

BARODA TOWNSHIP
Board Meeting Minutes
February 17th, 2020

The Baroda Township Board met on Monday, January 20th, 2020 in the Baroda Municipal Building at 9091 First St., Baroda. Present were Board Members Jim Brow, David Wolf, Brenda Troxell and Christina Price. There were 12 audience members. The meeting was opened at 7:00 pm with a recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Police Department was not present at the meeting

Library was not present at the meeting

Doug deBest gave the Fire Department report for the month of January. He reported total incidents for the month of January was Zero. He also reported that there was no Automatic aid given. He reported the total hours of training for January was 191.75 hours, monthly sessions 94.75 hours, Hosted in house 24hours, outside department 29.5 hours, online webinar 25 hours and fire fighter courses 1, 2 & 3, 18.5 hours. The Fire Departments Donated time in January was 143.25 hours. Doug reported that the Freehling family donated a grain bin rescue tube in memory of their Husband/Father Patrick Freehling. He also mentioned that training will begin over the next few months.

Fire and Ambulance Millage - David Wolf made a motion to Split the Fire and Ambulance Millage and to start the language for both Fire Department Millage being at 1.75 and Ambulance at .40 and for both to be on the August Ballot. Support by Christina Price. Vote – All yes. Motion Carried

Brenda Troxell presented the Treasurers reports for January 31, 2020. Baroda Township Funds had cash balances as follows: General Fund = \$174,125.91, Library Fund = \$57.89, Road Fund = \$4,187.44, Baroda Police Fund = \$82,870.13, Fire Maintenance Fund = \$20,339.69, Fire Equipment Fund = \$442.25, Rubbish Fund = \$53,529.09, Building Fund = \$44,676.06, Water Fund = \$128,959.32 and Tax Fund = \$530,554.39. Brenda also reported that as of 2.14.2020 summer 2019 collection percentage is at 96.57% and winter 2019 is at 93.03%.

Planning Commissions Secretary Wendie Shafer was Present to ask the Township Board to take action on the complaints for Mark Schutze property in breaking Township Ordinances of Junk Yard, Property Maintained, Nuisance Ordinance and Maintenance Code. The Township Board agreed and as soon as an Ordinance Officer is appointed it will be looked into.

Christina Price gave the Clerk's report and bills report. After discussion Christina Price moved to approve the bills report, seconded by David Wolf. By Roll Call Vote – Voting Yes; David Wolf, Jim Brow, Brenda Troxell and Christina Price. Motion Carried.

Amended Budget- Amendments were presented by Clerk Price to increase General Fund revenues by \$1660.81, General Fund expenses by \$126.01 Water Fund revenue by \$10.98, Fire Maintenance revenue by \$2.31 Fire Maintenance Fund expenses by \$4073.08, Building Fund Revenues by \$1598.71 and to increase Building Fund Expense by \$12.70. After discussion of the Corrected/Amended Budget Amendments, Christina Price made a motion to accept the Corrected/Amended as presented, Seconded by David Wolf. By Roll Call Vote – Voting Yes; David Wolf, Jim Brow, Brenda Troxell, and Christina Price. Motion Carried.

Clerk Price also made a motion to purchase the new version of “Little Red Book”, from the MTA. Brenda Troxell Supported. Vote – All yes. Motion Carried

Clerk Price presented a letter from LCC Telecom Services in regards to a wireless telecommunications tower. After discussion more information is needed. Postponed until March Meeting.

Clerk Price reported that a new Senate Bill 431 is in the works to pass that would prohibit a local unit of government from preventing or denying a permit, approval, or other authorization for the mining of natural resources.

Clerk Price also presented a letter from Michigan Gas Utilizes hearing on February 26th, 2020.

Clerk Price also reported that the Township was approved for the State Grant for the purchase of a second Tabulator to create an AV Counting Board for Elections.

