realize how important the parcel numbers are. Treasurer Watt would like to get a locking drop box for Property taxes. People keep putting their taxes in his mailbox without postage. He is afraid someone will take it by mistake thinking it is outgoing mail.

NEW BUSINESS: Ken Hopp sent his plowing contract for 2024. There were no changes to the costs. Clerk Diamond made a motion to accept Ken's Bid. Trustee Stawiarski supported the motion. 5 aye votes, motion carried.

PAC Sanitation sent their Big Trash Day contract. The prices were the same as last year's rates. Trustee Watt asked if we could use ARPA Funds to pay for this. Supervisor Phillips made a motion to approve the motion to use ARPA Funds to pay for the cost next year, Treasurer Watt supported the motion. Roll call vote: Supervisor Phillips aye, Treasurer Watt aye, Clerk Diamond aye, Trustee Watt aye, Trustee Stawiarski aye. 5 aye votes motion carried.

The Board Meeting times and dates were discussed, Supervisor Phillips made a motion to approve the dates and times, Treasurer Watt supported the motion. 5 aye votes, motion carried.

BOARD COMMENT: Supervisor Phillips made a motion to thank Deputy Clerk Beverly Rossetto for doing a wonderful job filling in for the Clerk after her surgery. Trustee Watt supported the motion. 5 aye votes. The Deputy Clerk was applauded for her hard work.

ADJOURNMENT: Clerk Diamond made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Treasurer Watt supported the motion. 5 aye votes, motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 7:07 p.m.

The next Regular Board meeting will be December 12, 2023, at 1:00 p.m.

Minutes respectfully taken and submitted by

Sheryl Diamond

Bearinger Township Clerk

BEARINGER TOWNSHIP REGULAR BOARD MEETING

17034 TOWN HALL HIGHWAY

MILLERSBURG, MICHIGAN 49759

DECEMBER 12, 2023

Supervisor Phillips called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. We stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL: Supervisor Phillips present, Treasurer Watt present, Clerk Diamond present, Trustee Watt present, Trustee Stawiarski present. Also in attendance was Deputy Clerk Beverly Rossetto and John Tomlin IV.

APPROVE THE AGENDA: Trustee Stawiarski made a motion to approve the agenda as is, Clerk Diamond supported the motion. 5 aye votes, motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA (TO PAY THE BILLS): Supervisor Phillips made a motion to pay the bills, Trustee Watt supported the motion. 5 aye votes, motion carried.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: Trustee Stawiarski made a motion to approve the minutes as corrected, page 2 had steam instead of stream. Treasurer Watt supported the motion. 5 aye votes, motion carried.

REPORTS:

A. TREASURER: Treasurer Watt passed out corrected CD reports. The interest in August was incorrect for Citizens National Bank CDs. Treasurer Watt stated that Citizens National Bank changed the interest amounts. He took the extra Interest that he was off out of the November CDs for Citizens National Bank. The ARPA fund account was reduced due to a new computer for the Treasurer. He also passed out his Financial Report.

B. CLERK: Clerk Diamond reported how much the school election cost, most of which is reimbursable. The total came to \$2,000.00. I passed out the minutes, Balance Sheet, Check Register and Budget Report. The Presidential Primary will be February 27, 2024.

C. TRUSTEE WATT: Trustee Watt attended the Onaway Area Ambulance meeting on November 29, 2023. The Financial statements were approved and pending bills were presented. It was voted to pay all the bills. They had 49 runs, and none were for Bearinger Township. The ECHO unit is in its final stages of being ready for use. The hold up has been with the Techs who have been working on the unit. The Ambulance Authority billed out \$40,420.45. They have received \$5,059.79 as of the meeting. Their next meeting is December 27, 2023. Trustee Stawiarski's meeting will be December 13, 2023.

D. SUPERVISOR: Supervisor Phillips reported the Board of Review was held on Monday the 11th of December. They had one case; it was a reversal of a Vets Exemption. The Board of Review starting next year will no longer do any Vets Exemptions.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- A. SUPERVISOR:** The MTA Officers Meeting was held December 5, 2023, they announced the dues bills will be sent out soon. The cost is \$30.00. The meeting went well. The Prosecutor told everyone if you plan on leaving a gun to anyone, you might want to do that before February 13, 2024, or whomever you transfer the gun to will have to go through a registration process. Supervisor Phillips passed out a Road Commission flyer stating what projects had been done in 2023 and jobs that will take place in 2024. He received the 2024 Poverty Exemption.
- B. CLERK:** Clerk Diamond reported she attended a Clerk's meeting before the MTA meeting. A lot of new information came out. We must send a postcard to every household telling where the Early in Person Voting will be. Our 9 days early voting will be held at Ocqueoc Township Hall. We now have a permanent absent voter list, permanent ballot list and a list of voters. Regular Election Day will be held at Bearinger Township Hall. I passed out some information about Election Workers need to be paid better. This information does not pertain to the Clerk pay. The MTA is suggesting Clerks get a pay raise due to the increase of work for Elections.
- C. TREASURER:** Treasurer Watt said he has been getting Christmas cards and thank you notes with property tax payments.
- D. TRUSTEES:** None.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS: Supervisor Phillips made a motion after reading the 2024 Poverty Exemption Resolution to accept the Resolution as written, Treasurer Watt supported the motion. 5 aye votes, motion carried.

The Board discussed what to do with the Treasurer's old laptop. Trustee Watt made a motion to destroy the laptop, Supervisor Phillips supported the motion. 5 aye votes, motion carried.

The Treasurer has requested a locking drop box for tax payments. People keep putting taxes in his mailbox, sometimes before his mail comes. He is afraid one of these times the tax payments are going to be taken. Trustee Stawiarski made a motion to approve \$200.00 of ARPA funds to acquire the drop box, Supervisor Phillips supported the motion. Roll Call vote: Supervisor Phillips aye, Treasurer Watt aye, Clerk Diamond aye, Trustee Stawiarski aye, Trustee Watt aye. 5 aye votes motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT (2 MINUTES PER PERSON): Deputy Clerk Beverly Rossetto thanked the Board members for their service.

BOARD COMMENT: Trustee Stawiarski said we need to discuss a compensation package for the Clerk. Trustee Watt said the Clerk was off due to Shoulder surgery and the Deputy had to take over, but the Clerk still got paid.

ADJOURNMENT: Treasurer Watt made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Clerk Diamond supported the motion. 5 aye votes, motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 1:45 p.m. The next meeting will be January 9, 2024, at 1:00 p.m.

Minutes respectively taken and submitted by

Sheryl Diamond

Bearinger Township Clerk

BEARINGER TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE FOR 2024

JANUARY 9, 2024	1:00 P.M.
FEBRUARY 13, 2024	1:00 P.M.
MARCH 12, 2024	1:00 P.M.
APRIL 9, 2024	6:30 P.M.
MAY 14, 2024	6:30 P.M.
JUNE 11, 2024	6:30 P.M.
JULY 9, 2024	6:30 P.M.
AUGUST 13, 2024	6:30 P.M.
SEPTEMBER 10, 2024	6:30 P.M.
OCTOBER 8, 2024	6:30 P.M.
NOVEMBER 12, 2024	6:30 P.M.
DECEMBER 10, 2024	1:00 P.M.