

Baroda Township Board Meeting February 20, 2017

The Baroda Township Board held a regular meeting on Monday February 20, 2017 in the Baroda Municipal Building, 9091 First St. at 7:00 p.m. Present were James Brow, Wendie Shafer, Brenda Troxell, David Wolf, and John Harner. There were 5 audience members. Supervisor James Brow opened the meeting and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Officer Jim Howell reported for the Baroda-Lake Police Department that in December there had been a total of 211 calls answered. Of the 211 calls, 45 were in Baroda Township and 17 Calls in the Village. He reported there had been ten weather related auto crashes, 2 larcenies, 1 Breaking and entering. He reported that ten tickets had been written in the Township last month.

Police Chief Shawn Martin gave the Annual Police Department report. He reported the Police Department had handled a total of 2617 calls for service in 2016, 538 of which were in Baroda Township and 236 were in the Village. He reported that in addition to 4 full time officers, 7 reserve officers worked 632 hours. He reported that the Police Department had covered the Memorial Day Parade, Baroda Fire Works, Nimby Pond events. Support our Troops, Wine Trail Marathon and Halloween activities. He reported the department had been in an involved child sexual abuse case in which the suspect has been arrested in another state and is in the process of being extradited.

Chief Larry Klug reported that in December the Fire Department answered 2 structure fire calls outside the Township. And that they had attended an "electrical wires down" incident and gave mutual aid two other times. He reported the firemen completed 140 training hours during the month. He reported that Doug deBest and Patrick Hanlin had both received certifications. He reported that six firefighters are now qualified to operate the new tanker truck #234 and that the truck had been used in extinguishing a grass fire over the weekend. He reported that at its annual Firemen's Dinner that pins for years of service had been given to; Rich Klitchman who recently retired from the Fire Department, Kevin Burkhard for 10 years of service, Ray Manke for 5 years, Doug deBest for 10 years, David Zordell for 15 years and Rich Hermann for 25 years of service. He reported that the fire department and Lion's club 'white elephant' auction netted just under \$2500, and the Lions had added enough to send a donation of \$2500 to the Berrien County Cancer Society.

Mary Hill from the Lincoln Township Public Library reported on the activities and projects planned for the Library. She provided a report of the number of Baroda Township residents who used the Library in some capacity during January 2017.

The Treasurer's report was presented by Brenda Troxell and discussed. The Checking account balances in the Baroda Township funds as of January 21, 2017 are as follows; General Fund \$26,772.41, Library Fund \$45.69, Baroda Police \$35,395.23, Fire Maintenance Fund \$28,236.05, Fire Equipment Fund \$58,922.95 Rubbish Fund \$28,443.31, Building Fund \$13,418.78, Water Fund total of all accounts \$117,355.18, and Tax Fund \$523,297.26.

Wendie Shafer reported that Planning Commission had met on February 13th and discussed a final draft of a proposed Zoning Ordinance amendment regarding signs. She reported a public hearing on the amendment is scheduled for Monday, March 27th at 6:30. She reported that Planning Commission had received an application for a Tourist Home on Holden Rd. and that a Public hearing for the application will also be held on March 27th. She reported that she and Planning Commission Chairman David Schultz had met with Steve Carlisle and Carl Baxmeyer to determine changes needed in the Master Plan. She said the demographics, and census updates are needed as well as a few descriptive changes. She reported no major

changes are planned for the Master Plan at this time.

Shafer reported having received notice that Lake Michigan Vinters, LLC has applied for a liquor license for a tasting room in the Village.

Wendie Shafer moved, seconded by Brenda Troxell to amend the Baroda Township Budget as follows; decrease General fund expenses by \$5,824, increase Fire Maintenance fund expenses by \$2,474, increase Water Fund Expenses by \$33,442, increase Building Fund revenue by \$1800, and increase Building Fund expenses by \$1800. After discussion, vote – All yes. Motion Carried.

Unfinished Business - There was no report regarding a Water/Sewer agreement with the Village of Baroda.

Jim Brow reported that the Board members had learned that a metal roof for the building could cost up to \$30,000 and have decided to try patching the roof again. He volunteered to call Demler roofing to patch the roof.

Brow said that since the weather is so warm he volunteered to call an electrician to get the light on the pole at the park repaired.

Jim Brow presented the proposed 2017-18 Budget for the Medic One Ambulance service reporting that each year the Board is asked to approve the budget. He noted that the Township's contribution amount has not increased in 7 years. John Harner moved, seconded by Brenda Troxell to approve the proposed 2017-2018 Medic One fiscal year budget. After discussion, Vote – All Yes. Motion Carried,

Wendie Shafer presented a resolution to support the Berrien County Road Commission applying for a State and Federal critical bridges grant for replacement of the bridge on Lincoln Ave. over the Hickory Creek Drain. David Wolf Moved, Supported by John Harner to approve the resolution to support the Berrien County Road Commission in applying for State and Federal funds for critical bridge replacement. After discussion, by roll call vote – Voting YES – John Harner, David Wolf, Jim Brow, Wendie Shafer and Brenda Troxell. Voting NO – None. Resolution declared adopted.

Jim Brow opened discussion regarding the desire of some residents of Keehn Rd. to have the road paved. He introduced Rich Hurst who said he had spoken with several, but not all residents of Keehn Rd. It was explained that the Road Commission would want to pave the whole mile length of the road, and that a special assessment district would need to be set up by the Township. It was explained that to establish a special assessment district, at least 51% of residents would need to agree to the assessments and at least one public hearing would be required.

Wendie Shafer presented a request to be reimbursed \$300.25 for a stamped envelope order payment applied to her personal credit card. Brenda Troxell moved, seconded by Jim Brow to make the reimbursement as requested. Vote – All Yes. Motion Carried.

Wendie Shafer distributed the Township's proposed budget for 2017-2018. She noted that there were unsettled line items regarding the Fire Maintenance fund. David Wolf reported that Fire Chief, Larry Klug has agreed to the amounts suggested by the Township Board. The budget is to be adopted at the March Meeting.

Shafer distributed the Baroda-Lake Police proposed General and Drug Fund budget and reported the budget will need to be adopted by the Township Board. Police Shawn Martin requested the budget be approved tonight, so that it can proceed to the Baroda-Lake Police Board on March 14th for adoption. Brenda Troxell

amended the budget line showing the Baroda Township contribution will be increased to \$180,000. David Wolf moved, seconded by John Harner to approve the proposed Baroda-Lake Township Police 2017-2018 Budget as amended. After discussion, Vote – All Yes. Motion Carried.

Jim Brow reported that an alternate member is needed for the Baroda Township Board of Review. Reporter Rick Ast agreed to put the announcement in his article in the Herald Palladium.

Jim Brow presented the consent agenda - Minutes of the last meetings, Treasurer's report and monthly Bills. Wendie Shafer moved, seconded by David Wolf to approve the consent agenda. After discussion, Vote – All Yes. Motion carried.

Jim Brow reported the Board of Review members had attended a training session and was impressed with the amount of information and handouts dispensed.

The next General Board meeting is March 20, 2017 at 7:00 pm. The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Wendie Shafer,
Baroda Township Clerk