Unfinished Business –

Knox Box Ordinance was postponed

Ordinance Officer – Jim Brow read an email letter from Greg Nelson in regards to the Ordinance Officer Position. After further discussion David Wolf made a motion to appoint Greg Nelson as the New Ordinance Officer with a pay of \$25 per hour without mileage reimbursement. Supported Brenda Troxell. Vote – All yes. Motion Carried

Anonymous Letter about Clerk – Clerk Price mentioned that she has discussed the topic of bringing her baby to work since the meeting of 2019-2020 Budget workshop where is announced that she was expecting, along with attending a Board meeting a month prior to her office return with no concerns arising. She also mentioned that since this topic involves a Township Board Member, it is advised by the Township Attorney to seek his legal advice. David Wolf asked permission to pursue seeking the Townships Attorney's advice in regard to the 6 anonymous Township Residents that have complained to him in regards to the Clerk Bringing her baby to the office. Jim Brow said yes. No Vote was done.

Baroda Township Trustee Vacancy – Brenda Troxell read all application letters from Bill Hurst, Audra Johnson and Dennis Krotzer. After discussion David Wolf made a motion to Appoint Dennis Krotzer to fill John Harners Trustee Seat. Supported Christina Price. Vote – All yes. Motion Carried

Clerk Price – Read a letter of resignation for Planning Commission from Dennis Krotzer. After Discussion Clerk Price made a motion to accept his letter of resignation as presented. Supported by Brenda Troxell. Vote – All yes. Motion Carried

Clerk Price- Read a letter of resignation for Board Of Review from Dennis Krotzer. After Discussion Clerk Price made a motion to accept his letter of resignation as presented. Supported by Brenda Troxell. Vote – All yes. Motion Carried

Planning Commission Vacancy- David Wolf made a motion to appoint Bill Hurst to fill the Planning Commission vacancy. Supported by Brenda Troxell. Vote – All yes. Motion Carried

Board of Review – David Wolf made a motion to appoint Audra Johnson to fill the Board of Review vacancy. Supported by Brenda Troxell. Vote – All yes. Motion Carried

General Fund Operating Millage- Brenda Troxell made a motion to approve to raise the Millage to 1.50, and start the language for the August election. Supported by Christina Price. Vote – All yes. Motion Carried

Library Millage – Brenda Troxell made a motion to approve the renewal of the Library Millage at .50 for the August election. Supported by Christina Price. Vote – All yes. Motion Carried

Road Fund Millage – Brenda Troxell made a motion to approve the millage rate at .50 for the August election. Supported by David Wolf. Vote – All yes. Motion Carried

New Business –

Complaint Form – Schutze Property – Hills Rd Property – Clerk Price mentioned that a complaint form was turned in from surrounding neighbors in regards to property 11470 Hills because of the accumulation of materials and a property East side of Hills just North of the Browntown intersection. After discussion the Board will send the new ordinance officer out to address the complaints.

Medic One Proposed Budget 2020-2021 – David Wolf made a motion to accept the increase of \$804 as presented from Medic One. Supported Brenda Troxell. Vote – All yes. Motion Carried

Township Office Hours, Meetings & Holiday Schedule and Planning Commission Meetings – David Wolf made a motion to accept as presented. Supported Brenda Troxell. Vote – All yes. Motion Carried

Berrien RESA, LMC, & Lakeshore Summer Tax Collections Contracts – Brenda Made a motion to accept as presented. Supported by David Wolf. Vote – All yes. Motion Carried

Christina Price made a motion to accept Consent Agenda amended by removing the Planning Commission Meeting Minutes, Seconded by David Wolf. Vote – All Yes. Motion Carried.

Jim Brow – Read a letter stating that he has requested his salary to be decreased to \$16,500 starting April 1st, 2020

Audience Comments – Teri Freehling mentioned that its Census year and the Census could use help with getting the word out about completing the forms.

The next regular meeting of the Baroda Township Board is scheduled for March 16th, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

Christina Price
Baroda Township Clerk,