

Belvidere Township Regular Meeting

January 10, 2024

Supervisor Withey called the regular meeting of the Board to order at 6:01 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance was given.

Prayer was given by Roberta Murray.

Members Present: Armon Withey – Supervisor, Yolanda Lane- Clerk, Forrest Herzog-Treasurer, Tarin Minkel- Trustee, Andy Reynolds-Trustee.

Members absent: None.

Motion by Tarin Minkel, Trustee, to approve the minutes as amended from December 13th, second by Armon Withey, Supervisor. Motion carried.

Public comments:

Nancy Snyder, asked about the project on Manifest Way. Tarin Minkel, Trustee commented that it was on the agenda and will speak to it then.

Sandy Gomes, commented about the lease for rooms currently occupied by the church. She is requesting usage of one or two of the rooms. Forrest Herzog, Treasurer and Andy Reynolds, Trustee, both commented with the explanation that the rooms will be used as rentals to the public. Tarin Minkel, Trustee, asked if anyone has approached the members about making a proposal? Sandy Gomes, commented that no one has contacted or offered that option. Tarin Minkel, Trustee, will reach out to them.

Tarin Minkel, Trustee, asked for the lease expiring and future usage be added to the agenda for next month.

Sheila Smith, commented about the revised lease contract reducing it by five years.

Motion by Armon Withey, Supervisor, to approve the agenda as amended, second by Tarin Minkel, Trustee. Motion carried.

Forrest Herzog, Treasurer, presented the Treasurer Report.

Motion by Forrest Herzog, Treasurer to approve the monthly expenses, second by Andy Reynolds, Trustee. Motion carried.

Lanny Vanderveen, Assistant Fire Chief, presented the monthly report.

Randy Heckman, was asked by Armon Withey, Supervisor, to stand up and introduce himself and discussed the fire department parking lot needed plowed. Randy, commented that he has

a new guy in this area and he forgot to add the fire department to the list, it will be done right away.

Dave Kelsey, was absent no zoning report

Christy Reynolds, Cemetery Manager, gave the monthly cemetery report.

Andy Reynolds, Trustee, commented about a monument tipped over off the foundation. Owner called wanting to know what happened. It appears that it slipped on the foundation. Andy Reynolds, Trustee, placed it back on foundation and sent pictures to owner.

Manifest Way Project

Nancy Snyder, asked about the project on Manifest Way. She has many concerns on the changes that are being made, clearing of land, additional driveway, structures being relocated, and the distance to the boat dock. Tarin Minkel, Trustee, commented that the Road Commission did an inspection and there are many aspects of the project that failed inspection or did not meet the approved special use permit. The lack of compliance will delay the split of land that is currently being reviewed. The next step is for the property owner to bring changes back to the board. Sheila Smith, commented that the township should have a deed to the boat dock where the property owner is digging.

Tarin Minkel, Trustee, commented that the township takes no action until the owner brings an amended plan to the board.

Motion by Tarin Minkel, Trustee, that any special use permit must be complete as accepted by Township board or resubmit per process in zoning ordinance, second by Armon Withey, Supervisor. Motion carried.

Forrest Herzog, Treasurer, asked about the cemetery assistant. Is Lee still interested. Christy responded that she has not heard from him since last time she reported about his interest.

BJ Clogswell gave the planning commission report. She commented that there were no updates. The next meeting is in April. The budget for meetings is approximately \$1,400.00. Also, would like MTA access. Tarin Minkel, Trustee, commented that everyone has access.

Guest

Deanna Riggle reported out on the Finance and availability of the Tamarack Library. The improvements over the last year, updated computers, new security cameras, pavilion outside with cameras, new LED lights, and generators. Also, mentioned that the library refinanced debt two years ago, which allows for an earlier pay off. Deanna is asking for the residents to do the survey provided. The survey is to help develop the book mobile to the residents' desires and needs.

Sheila Smith – spoke about the negative communication and support that she is hearing in the public about missing documents, no personal items on computers, projects up to date and turned over, assistance that she provided in May 2023 to Jake Farris past clerk, and personal agendas. She asked that the board to start working together with her and the residents.

New Business

Audit approval - tabled

Nancy Snyder- informed us of the audit results that are on the state website. Board did not receive a copy of the results and the Clerk will look into the audit results posted and respond to the state.

Special budget meeting January 11, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. and February 21, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.

Nancy Snyder – asked about the budget vs actual report. Yolanda Lane, Clerk, responded that report is unavailable at this time due to some difficulties with the software. Nancy recommended to produce one in Excel.

