

**BERRIEN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES
SEPTEMBER 12, 2017 MINUTES**

The Berrien Township Board of Trustees met on Tuesday, September 12, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. at the township hall. Supervisor Bryan Bixby called the meeting to order and opened with the pledge to the flag.

Members present: Supervisor Bryan Bixby, Treasurer Paul Sprung, Trustees Julie Burke, Howard Henderson, Jeff Marks, Harold Bishop and Clerk Mary Jane Dean.

Also present: Deputy Supervisor Julius Grau, Building Inspector Ross Rogien, reporter Mary Simko, Berrien County Lt. Bob Mazurek and two residents.

AGENDA:

Paul Sprung made a motion seconded by Julie Burke to approve the agenda. All ayes, none opposed. **MOTION CARRIED.**

MINUTES:

Paul Sprung made a motion seconded by Harold Bishop to approve the August 8, 2017 minutes as presented. All ayes, none opposed. **MOTION CARRIED.**

TOWNSHIP BILLS:

Howard Henderson made a motion seconded by Harold Bishop to approve the township bills in the amount of \$42,658.05 for payment. All ayes, none opposed. **MOTION CARRIED.**

FIRE BILLS:

Julie Burke made a motion seconded by Howard Henderson to approve the joint fire bills in the amount of \$8,712.58 which included the township 64.6% share of \$5,628.32 for payment. All ayes, none opposed. **MOTION CARRIED.**

CHURCH PAINTING:

Supervisor Bixby reported that the painting of Union Church was almost completed. Paul Sprung made a motion seconded by Howard Henderson to approve \$3,250.00 for the remaining balance if there was an additional amount it was not to be paid until next meeting. All ayes, none opposed. **MOTION CARRIED.**

BRANDING FOR BERRIEN SPRINGS (49103):

There was more discussion in regards to funding the marketing campaign for the Berrien Springs 49103 area that was presented at last month's meeting by Oronoko Charter Township Supervisor Mike Hilderbrand. Would it make a more positive place to come and what benefit would residents of Berrien Township receive. Would the \$5,000.00 be the total amount requested to participate? It was mentioned while a family member was looking at property they found that Berrien Township land values were much better than Oronoko. The Board needs more information as to how it would benefit the Township. Do the people using the bypass actually stop in Berrien Springs. Someone from the Board should be on the committee. We need structure plans before we decide.

HALL PLAYGROUND:

It was decided to call the company that we purchased the equipment from to see if they could send a representative to help the fire men as it is getting late in the year.

ADMINISTRATIVE CLERK:

Supervisor Bixby, Treasurer Sprung and Clerk Dean have interviewed 5 applicants for the administrative clerk position. The committee was authorized to set the salary between \$12.00-\$13.50 per hr.

B.C. COMMISSIONERS MTG.:

Supervisor reported that he had attended several meetings that the County Commissioners have

had about the County taking over the Berrien County Road Commission. County Administrator Bill Wolf had prepared a resolution some commissioners didn't approve of it. Some wanted to make changes before making a final decision. They decided to have a workshop with the road commission. There were policies that would need to be put together.

FIRE REPORT:

Supervisor reviewed the fire report. The Dept. had 12 calls of which 10.5 were in Berrien Township for labor cost of \$1,151.00.

BUILDING PERMITS:

Building Inspector Rogien issued (8) building permits for an estimated building amount of \$748,200.00 for the month of August. Electrical Inspector finalized (6) electrical permits for a fee of \$978.00.

ROADS:

Painter School Rd. from Smith Rd. to Deans Hill Rd. and Daniel Boone from M-139 to Pokagon Rd. were ground up and gravel applied. Long Lake Rd. from M-140 to Jones Rd., Snyder Rd. from M-139 to Range Line, Deans Hill from M-139 for .7 miles and Deans Hill from Hochberger Rd. to M-140 were seal coated.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT:

Julius reported that Lakeland is having many different training sessions like fire drills, critical health care equipment, verbal talking to a person that has a weapon, bicycle patrols, canine patrols related to proper preparation for saving lives. He also reported that everyone needs to be prepared for disasters whether it is due to the severe weather, fires, some type of terrorists or riots.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

The township is now in the 5th month of the fiscal year. The revenue for the month of August was \$9,579.41 (April 5 Aug. \$174,298.18) with expenses at \$74,126.76 (April 5 Aug. \$238,463.79).

Meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

MARY JANE DEAN BERRIEN TOWNSHIP CLERK

BRYAN BIXBY BERRIEN TOWNSHIP SUPERVISOR