

**BRIDGEWATER TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
MINUTES OF MEETING
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2015**

I. CALL TO ORDER

The regular monthly meeting of the Bridgewater Township Board of Trustees was called to order by Supervisor Smith at 7:00 p.m. followed by the pledge of allegiance to the flag at Bridgewater Township Hall, 10990 Clinton Road, Manchester, MI.

Present: Supervisor Ronald Smith, Clerk Laurie Fromhart, Treasurer Michelle McQueer and Trustees David Faust and Geoffrey Oliver.

Attendance: 5

II. CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

A resident asked if the Township was still interested in broadcasting Board meetings and reported another hunting blind is on the Ervin-Stucki Preserve. A resident reported he will be holding a children's conservation educational program on his property and asked if he needed any permits from the Township.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Smith moved to approve the January 8, 2015 meeting minutes as amended. Faust seconded the motion which was adopted unanimously.

IV. REVIEW AND APPROVE AGENDA

McQueer moved to approve the agenda as presented. Oliver seconded the motion which was adopted unanimously.

Public Safety Report

The Sheriff's Department submitted a written report to the Board on the law enforcement activities for the month of January 2015.

V. REPORTS AND CORRESPONDANCE

A. Treasurer's Report

McQueer submitted a written report to the Board.

B. Clerk's Report

Fromhart submitted a written report to the Board regarding the mishandling of two recent FOIA requests by the Township attorney and Township supervisor in violation of the Township's FOIA policy and the FOIA. Fromhart reported the zoning administrator position's was published in the Manchester Enterprise and posted on the Township website. Fromhart also reported she is waiting on reports from OHM regarding GS Materials inspection and annual report; has begun work on the public hearing notices for the PSP District zoning map amendment and list of special land uses; is preparing for the May 5th election, and would like permission to work with the Township planner to update application forms so they are in line with the Township's new zoning ordinance. Fromhart also noted she requested a copy of communication from the Reach Law Firm addressed to the Township supervisor that was date stamped by her deputy clerk on December 17th.

C. Supervisor's Report

Smith reported Rover Pipeline announced they reached a capacity agreement with Vector Pipeline that eliminates a portion of Rover's route through Michigan. The capacity arrangement with Vector eliminates the

need for Rover to build its pipeline through Michigan's Shiawassee, Genesee, Lapeer, Oakland, St. Clair, and Macomb Counties. Through this agreement, Rover will eliminate 110 miles of pipeline through Michigan, and will eliminate the Canadian portion entirely.

D. Trustees' Report

Faust reported he and Oliver inspected the Township roads and just about all of them need berm and tree removal, and ditching.

E. Written Reports

Board packets included reports from the Assessor, Zoning Administrator, and Planning Commission. Smith reported on three complaints he received regarding property on Michigan Avenue.

VI. PRIORITY BUSINESS

A. Approve Disbursements from January 9, 2015 – February 5, 2015

Oliver moved to pay the monthly disbursements from the general and sewer funds in the amount of \$18,112.32. Smith seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Faust yes, Fromhart yes, McQueer yes, Oliver yes, Smith yes. Motion passed.

B. Nomination of Steve Wahl to Board of Review

McQueer moved to appoint Steve Wahl to the Board of Review for a 2 year term ending December 31, 2016. Fromhart seconded the motion which was adopted unanimously. Fromhart administered the oath of office to Wahl.

