

BARODA TOWNSHIP
Board Meeting Minutes
August 20, 2018

The Baroda Township Board met on Monday August 20, 2018 in the Baroda Municipal Building at 9091 First St., Baroda. Present were Board Members Jim Brow, John Harner, Brenda Troxell and Wendie Shafer along with four audience members. Absent was David Wolf. The meeting was opened with a recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Supervisor Jim Brow introduced Mike Bertuca of Seaweed Cutting who described his seaweed cutting services and presented a quote for \$12,000 to cut the seaweeds at a depth of 7 feet from the surface across the portion of the lake owned by Baroda Township. He said he would disturb as little as possible the lake bottom or the Lily pads. John Harner moved, seconded by Brenda Troxell to contract with Mr. Bertuca to remove the seaweeds at the west end of Singer Lake owned by Baroda Township for \$12,000 per Mr. Bertuca's description of his services and quote. After discussion, Vote – All Yes. M.C.

Supervisor Brow introduced Brian Wisneski and Ryan Marschke from Hungerford Nichols. Mr. Wisneski presented the Audit report saying the Township is in good financial condition and had one expense line item (public works) in the general fund over budget for 2017-18 fiscal year. Brenda Troxell asked for an explanation of what line items the auditors used to comprise public works.

There was no Baroda-Lake Township Police report.

Fire Chief Larry Klug gave a report of the Fire Department's activities. For the month of July He said the Fire Dept. had answered 3 calls and completed 98 man hours of training. He reported 4 recruits had joined the Fire Department and that 2 more firefighters had been certified on truck 234 operations. He reported the Fire Department had attended the 2018 July 3rd Fire Works and had helped Bridgman and Weesaw Twp. as standby at their fireworks. He said that Doug deBest and Chris Burch had attended the National Fire Academy, and that the fireman had all had their bi-annual physicals and mask fittings. He reported that the Fire Dept. is disappointed the Fire Station bond proposal had failed, but there would be no recount and the issue would not be on the ballot again this November.

Jessica Enget from the Lincoln Township Library reported on the activities of the Library for the month of July and gave dates for future activities. She said the summer reading program had 814 participants. She provided a report showing there had been a 1250 total circulation by Baroda card holders in July.

Brenda Troxell presented the Treasurers report. She remarked that the tax collection seems slower than normal for this time of year. As of July 31, 2018 Baroda Township Funds had cash balances as follows: General Fund - \$147,880.35, Library Fund - \$54.72, Road Fund - \$5001.67, Baroda Police Fund - \$123,683.54, Fire Maintenance Fund - \$92,159.87, Fire Equipment Fund - \$182,784.59, Rubbish Fund - \$135,311.50, Building Fund - \$30,894.58, Water Fund - \$128,119.92, and Tax Fund - \$158,495.59.

Wendie Shafer gave the Clerk's report, saying there had been 682 Voters in the August election (a 31% turnout.) She reported the Fire Equipment and Police Millage renewals had both passed but the request for a 30 year bond for a new fire station had failed by 16 votes. She presented a letter from Party on the Pavers thanking the Township Board for their support. She reported that permission had been granted for the Dollar General store to connect to the Lake Township Water System. She reported that a grant

with a local 50% match was available from the DEQ for scrap tire pick up, and requested for the Township to purchase a vacuum cleaner for \$80.

Wendie Shafer moved, seconded by Brenda Troxell, to approve a budget amendment adding \$1050 expense to the General Fund, \$7950 expense to the Fire Maintenance fund, \$175 expense to the Building Fund, \$1660 expense to the Fire Equipment Fund, and \$600 expense to the Road Fund. After discussion, Vote – All yes. Motion Carried.

Wendie Shafer presented a choice between a proposal for Fire Dept. life/Accident insurance from Hartleb Agency, and the Policy the Township currently has with Provident through the Burnham and Flower Agency. She recommended the Township retain the current policy. Brenda Troxell concurred with her findings. Brenda Troxell moved, seconded by Jim Brow to retain the current Provident Policy and to decline the VFIS policy proposal. After discussion, Vote All Yes – Motion Carried.

Wendie Shafer presented an ordinance granting a renewal of the Electric Franchise to Indiana Michigan Electric for a period of 30 years. She said the language of the new ordinance is almost exactly the same as the old. Wendie Shafer moved, Seconded by John Harner to approve the ordinance granting the renewed Electric franchise to Indiana Michigan Electric. By Roll Call Vote – Voting Yes – John Harner, Jim Brow, Brenda Troxell and Wendie Shafer; Voting No – None; Absent – David Wolf. Ordinance #18-13 declared adopted.

Jim Brow presented the Consent Agenda (monthly Bills, Treasurer's report and Minutes of the last meeting) for approval. After discussion Brenda Troxell moved, seconded by John Harner, to approve the consent agenda. Vote – All yes. Motion Carried.

Jim Brow commented that a representative of the Marathon Pipeline had called him and that the company recommends that a person calls 8-1-1 three days before digging near a pipeline. He said a complaint had been made regarding tall grass in a lawn on Hills Rd. Jim said he had spoken with the property owner about alleviating the problem. He reported that Janice Mensinger, a lifelong resident of Baroda Township has passed away. He plans to attend the funeral on Wednesday, Aug. 22nd at 10 a.m.

The meeting was adjourned by Supervisor Jim Brow at 7:53 p.m.

The next regular meeting of the Baroda Township Board is scheduled for Sept. 17, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.

Wendie Shafer,
Baroda Township Clerk