

BARODA TOWNSHIP

Board Meeting Minutes August 19, 2019

The Baroda Township Board met on Monday August 19, 2019 in the Baroda Municipal Building at 9091 First St., Baroda. Present were Board Members Jim Brow, Brenda Troxell, David Wolf, and John Harner along with Deputy Clerk Wendie Shafer. Christina Price was absent due to maternity leave. There were 7 audience members. The meeting was opened at 7:00pm with a recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Jim Howell of the Baroda – Lake Police Department reported that department had attended 311 complaints in July. This number was 9 less than a year ago. He reported the police officers have all been outfitted with and wear body cameras when on duty.

Guy Tollas presented the Baroda Fire Dept. report saying, in July, the fire fighters had attended 7 incidences and had done 199.5 hours of training. He reported 5 firemen had attended the National Fire Academy and received certification in the classes they attended. Joel Arbanas has achieved Firefighter 1 certification. Doug deBest has been promoted to Deputy Fire Chief. A paper report was submitted which is to be included in the minutes record book.

Jessica Enget from the Lincoln Township Library reported on the activities of the Library for the month of July and August. She reported a total circulation of 1,319 by Baroda Township members in July and the total number of all uses of the library is 22,814.

Jim Brow introduced Christopher Quattrin, Berrien County Drain Commissioner and his co-worker who spoke about the Sober-Backer, Beebe, Hickory Creek, and Nash Drains. He reported the cost for replacing the Tube on the Sober Becker drain would be about \$ 250,000, replacing the tube on the Beebe drain would cost about \$600,000, and the Hickory Creek Drainage district has been greatly expanded making the cost to individual residents and municipalities smaller. He described work being done on the Nash drain and asked the Township to approve a resolution to spend more than \$5000 per linear mile on the Nash Drain. It was requested the drain assessment be spread out over 10 years. An amended resolution showing the spread of assessments is to be sent to Baroda Twp. for signatures. David Wolf moved, seconded by John Harner, to approve the resolution with the 10-year spread amendment. After discussion, By Roll Call Vote, Voting Yes – John Harner, David Wolf, Jim Brow, and Brenda Troxell. Resolution Adopted.

Brenda Troxell presented the Treasurers report. As of June30th, 2019 Baroda Township Funds had cash balances as follows: General Fund = \$169,764.83, Library Fund = \$56.07, Road Fund = \$10,905.26, Baroda Police Fund = \$128,549.82, Fire Maintenance Fund = \$93,402.53, Fire Equipment Fund = \$927.12, Rubbish Fund = \$151,548.83, Building Fund = \$39,885.00, Water Fund = \$133,966.90 and Tax Fund = \$2,345.58. Brenda also presented the Planning Commission's report and mentioned that there could be a request for a future Special Land Use Permit to be amended for Mark Schutze's Nimby Pond, and that three Baroda residents had been issued cease and desist letters for renting their homes without Special Land Use permits.

Wendie Shafer gave the Clerk's report for the Bills and Budget Report. After discussion of bills to be paid, Brenda Troxell made a motion to pay bills as presented. Brenda Troxell moved, Seconded by David Wolf to Pay the Bills as presented as well as the bills needing to be paid under the post-audit policy. Vote – All Yes. Motion Carried. She asked the Board to vote on paying the bill from Brunke Geiger for

the repairs done at the Hall which had come in after the production of the Bills list. David Wolf moved, seconded by John Harner to pay the Brunke-Geiger bill. Vote – All Yes. Motion Carried.

Unfinished Business –

In response to a letter from the Village of Baroda, the Township board discussed paying a portion of the expense of upgrading the intersection at the Lemon Creek/Ruggles Project. David Wolf moved, seconded by John Harner to approve the contribution of o\$5000 to the Village project to help defray the costs of upgrading the Lemon Creek / Ruggles Road intersection. After discussion, Vote – All Yes. M.C.

The Board discussed Hess Park Accident Report/Maintenance repair. A quote from Arnt Asphalt was presented which had several options. David Wolf suggested that the Treasure look for money in the budget to pay for option #1 cleaning, rood removal, and repairing the damaged area of the walking trail. This subject will be addressed at the next Board Meeting.

Wendie Shafer presented contract between Baroda Township and Ross Rogien to be Building Official to be paid through payroll. David Wolf moved, seconded by Brenda Troxell to approve the contract as presented. Vote – All yes- Motion Carried

A contract between Baroda Township and Ross Rogien of Construction Associates, Inc. to be the Building Inspector, paid by contract was presented. David Wolf moved, seconded by Brenda Troxell, to approve the contract as presented with Ross Rogien of Construction Associates to be the Township Building Inspector. After discussion, Vote – All Yes. Motion Carried.

The amended Post Audit Policy was provided to the board members, which had been approved in July.

The Board briefly discussed the need for another maintenance worker. The To-Do list was presented and discussed. No action was taken. The Board members requested the Sexton be required to attend the Township Board meetings.

It was reported that a committee to review and recommend amendments to the Township ordinances has been formed and that an at-large township resident is sought to be a member of the committee.

Jim Brow reported he had checked the seaweeds at the Lake and did not think it would be necessary to have the weeds cut this year. Mike Bertuca is to be notified that his services are not required this year.

New Business –

The Board members addressed the second part of a letter from the Village of Baroda requesting to take over the grounds maintenance of the Municipal building and Fire Station. They would bill the Township for a portion of these services. No action was taken. Further information needs to be gathered before a decision will be made on the proposal.

The new Baroda-Lake Twp. Police Special Events Fee schedule was provided to the Board members.

The Board considered PA116 applications by Mike Jasper for two properties in Baroda Township sections 23 and 15. Entities recommending approval were the Berrien County Planning Commission, the Berrien County Conservation District and the Village of Baroda. David Wolf moved, seconded by John Harner, to approve both PA 116 applications as presented. After discussion, Vote – All Yes. Motion Carried. The applications will be sent to the State of Michigan for processing.

Brenda Troxell presented a letter from Chemical Bank announcing a merger with TCF Bank making it necessary for the Board to approve doing business with TCF Bank. David Wolf moved, seconded by Brenda Troxell, to approved TCF Bank as one of the Township's approved financial institutions. After discussion, Vote – All Yes. Motion Carried.

The Board members discussed whether to have office hours on Fridays. Jim Brow said many Fridays no one comes into the office. He said he will keep track of the number of visitors he sees on Fridays for the next month so the Board can make an informed decision. No action taken.

It was reported that a local business having a party at the Park was consuming alcohol against Park rules. It was decided that the business will not be allowed to rent the park in the future.

There was brief discussion regarding the Party on the Pavers event held in July.

Wendie Shafer presented a request from Frontier to extend to 2025 the Metro Act Agreement between them and Baroda Township which is set to expire in 2020. David Wolf moved, seconded by Brenda Troxell to approve extending the Metro Act Agreement with Frontier to 2025. After discussion, Vote- All Yes. Motion Carried.

Davis Wolf moved, seconded by John Harner to approve the minutes of the last meetings. Vote – All Yes. Motion carried.

A member of the audience reported that there are now no passing zones at the corner of Cleveland and Shawnee.

The meeting was adjourned by Supervisor Jim Brow at 8:26p.m

The next regular meeting of the Baroda Township Board is scheduled for September 16, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.

Wendie Shafer
Deputy Clerk,
for
Christina Price,
Baroda Township Clerk