C. Salary Resolutions

Fromhart moved to adopt resolution 02-05-15 to establish the trustees' salary at \$4800 for the 2015-2016 fiscal year. McQueer seconded the motion. The Board discussed the salaries of the Supervisor, Clerk and Treasurer. Fromhart reported there has been no increase in pay for the Board in approximately 10 years and asked for a 3% raise in the Clerk's salary. Smith and McQueer indicated they would not support an increase in pay for this Board because they recognized the compensation when they took office. Oliver proposed a 2% increase in salary for the supervisor, treasurer and clerk positions. The Board discussed the option of creating a compensation commission to review the Board's salary and make a recommendation regarding compensation. Roll Call Vote: Faust abstain, Fromhart yes, McQueer yes, Oliver abstain, Smith yes. Motion passed. McQueer moved to adopt resolution 02-05-15A to establish the Clerk's salary at \$15,896 for fiscal year 2015-2016. Oliver seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Faust yes, Fromhart abstain, McQueer yes, Oliver yes, Smith yes. Motion passed. Faust moved to adopt resolution 02-05-15B to establish the Treasurer's salary at \$17,270 for fiscal year 2015-2016. Fromhart seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Faust yes, Fromhart yes, McQueer abstain, Oliver yes, Smith yes. Motion passed. Oliver moved to adopt resolution 02-05-15C to establish the Supervisor's salary at \$15,301 for fiscal year 2015-2016. McQueer seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Faust yes, Fromhart yes, McQueer yes, Oliver yes, Smith abstain. Motion passed. Oliver moved to raise the Clerk's, Treasurer's and Supervisor's salary by 2%. Faust seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Faust yes, Fromhart yes, McQueer no, Oliver yes, Smith no. Motion passed.

D. Tetra-Tech Agreement

Smith reported the proposed amendment to the Tetra Tech settlement agreement involves modifications to the clarifiers that will slope them to the RAZ pumps which will be moved to the middle of the bottom of the clarifiers. Smith reported the modifications are in line with what the plant operator wanted to do since 2007. Smith presented Tetra Tech's preliminary drawings of the roof demolition plan, roof plan, and tank plan, noting additional items still need to be addressed. Smith reported the Township will have to file an application with

the MDEQ for a Part 41 permit and recommended that OHM provide the Township with an independent review of Tetra Tech's proposed modifications. Fromhart noted the Township's expert engineer Boss Engineering had recommended modifications to the clarifiers and installation of post-treatment aeration, final effluent filter and automated mixer controls. Fromhart recommended the second paragraph under recitals be stricken because she never received an executed copy of the amended settlement agreement that the Board approved on October 2, 2014. Fromhart stated she believes the amended agreement was never executed by Tetra Tech and this should have been communicated to the Board and expressed concern for lack of transparency by the supervisor's office. **McQueer moved to accept the January 2015 Amendment to the Tetra Tech Settlement Agreement as amended striking the sentence "The parties amended that agreement at this September 12, 2014 meeting." under Recitals. Smith seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Faust yes, Fromhart yes, McQueer yes, Oliver yes, Smith yes. Motion passed.** McQueer commented she thinks the Supervisor has done an outstanding job at finding a resolution to a long term problem that had no real foreseeable solution and thanked him for all his efforts.

E. Budget Presentation 2015-2016

The Board reviewed the proposed general fund and WWTP budgets for fiscal year 2015-2016 and made adjustments to the following line items: other income, revenue sharing, election reimbursement, supervisor's salary, assessor wages, clerk's salary and supplies and expenses, election expense, treasurer's salary, maintenance & utilities, land division fees, and street lighting for the general fund and operation and maintenance income, and billing other for the WWTP budget. **Fromhart moved to set a public hearing on the proposed 2015-2016 fiscal year general fund and WWTP budgets as amended for March 5, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. McQueer seconded the motion which was adopted unanimously.**

F. Discussion: Zoning Administrator Position

Fromhart reported she learned from Behnke that the WWCA offers zoning administration services and asked Behnke to submit a proposal to the Board. The Board reviewed and discussed the WWCA's proposal for zoning administration services. The Board was in favor of contracting with the WWCA with the understanding that it would not include ordinance enforcement such as junk cars and blight etc., and that the Township would have to handle ordinance enforcement in house. The Board recognized the Township would see significant savings by contracting with WWCA since the Township does not cover its' costs for zoning administration from Township zoning compliance fees. The Board had some questions regarding the WWCA's proposal and decided to defer a decision until their March meeting for further information. The supervisor agreed to follow up with Behnke regarding a termination clause and handling of other zoning applications like special land uses and site plan reviews and associated fees.

VII. CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

A resident complimented the Board on their work on the Master Plan and expressed concerned that the Township attorney and Township supervisor didn't understand the FOIA laws.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Smith moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:27 p.m. Oliver seconded the motion which was adopted unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Laurie Fromhart
Bridgewater Township Clerk