

MONTHLY MEETING  
January 4, 2018

**Meeting:** called to order by Bill Robinson at 7:00 PM.

**The Pledge of Allegiance:** recited by all.

**Roll Call:** Present: Sally Casey, John Rothhaar, Maryanne Goodman, Bill Robinson, and Dotty Blank.

**Minutes:** December 7, 2017 Meeting approved as submitted.

**Financial Reports:** General Fund and Fire Fund presented by Maryanne Goodman. **Motion by Maryanne Goodman, seconded by John Rothhaar to approve the reports as read. Roll call vote: Ayes; John Rothhaar, Maryanne Goodman, Bill Robinson, Dotty Blank and Sally Casey. Nays; None.**

**Budget Amendment:** None

**Payment of Township Accounts:** Request for approval of General Fund Checks #7256 through #7278, in the amount of \$9,483.07 for the purpose of paying Township accounts, also EFPTS payment of \$1,721.94 and Fire Fund Checks #1336 and #1337 in the amount of \$225.10. **Motion by Maryanne Goodman, seconded by Sally Casey to approve the payment of township accounts as presented. Roll call vote: Ayes; Maryanne Goodman, Bill Robinson, Dotty Blank, Sally Casey, and John Rothhaar. Nays; None.**

**Additional Agenda items:**

**Public comment:**

**Guests:** None

**Correspondence:**

**Incoming:**

1. DNR letter regarding Arborvitae Dr.
2. Email from Chuck Clarke on the decision of the grant request The Friends of Point Betsie Lighthouse made to the DNR trust fund.
3. Friends of the Darcy Library newsletter.
4. Letter from Charter Communications on increased rates.
5. Email from the Road Commission listing planned road improvements for 2018.

6. Benzonia Public Library newsletter.

**Outgoing:**

1. Letter of support for The Friends of Point Betsie application for a MDEQ coastal zone management grant.
2. Letter of support for Northwest Michigan Invasive Species Network application for a US forest service grant.

**New Business:**

1. Set IRS recommended mileage rate for 2018 at 54.5 cents
2. Discussion on what roads the Township would like to have improved in 2018.  
**Motion by John Rothhaar, seconded by Maryanne Goodman to request the Benzie County Road Commission send us bids for improving Arborvitae Rd. Birch Point Rd. Birch Trail and Long Lake Rd. Roll call vote: Ayes; Bill Robinson, Dotty Blank, Sally Casey, John Rothhaar and Maryanne Goodman. Nays; None.**
3. John Rothhaar presented a report he had just received on the M22 Pure Michigan Byway Plan. The Alliance for Economic Success, who helped draft the plan is asking for Township support by January 17<sup>th</sup>. It was decided to have the Planning Commission review the plan at their January 11<sup>th</sup> meeting and decide if we should support the plan.

**Old Business:**

Carpet bids. Only one bid was received from Classic Interiors of Beulah. Sally Casey will contact them to get carpet samples and a decision will be made at the next board meeting.

**County Updates:**

Art Jeannot presented his county update covering Building Authority, Planning Commission, EMS, Financial Director, Class Action Law Suit and Board of Commissioners organizational meeting.

**Township Depts.:**

Planning Commission – next meeting is January 11, 2018, they will continue discussion on outdoor wood burning furnaces, increased gas tax money to the road commission and the M22 pure Michigan byway plan.  
Zoning Administrator – 46 permits issued this year, which include 10 new homes, 3 total rebuild and 1 commercial rebuild.  
Assessor – New construction measurements are complete, December Board of Review 10 corrections were made. Board of Review training is scheduled for February 6<sup>th</sup>. Assessment will increase in 2018, Ag up 1 ½ to 2%, Commercial up ½ to 1% and Residential up 4 to 5%.

**Public Comment:**

Bill Robinson commended Maryanne for summer tax collection being at 99.3%.

Meeting Adjourned: 8:25 pm.

In Attendance: 8

Dotty Blank, Clerk