**BENTON CHARTER TOWNSHIP**

**BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

May 10, 2021

7:00 pm

The Benton Charter Township Board meeting was held at the township hall, 5136 Windsor Hwy., Potterville, MI 48876 at 7PM on May 10, 2021.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

Gary Suits led the board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Gary Suits. Roll Call for Board Members included: Gary Suits - Supervisor, Eugene Shanahan - Clerk, Chuck Meddaugh, Scott Hoornstra, Jenna Coburn, and Chris Tennes - Trustees.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Gary presented the agenda Chris moved to approve, Gene supported. 6 ayes; 0 nays, Motion carried.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Minutes from the March Special meeting held on April 12, 2021 were presented. Jenna moved to approve, Gary supported. 6 ayes; 0 nays, Motion carried.

**RECOGNIZE VISITORS & PUBLIC COMMENT:** Visitors in attendance included: Fire Chief Tim James, Deputy Don Buck, Jason and Connie Arndt, Chad Chambers, Hannah Upright, Steve Davidson and County Commissioner Brian Droscha

No Comments.

**REPORTS TO BOARD:**

**Sheriff's Report**: 80 events in March. Sheriff's Report will be put on file.

**Fire Department Report** - Chief James gave the Fire department report. Covid 19 related responses continue but are decreasing. Annual SBCA Inspection & Service performed, SBCA compressor repaired, Knox Box installed on Benton Road, Structure fire on Billwood Hwy., and participated in Health Care Hero's parade in Charlotte. Training included fire pump operations and drafting water from dry hydrants, fire attack hose lines, Bus extrication, assistance with Fire Academy training in Charlotte and hosting practice day for Fire Academy student Meetings attended. Fire runs in April 2021: 4 City of Potterville, 8 Benton Township and 3 mutual aid. EMS runs: 34 city of Potterville, 25 Benton Township and 38mutual aid. The Fire Department's Report will be put on file.

**Bills for April** were paid totaling $17,348.49.

Chris moved to approve bills, Gary supported: Roll Call Vote: Gary- Yea, Gene -Yea, Chris - Yea, Jenna-Yea, Scott - Yea, Charles - Yea. Motion carried 6 yeas - 0 nays.

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| **Clerk Report:** Flags purchased for cemetery (Girl Scout project for Memorial day), received A/V Counting Board tabulator, Paid bills, contractors and staff. Ongoing training for Deputy Clerk, Completed online accreditation with Bureau of Elections - training continues. Working with Total Security to repair and access security cameras Clerk report will be put on file.**Treasurer Report: P**rovided by Gary Suits withFinancial report provided for April 2021 with revenue and expenditures. Treasurer report will be put on file.**Supervisor Report:**Ordinance development and research, Zoning issues and ordinance complaints, calls with DEQ and EPA with online meeting, Prep work for meetings and covering all statutory duties needed and more. Supervisor report will be put on file.**Assessors Report** was provided by Gary Suits. 6 building permits issued in April. Report will be put on file.**Planning & Zoning Report** was provided by Gary Suits: Phone discussions and e-mail correspondence listed. 5 Zoning compliance permits processed in April. No Zoning Board of Appeals Petitions processed. 3 Special Use permits pending review at June Planning Commission meeting. Report will be put on file.**Unfinished Business:** None.**New Business:****Consumers Energy Gas Franchise Ordinance Renewal:** Documents reviewed and discussed regarding allowing Consumers to serve gas to residents and businesses in the township. Chuck moved, Scott supported. Roll Call Vote: Gary- Yea, Gene -Yea, Chris - Yea, Jenna-Yea, Scott - Yea, Charles - Yea. Motion carried 6 yeas - 0 nays.**Resolution for Charitable Gaming License:** Presented by Benton Township Emergency Services Association, allowing the Association to hold a raffle to help raise funds to support its efforts in the community. Scott moved, Chuck supported. Roll call vote: Gary- Yea, Gene -Yea, Chris - Yea, Jenna-Yea, Scott - Yea, Charles - Yea. Motion carried 6 yeas - 0 nays.**Check Scanner:** Treasury Management Master Services Agreement and proposal from Independent Bank presented by Gary Suits. After review and discussion regarding service agreement. Chuck moved to accept and move forward , Chris supported. Roll call vote: Gary- Yea, Gene -Yea, Chris - Yea, Jenna-Yea, Scott - Yea, Charles - Yea. Motion carried 6 yeas - 0 nays.**Blight Elimination Ordinance** draft was presented and discussed. After board reviewed and suggested additional clarifications were needed, it was decided to revisit at next board meeting.**Cash Handling Policy:** A Policy of Cash Handling at Township Office was presented. Chris moved to approve, Chuck supported. Roll Call vote: Gary- Yea, Gene -Yea, Chris - Yea, Jenna-Yea, Scott - Yea, Charles - Yea. Motion carried 6 yeas - 0 nays.**Amended Approval Motion:** Special Use Permit SUP2021-001 to remove a stipulation for lot combination. Revised site plan shows new location meets development standards for the zoning district. Jenna moved to approve, Gene supported. Roll Call vote: Gary- Yea, Gene -Yea, Chris - Yea, Jenna-Yea, Scott - Yea, Charles - Yea. Motion carried 6 yeas - 0 nays.**Public comments**:Brian Droscha provided a brief update on Federal Stimulus money coming to the Township, and that the parks department is seeking employees in part-time positions.Meeting Adjourned at 8:13 PM. |
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