

BARODA TOWNSHIP  
Board Meeting Minutes  
January 15, 2018

The Baroda Township Board met on Monday January 15, 2018 in the Baroda Municipal Building. Present were Board Members Jim Brow, John Harner, Wendie Shafer, Brenda Troxell and David Wolf. There were seven audience members. The meeting was opened with a recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Baroda-Lake Township Police Officer Jim Howell reported the Police Department had answered 222 incident calls in the month of December. He reported that the majority of the calls had been in Lake Township due to weather related crashes on I-94.

Fire Chief Larry Klug reported the Fire Department had answered 7 calls in December. Among the calls were 2 personal injury accidents, 2 brush/grass fires, 1 structure fire (mutual aid), 1 Electric lines sparking/arching, and 1 Stand by for Lincoln Township. He reported the Firemen had completed 204.25 man hours of training in December. The full Fire Dept. report is included with these minutes.

David Wolf reported that the Fire Board has received proposals for architectural design services for a new fire station. He said the Fire Board has voted to recommend to the Township to hire Wightman and Assoc. to do a cost estimate study for a new fire station. David Wolf moved, seconded by Brenda Troxell to accept Wightman's proposal and to establish a committee to work with Wightman & Associates on developing a plan and estimate of costs for \$10,000 with half of the funds to be paid from the Fire Equipment Fund and half to be paid from the Township's General fund. After discussion, Vote – All Yes. Motion carried. Persons appointed to the Fire Station committee are Chief, Larry Klug, Trustee David Wolf, Treasurer Brenda Troxell, Dennis Krotzer, and Doug de Best.

Wendie Shafer reported the Planning Commission had approved a Special Use permit for a B&B on Plantation Row and had approved a Private Road application for Mike Rose on Shawnee Rd. west of Miller Rd. She reported a development company has applied for a variance to construct a Family Dollar Store on Cleveland Ave. on the property north of A&J Hardware, with fewer parking spaces than the number required in the Zoning Ordinance. She reported the Zoning Board of Appeals public hearing will be held on February 6, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.

Jessica Enget from Lincoln Township Library reported on the activities of the month and future activities planned for the Library. She said that in 2017 residents of Baroda had used library services in 2,732 instances.

Brenda Troxell presented the Treasurers report. She reported that as of December 31, 2017 the Baroda Township Funds had cash balances as follows: General Fund - \$177,259.02, Library Fund - \$49.92, Baroda Police Fund - \$77,686.65, Fire Maintenance Fund - \$31,351.64, Fire Equipment Fund - \$123,344.72, Rubbish Fund - \$51,385.29, Building Fund \$24,241.29, Water Fund - \$123,153.00, and Tax Fund - \$594,439.06.

Wendie Shafer moved, seconded by Brenda Troxell to approve a budget amendment adding \$7872.85 expense to the General Fund, adding \$500 income to the Fire Maintenance Fund, adding \$7000 expense to the Fire Maintenance Fund, Adding \$3963.39 expense to the Fire Equipment Fund, adding \$1000 income to the Building Fund, and adding \$1300 expense to the Building Fund. After discussion, Vote – All Yes. Motion carried.

Wendie Shafer reported that Patrick Freehling had donated back to the Township his Planning Commission pay for the year. A thank you card is to be sent to him for his dedication to the community.

The Board members decided to pay the \$295 annual membership renewal to the Cornerstone Chamber of Commerce.

The Village Water/Sewer agreement was tabled due to ongoing questions.

Wendie Shafer reported the picnic table frames have been ordered and that the set of 4 frames coming from Thomas Mfg. are scheduled to arrive on Jan 31<sup>st</sup>.

Brenda Troxell reported a roofing company from New Buffalo has been contacted to give us an estimate on the cost of a metal roof for the Municipal Building.

Wendie Shafer reported that Michiana Recycling and Disposal has increased their rate for collection of rubbish and recycling to \$14.50 per roll cart. The current contract which ends in December of 2018 has pricing dependent upon the consumer index. No action was taken regarding the increase in order to study whether there is a need to increase the rate charged to Township customers.

The Baroda Township Board considered three resolutions relating to the Township Board of Review. David Wolf moved, supported by Brenda Troxell to approve a resolution to accept written protests to the Board of Review. After discussion, by Roll Call Vote – All voting Yes. Resolution 2018-01 was declared adopted.

Brenda Troxell moved, supported by Jim Brow to approve a resolution to provide for alternate starting dates for the March Board of Review and to provide for hearing protests by appointment. After discussion, by Roll Call Vote – All voting Yes. Resolution 2018-02 was declared adopted.

Brenda Troxell moved, supported by John Harner to adopt the 2018 Federal Poverty Guidelines Asset Level Test. After discussion, by Roll Call Vote – All voting Yes. Resolution 2018-03 was declared adopted.

The Baroda Township Board members scheduled budget workshops for Monday January 22, 2018 and Monday January 29<sup>th</sup>, 2018. Each meeting is to begin at 6:30 p.m.

Jim Brow presented the Consent Agenda (Minutes of last meeting, Treasurer's Report and Bills) for approval. Davie Wolf moved, seconded by Brenda Troxell to approve the consent agenda. After discussion, Vote – All Yes. Motion carried.

Township resident Richard Herrman requested the Township Board to address the run down home on Cleveland Ave. near Russell Rd. and other ordinance violations observed in the Township. He also asked when the Snow Rd. Bridge is to be replaced. It was reported the bridge should be replaced in the Spring.

There being no further audience comment, the meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m. The next regular meeting of the Township Board is scheduled for February 19, 2018. Budget meetings were set for Mondays January 22<sup>nd</sup> and 29th, 2018.

Respectfully submitted

Wendie Shafer,  
Baroda Township Clerk