

**Baroda Township Board Meeting
Minutes
August 21, 2017**

The Baroda Township Board held a regular meeting on Monday August 21, 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 7 audience members. Supervisor James Brow opened the meeting and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Baroda-Lake Police Department officer Jim Howell reported the Police department attended 52 calls in the Township and 55 calls in the Village in July. He reported the increased number of calls was due to fireworks complaints. He said the fireworks had gone smoothly as well as the NIMBY Pond races. Besides fireworks calls, others issues attended were driving while intoxicated, driving without a license, crashes, personal assault, child sexual assault, and breaking and entering.

Baroda Fire Department Chief Larry Klug reported the Fire department answered 4 calls in July. There was one possible structure fire, 2 electrical lines sparking and arching, and one lift assist. He reported the firemen completed 137.5 training hours during the month. The training topics were: surface water rescue, familiarization and operations of aerial apparatus, porta-tank operations, Pump operations, Officer I & II course, tour of the Cook Nuclear plant, and helicopter landing zone operations. He reported that Buchanan, Bridgman, Galien, Lake Township, Lincoln Township, Royalton and Weesaw Township Fire Departments had all sent volunteers to work during the Fireworks. He reported the Fire department members had also attended the Support Our Troops Festival parade and fireworks show. He reported the Fire Department will purchase three sets of turnout gear this fiscal year. He reported that the new Fire truck had been displayed at the Berrien County Youth Fair. He reported the Fire Department met with Lincoln Township Fire Dept. regarding making changes to the Automatic Aid Agreement.

Kaela Cochran from the Lincoln Township Library reported on the activities of the Library. She reported that the Eclipse Event at the Park near the Library had drawn around 2,000 people, a much larger crowd than anticipated. She said they ran out of "eclipse glasses" even though they had limited the distribution to two pairs per family. She reported the summer reading programs had 750 children, 315 Teens and 171 Adults participating.

Wendie Shafer reported the Planning Commission had held a joint meeting on July 10th with the Township and Village boards as well as the Village Planning Commission. The entities adopted resolutions to establish and adopt a joint Community Master Plan which includes Park plans and Capital Improvement plans. She reported that Planning Commission had rescheduled their August meeting to the 22nd due to conflicts with the Youth Fair.

The Treasurer's report was presented by Brenda Troxell and discussed. The Checking account balances in the Baroda Township funds as of July 31, 2017 are as follows; General Fund \$93,482.57, Library Fund \$39.02, Baroda Police \$121,795.04, Fire Maintenance Fund \$82,305.84, Fire Equipment Fund \$146,560.12, Rubbish Fund \$129,686.03, Building Fund \$23,268.87, Water Fund total of all accounts \$116,413.35, and Tax Fund \$88,072.34.

Wendie Shafer reported receiving thank you letters from Hills Corners Baptist Bible Church for the use of the Township Park for their summer soccer program; Party on the Pavers for the Township's support, and from The Dept. of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs notifying the Township of an application to transfer a liquor license at the Baroda Phillips 66 station.

Wendie Shafer presented a budget amendment motion, seconded by David Wolf to increase General Fund expenses by \$2701, to increase Building Fund income by \$3000, to increase Building Fund expense by \$8,300, and to budget \$277 Rubbish Miscellaneous expense for the purchase of deposit slips. After discussion, Vote – All yes. Motion Carried.

Old Business - Jim Brow mentioned that the Township does not yet have a water/sewer agreement with the village of Baroda. David Wolf volunteered to send another e-mail to Bob Getz.

Jim Brow reported having met at Hess Lake with a man to receive a quote for cleaning the seaweeds at the lake. The quote to cut the water plants at the end of the lake nearest the fishing dock and out to where the shoreline curves is \$7,300. To have the weeds removed out of the lake would be an additional \$4000. He reported that at the same time, residents living on the lake had proposed to do the work for \$3500. They are planning to buy a boat and proposed the Township consider becoming part owners. It was thought wise not to enter into a partnership, but to ask for a written proposal from the residents once they have purchased a boat.

Jim Brow reported that there has been no reply from the Berrien County Drain Commission regarding a quote to address the Nash Drain.

New Business – Brenda Troxell presented an annual contract renewal from the Berrien County Information Systems for computerized tax service for 2018 at the cost of \$2,181.

David Wolf moved, seconded by John Harner to approve the signing of the contract renewal. After discussion, Vote – All Yes. Motion Carried.

Jim Brow and Brenda Troxell presented an offer from Brian Schmaltz to plant trees on the undeveloped section of the Cemetery in exchange for cemetery lots. It was discussed that the section would need to be measured out to determine where trees should be planted, or that trees could be planted along the creek on the west side. It was noted that fill dirt is slowly being added to the north side of the section. It was asked what varieties and sizes number of trees would be proposed to be planted. Jim Brow volunteered to speak with Mr. Schmaltz. It was thought to keep cemetery business on a cash basis. No action was taken.

Jim Brow opened discussion on the need to replace picnic tables at the Park. Wendie Shafer reported that Dennis Schutze had suggested replacing 5-6 tables that sit outside of the pavilions. She provided a chart of product and price comparisons from four companies for table frames. It was suggested that the Township would purchase the lumber and assemble the tables. David Wolf moved, seconded by Brenda Troxell to purchase two ADA accessible table frame sets from the Park Catalog for the cost of \$305 each, and to purchase 4 sets of 1-5/8 OD Galvanized 11 gauge side access tables for \$181 each from Pilot Rock for a total of \$1334 for 6 sets of table frames. After discussion, Vote- All Yes. Motion Carried.

Jim Brow presented the Consent Agenda (Bills, Treasurer's Report and Minutes of the last meeting). John Harner moved, seconded by David Wolf to approve the Consent Agenda. After discussion Vote – All yes. Motion Carried.

Jim Brow reported that the Township Treasurer had received scam messages requesting dispersion of funds purportedly from the Supervisor. The incidents were reported to the police who reported it is unlikely the culprit(s) will be caught. No transfers of Township funds were made as a result of the scam.

Jim Brow reported receiving an e-mail survey from the Berrien County Road Commission regarding services received by the Road Commission. The Township has also received notice of two public hearings to be held by the Berrien County Board of Commissioners regarding the possibility of the independent authority of the Road Commission being transferred to the County Board of Commissioners.

Tom Lippert remarked that the Cemetery looks nice. It was explained that another person has been hired to help with the Cemetery and Park upkeep.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m. The next Baroda Township Board meeting is Monday, September 18, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.

Submitted by,

Wendie Shafer
Baroda Township Clerk