

**HOMESTEAD TOWNSHIP
APPROVED 4/2/17
REGULAR MEETING
MARCH 6, 2017**

The regular meeting of the Homestead Township Board was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Supervisor Shannon Purchase.
The entire audience participated in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present by roll call: Mary Geetings, Shannon Purchase, Mike Mead, Shelley Rosa and Beverly Holbrook.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Rosa made the motion to approve the agenda, supported by Mead. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Minutes: Minutes of February 6, 2017, correction of name spelling in Board of Review. Rosa made a motion to accept the minutes with correction, supported by Purchase. All Ayes. Motion carried.

PUBLIC INPUT:

*Lori Hill from the Community Action Group working on the Benzie School funding issues made a presentation which was very informative. They have had engineering assessments that show a need of \$26 million for improvements to solve all immediate problems that the schools have. The report is broken out by schools. They are going to request a sinking fund millage of .9 mill over 10 years to address immediate problems. This fund addresses critical needs such as septic systems, roofing problems, ADA compliance and security. Enrollment has declined over 25% so the state funding has decreased. We are barely at 1500 students where we used to have 2000 students.
Public input closed at 6:10.

Consent Grouping: Rosa made a motion to pay all bills (fire and general fund), supported by Mead. Roll call: Geetings - Yes, Purchase - Yes, Mead - Yes, Rosa - Yes. Holbrook - Yes. All Ayes. Motion carried.

Clerk: Written and submitted.

Treasurer: Written and submitted.

Zoning Administrator: Written and submitted.

Rosa made a motion to accept the Clerk, Treasurer and Zoning Administrator reports as written, supported by Purchase. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

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Rec. Park: No report

JPC: No report.

COMMISSIONER: Frank Walterhouse passed out a copy from the Land Bank, DNR report, the Animal Control Millage language and the article in the Sunday Record Eagle regarding the Benzie school closing.

Fire Department – Tim Markey stated that they are up to 53 runs in 2017. The pancake breakfast was good yesterday and will continue during the month of March. Went through this year’s budget adjustments. Geetings made a motion to approve the budget presented with corrections, supported by Holbrook. All Ayes. Motion carried.

Correspondence: *Benzonia Public Library sent their latest newsletter.
*Received the Platte Township contract for our fire department assistance.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

*Board of Review Reminder – Reorganizational meeting Tues 3/7 at 2:30. The regular meetings will be on 3/13 at 9:00 a.m. to noon and 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. also on 3/14 at 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

*Pancake Breakfast – served about 130 people yesterday.

*2017-2018 Budget Updates – we have the corrected budgets and will review for next month’s board meeting.

*Clean Up Day scheduled 5/20/2017 – will be held at the road commission lot.

*Park & Rec Plan Adopted – the board has adopted and the state has approved.

ACTION ITEMS

Platte Township Fire Contract: signed and received

Fire Department Personnel Files: asked Tim Markey if he has applications for all the personnel. They all have gone through a background check. Tim will look into this.

Coho Salmon Festival Request for use of park and softball fundraiser on 8/25 – 8/27: Nathan Lane presented the plans for this year’s festival and requested the dates for the festival on 8/25 – 8/27. Would also like to do the softball fundraiser on May 20. This was a good money raiser last year for the festival. Would like to use the concession stand again. Mary will look at the calendar so these dates can be approved. Also looking for ways to have fireworks this year as it is the 50th year of the festival. A possible “Township Day” on 8/26?
Help Wanted: The festival needs a Secretary and someone to head the parade.

NEW BUSINESS -

Hall Rental Fees: Rented the hall 18 times last year. After discussion a motion was made by Purchase to charge \$75 rental fee with a \$50 refund (after the hall is inspected) for Homestead Township residents only with the exclusion of some tax exempt groups and funerals, supported by Holbrook. All Ayes. Motion carried.

2017-2018 Bids: Cemetery Mowing, Park Maintenance, And Concession Stand Manager: A motion was made by Rosa to place ads in the Record Patriot for 2 weeks for these positions, supported by Purchase. All Ayes. Motion carried. Regarding the park maintenance there will be an either/or ad to use their equipment vs our equipment. Regarding the Concession Stand manager we talked about several nonprofit groups sharing time but there might be insurance liability. Mary will check into this with our insurance. No decision on who will pay for the water inspection.

Accessing Contract Bids for Review: Received 5 bids that Mary Geetings read. Dates will be set up for interviews as soon as possible. We will require at least 4 hours office time at the hall. Contract will be reviewed and updated. Will set up interviews the week of March 20.

Public Input: *The fire department breakfasts, what is the money used for? Tim Markey said that if someone doesn't have insurance they help them and they help the Boy Scouts with their fund raisers. Most of the funds are used to help others in the community. If an article is put in the paper about this possibly more people would come to the breakfasts. It is a social event for the community.

ADJOURN: Motion by Purchase to Adjourn, supported by Holbrook. Adjourned at 7:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Beverly J. Holbrook
Recording Secretary

Shannon Purchase
Supervisor

Next monthly meeting April 3, 2017, at 6:00 p.m.