

**BARODA TOWNSHIP**  
**Board Meeting Minutes**  
**August 16<sup>th</sup>, 2021**

The Baroda Township Board met on Monday August 16<sup>th</sup>, 2021 at Hess Lake Parks New Pavilion at 640 Lemon Creek, Baroda. Present were Board Members Dennis Krotzer, David Wolf, Christina Price, Larry Klug and James Zobl. There was 11 audience members. The meeting was opened at 7:00pm with a recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Guest** – Hungerford Nichols, Brian Wisneski presented the Townships Audit. No questions by the Township Board. Supervisor Dennis Krotzer made a statement that the Board will have to vote to have the General Fund forgive the Library Fund for inter fund transfers of \$40,377.00 to clear the books from 2011.

**Guest** – Mark Schutze – Nimby Pond – No Show – Supervisor Dennis Krotzer made a statement that the Township Attorney sent a letter in regards to Nimby Pond. Mark Schutze cancelled the event as he would be in violation of the Townships Ordinance #4.

**Library Report**

Jessica Ishmael presented the Library Report from Lincoln Township. July 2021 total circulation was 17,400; total digital circulation was 18,660 with Baroda Townships at 1,309. Listed in the report was the Programming that was being offered in August 2021.

**Clerk Christina Price** – Read a personal letter in regards disagreements, accusations and false statements being made about her and her actions as Township Clerk by certain individuals in public and on social media that is ruining her reputation and putting her family in danger because people approach her in the public while with her family to discuss comments on social media or by word of mouth conversations. The Township Clerk asks that things be kept professional and respectful even though we may not agree on topics and to work together to better the Township for the future of the Community and Residents.

**Police Report-** Supervisor Dennis Krotzer read the Police Report from Chief Shawn Martin.

**Fire Department Report**

Fire Chief Jeff Gaul gave the Fire Departments report. He reported total incidents for the month of July 2021 were 7 and Year to Date is 43. He reported the total hours of training for July was 67.5 hours, monthly sessions 54.5 hours. Burn Permits requested 10, year to date total is 65.

**Fire Department Donations-** David Wolf presented a water service form that stated all donations would go to the Fireman's Association Fund. Supervisor Dennis Krotzer read an email from the MTA stating that is illegal and the Township cannot support a Private Non Profit Association when Township equipment is being used to fill private residential pools. After further discussion and not coming to an agreement. Larry Klug made a motion to stop services, seconded by David Wolf. By Roll Call Vote – Voting Yes; Larry Klug, David Wolf, Dennis Krotzer, James Zobl and Christina Price. Voting No, None. Motion Carried

**Memorandum of understanding** – Supervisor Dennis Krotzer presented the Memorandum of Understanding for 2020 Assistance to Firefighters Grant. After further discussion David Wolf made a motion to approve the matching funds of \$1108.28 that will be paid out of the Fire Equipment Fund, seconded by Larry Klug. By Roll Call Vote – Voting Yes; Larry Klug, David Wolf, Dennis Krotzer, James Zobl and Christina Price. Voting No, None. Motion Carried

**Fire Department Radios** – Supervisor Dennis Krotzer presented the Motorola Radios for the Fire Department again and stated that the Township should purchase them before the end of August as Berrien County will pay for the

activation fees. After further discussion Dennis Krotzer made a motion to buy 7 Radios at \$30,900.80 which \$12,000.00 would come from the Fire Equipment Fund and \$18,900.80 would be borrowed from the Water Fund and payed back in full by April 2022, second by Larry Klug. By Roll Call Vote – Voting Yes; Larry Klug, David Wolf, Dennis Krotzer, James Zobl and Christina Price. Voting No, None. Motion Carried

**Fireman’s Association Fund** – Larry Klug owner Administrator of the Fireman’s Association Fund reported the total donations brought in for firework in 2021 was \$18,956.90 and total expenses was \$19,521.35, which leaves a net loss of \$564.45.

**Washer – Postponed**

**Fire Departments Policy and Procedures – Postponed & to be presented to the Fire Board for review**

**Fire Departments Fire Chief, Assistant Fire Chief Description, Position Descriptions – Postponed**

**Medic One** – Supervisor Dennis Krotzer presented Medic Ones Annual Audit report. After further discussion Dennis Krotzer made a motion to approve the report as written, seconded by David Wolf. Vote-All Yes. Motion Carried.

