

**Baroda Township Board Meeting
Minutes
November 20, 2017**

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

There was no police report because the police were called to an incident minutes before the meeting.

Baroda Fire Department Chief Larry Klug reported the Fire department answered 6 calls in October. There were three possible structure fires, one lift assist, and mutual aid given to Lincoln Twp. and Lake Twp. He reported the firemen completed 179 hours of training during the month, some of which was with the Cook Nuclear Plant. He reported that Griffin Ott has rejoined the Baroda Fire Dept. He reported that the Department is working on applying for a Federal Grant for the purchase of new radios. He explained it is a 100% Federal grant with no Local match requirement. He reported the Department had attended Lakeshore Football games, had hosted the Trick-or-treat party and had gone to the Trail & Treat event at the Township Park.

Wendie Shafer reported the Planning Commission has agreed on final language for amending the basis of determination for a Special Land Use Permit. She reported a public hearing has been scheduled for the December 11, 2017 Planning Commission meeting. She reported the Commission is still working on language for adding resorts as a Special Land Use in the Zoning Ordinance. She reported the application for a Planned Unit Development for a 10 room Bed and Breakfast and Wedding Barn was withdrawn and Mrs. Antonucci has decided instead to request a Special Land Use Permit for a Bed & Breakfast on a property adjacent to the property she owns on Lemon Creek Rd.

Jessica Enget, new Director of the Lincoln Township Library reported on the activities of the Library saying that 1,200 Baroda residents had used the Library services in October and that just under 12,000 had used the Library year to date. She reported the Library will be closed Thursday – Saturday November 23-25 in observance of Thanksgiving.

Nick Stama, a resident of Baroda Township living on Singer Lake Rd. proposed the Township Opt in to the Medical Marihuana Act by adopting an ordinance to allow a medical marihuana growing facility in Baroda Township. He and his son and Son-in-law proposed to set up a 300-500 plant growing facility. He assured the Board that the facility would be completely secure and would be monitored by cameras. They answered the Township Board's questions and agreed to provide a copy of the Ordinance(s) adopted by Niles or Buchanan. An audience member asked if Police Chief Shawn Martin had been contacted regarding the proposal.

The Treasurer's report was presented by Brenda Troxell. She reported that the State had made electronic transfers into the Fire Maintenance Account that should have been put into the General Fund and Police Fund. She explained that the Fire Maintenance fund balance has been corrected, but as of October 31st, the amount contained the deposit made in error. The Checking account balances in the Baroda Township funds as of October 31, 2017 are as follows; General Fund \$80,307.18, Library Fund \$39.02, Baroda Police \$77,630.08, Fire

Maintenance Fund \$70,218.79, Fire Equipment Fund \$136,508.75, Rubbish Fund \$83,918.54, Building Fund \$21,253.55, Water Fund total of all accounts \$123,132.42 and Tax Fund \$55,718.69.

Wendie Shafer presented a budget amendment motion, seconded by Brenda Troxell to increase General Fund expenses by \$1788.20, to increase Fire Maintenance Fund expense by \$6530.00. After discussion, Vote – All yes. Motion Carried.

She reported that the November 7th election had gone well, that the equipment had worked properly. She reported that there had been about a 17% voter turnout, and that Baroda had voted against both proposals on the ballot.

Wendie Shafer reported that Kelly Leasch, Crime Prevention Coordinator for the Berrien County Sheriff's Dept. had made a safety assessment of the Municipal Building and had made many recommendations for changes in procedures and lighting.

Old Business David Wolf reported having received a Franchise Agreement with the Village of Baroda for Water/Sewer. He said he has questions for Steve Carlisle and would like to table adopting the agreement until the questions are answered.

Wendie Shafer reported having heard back from Pilot Rock Company that they allow customers to pick up their orders at their warehouse, but that the 7% Iowa sales tax would have to be charged. She reported the order would need to be made in advance and they would let us know when the order would be ready for pick up. She reported that the Wisconsin Company does not allow customer pick-up. It was thought to go ahead with ordering the tables and pay the freight if necessary.

Brenda Troxell reported that the first Trail & Treat non-scary event had gone very well. She reported that despite the cold rain, sleet, snow and having had to move the event inside the pavilion, 132 children and 84 adults had attended the event. She reported that the Lions KidSight program had screened 42 children and that 5 referrals had been made, two of them for serious conditions. She thanked the Lincoln Township Library for providing the Story time for the event. She reported there had been 16 volunteers and many donations from businesses and individuals.

David Wolf reported he has not heard back from his friend regarding information for putting a metal roof on the Municipal Building.

Brenda Troxell presented a resolution requesting the Berrien County Road Dept. to close Snow Rd. at the bridge/culvert near Spitzke Rd. It was discussed to change the language requesting the Road Dept. to re inspect and post and or close the road at the bridge/culvert until it can be properly fixed. David Wolf supported the reworded resolution. The resolution was adopted unanimously by Roll Call vote. Baroda Township Resolution 17-20 declared adopted.

Brenda Troxell requested the Township Board contract with the Point and Pay Company to receive credit card payments. She reported that the service is compatible with the County BS&A software and explained that the service would not cost the Township anything. She said Point&Pay Company will set everything up and train us at the Township office, and would provide two credit card scanners. She said convenience fees would be charged to the

customers using the service. David Wolf moved, seconded by John Harner to contract with Point&Pay for the service. Vote – All Yes. Motion Carried.

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

David Mann introduced himself saying he has served on the Niles City Council and is running for the position of Representative of the 78th District to take the place of David Pagel whose term limit ends in 2018.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m. The next Baroda Township Board meeting is Monday, December 18, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.

Submitted by,

Wendie Shafer
Baroda Township Clerk