Election on February 27- Presidential Primary

March Board of Review Training – February 10, 2024. Armon asked Pat if his wife was attending, he commented yes.

Forrest Herzog, Treasurer, presented information on the company PLM, which do water treatments to kill weeds. Forrest is asking for the board support to treat the weeds at the boat dock and handicap dock at the lake. Several comments made from the public and the board about the usage of the chemicals and what damage would the chemicals present. No interest was expressed from the board to move forward with treatments.

Forrest Herzog, Treasurer- presented information on gas facility asking for additional land to replace pipe. Several comments on who is the company? Forrest Herzog, Treasurer, commented he thought it was Consumer. It was unclear to the board if they were asking for an easement for additional power lines or gas pipe. No interest was expressed from the board to move forward. More information was needed.

Motion by Tarin to adopt the following resolution: **The Township/City household income and asset standards to eligible for a poverty exemption.**

Second by Forrest Herzog, Treasurer. Motion carried.

Andy Reynolds, Trustee, Yes, Yolanda Lane, Clerk, Yes, Forrest Herzog, Treasurer, Yes, Armon Withey, Supervisor, Yes, Tarin Minkel, Trustee, Yes.

Motion by Tarin to adopt the following resolution: **Resolution to adopt alternate start dates for March 2024, July 2024 and December 2024 board of review.**

Second by Armon Withey, Supervisor. Motion carried.

Andy Reynolds, Trustee, Yes, Yolanda Lane, Clerk, Yes, Forrest Herzog, Treasurer, Yes, Armon Withey, Supervisor, Yes, Tarin Minkel, Trustee, Yes.

Motion by Tarin to adopt the following resolution: **Resolution to adopt taxpayers and non-resident taxpayers to protest in writing by letter or email for board of review.**

Second by Armon Withey, Supervisor. Motion carried

Andy Reynolds, Trustee, Yes, Yolanda Lane, Clerk, Yes, Forrest Herzog, Treasurer, Yes, Armon Withey, Supervisor, Yes, Tarin Minkel, Trustee, Yes.

Motion by Tarin to adopt resolution – **Resolution to adopt the partial poverty exemption guidelines.**

Second by Armon Withey, Supervisor. Motion carried.

Andy Reynolds, Trustee, Yes, Yolanda Lane, Clerk, Yes, Forrest Herzog, Treasurer, Yes, Armon Withey, Supervisor, Yes, Tarin Minkel, Trustee, Yes.

Forrest Herzog, Treasurer, commented about how we are handling the Assessor pay. He commented that he contacted our Attorney, MTA, and IRS and was told that how we currently were handling it, W2 and 1099 was acceptable. Judy Spring commented that there are three other folks that reached out to MTA and were told differently. She commented that we have been paying incorrect since 2009 according to MTA and IRS guidelines.

Motion by Armon Withey, Supervisor, to reach out to the IRS for their opinion on how we should pay the Assessor, second by Forrest Herzog, Treasurer. Motion carried. The Clerk's office will contact the IRS.

Old Business

Motion by Yolanda Lane to award a three-year contract to Heckman and Son for the plowing, mowing, and sexton work for the township, second by Armon Withey, Supervisor. Motion carried.

Voting box placement to be done by January 18, 2024.

BS & A- motion on table to accept quote as presented including zoning module. Motion did not get voted on.

The board tabled the controls that was on agenda

Motion by Tarin Minkel, Trustee to limit board members miscellaneous spending to \$500.00 monthly without approval. This does not include the budget expenditures, second by Yolanda Lane, Clerk. Motion carried.

Motion by Tarin Minkel, Trustee to change the fire department previous approved \$ 5,000 spending without approval, to miscellaneous spending to \$500.00 monthly without approval unless it is being used for emergency equipment/truck repairs. Second by Yolanda Lane, Clerk. Motion carried.

The board tabled the purchase of recorder for meetings

Motion by Tarin Minkel, Trustee, to allow 60 days before deposit refunds for any rentals are returned to renter, second by Yolanda Lane, Clerk. Motion carried.

Andy Reynolds, Trustee, asked about the WIFI for generators. Forrest will reach out to Jay for IT support.

Sheila Smith, commented she heard that there was a request from the public for a forensic audit. She said that there was a local township that had a forensic audit done and nothing was found. The cost was \$7,000.00. She was asking the board not to spend money on a forensic audit.

Meeting adjourned 8:43 P.M.

Yolanda Lane, Clerk

Armon Withey, Supervisor