**Treasurers Report**

James Zobl presented the Treasurers report as of July 31<sup>st</sup>, 2021, Baroda Township Funds had cash balances as follows: General Fund = \$292,529.45 Library Fund = \$63.94, Road Fund = \$4,463.07, Baroda Police Fund = \$147,317.49, Fire Maintenance Fund = \$97,241.39 Fire Equipment Fund = \$24,951.06, Rubbish Fund = \$181,529.17, Building Fund = \$72,969.22, Water Fund = \$145,203.82 and Tax Fund = \$152,161.97. Christina Price reported that the Fire Maintenance fund will show 28,433 extra as she accidentally paid medic one the full yearly bill. She reported that Medic One paid the full amount back and the monthly payments will continue as normal. Dennis Krotzer made a motion to accept the Treasures Report as presented, David Wolf Seconded. Vote – All yes. Motion Carried.

**Assessors Report**

Supervisor Dennis Krotzer presented the Assessors report from Angela Story.

**Ordinance Officer Report**

Supervisor Dennis Krotzer presented the Ordinance report from Lieutenant Koza.

**Clerks Report**

Christina Price presented the Bills Report. After discussion Dennis Krotzer moved to approve the bills report, seconded by James Zobl. By Roll Call Vote – Voting Yes; Larry Klug, David Wolf, Dennis Krotzer, James Zobl and Christina Price. Voting No, None. Motion Carried

Clerk Price presented the Budget Amendments for July 2021, after further discussion Dennis Krotzer made a motion to approve the Amendments, seconded by James Zobl. Vote-All Yes. Motion Carried.

Clerk Price reported that the Planning Commission meeting for August was cancelled as they had no new business to discuss.

Clerk Price reported that MGU will have a prehearing for reconciliation of gas cost recovery plan on September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021 by Teleconference and if anyone is interested please let her know.

**Maintenance:**

**Maintenance Garage Foundation Issues – Postponed**

**Jason Keith – Hall Cleaning** – Clerk Price reported letting Jason Keith Clean the Hall after rentals in the winter for extra hours. After further discussion it was decided by the Board to enforce the Hall Renters to keep it clean.

**Unfinished Business –**

**Township Hall A/C Unit & Furnace Maintenance** – Clerk Price mentioned that there is no record of the last time the Township Halls A/C Unit and Furnace has had maintenance on them. After further discussion Dennis Krotzer made a motion to have a onetime maintenance service done to both units, seconded by David Wolf. Vote-All Yes. Motion Carried.

**Quote for Windows at Municipal Building** – Supervisor Dennis Krotzer presented a quote from Midwest glass for \$1,225.00 to install windows where the A/C units are, seconded by David Wolf. Vote-All Yes. Motion Carried.

**Township Credit Card and New Banking Information** – Treasurer James Zobl reported that the Township would have to open a bank account at United Federal to get a Credit Card so he will open a credit card at TCF for now. He also reported that he is still gathering information on different banks.

**Hess Lake Parks Halloween Trail and Treat** – Clerk Price reported that she would like to take the lead on the Hess Lake Parks Halloween Trail and Treat if the Board thinks it's a good idea to follow through this year. After further discussion with all the unknowns the Board decided to wait until next year.

**Concrete Mixer – Postponed**

**Chip and Seal on Keehn Road**- Supervisor Dennis Krotzer reported that he is waiting on a quote from a neighbor that is interested in the chip and seal on Keehn rd.

**Ross Rogien Report on Hills Rd Property** – Supervisor Dennis Krotzer reported that Ross Rogien is moving forward with the demolition process and a formal hearing is set for August 17<sup>th</sup>, 2021 at 5:00pm at the Municipal Building.

**Water Contract with Lake Twp- Postponed**

**Zoning Board of Appeals Committee-Postponed**

**Grants for Ruggles Cemetery expansion- Postponed**

**Grants for Hess Lake Park expansion or improvements-Postponed**

**Baroda Township Improvements Program-Postponed**

**American Rescue Plan Acts Proposed Projects – Postpone**

### **New Business –**

**Hinman Cemetery Signs, All Signs in General** – Supervisor Dennis Krotzer reported that someone hit the Hinman sign and knocked it down. Clerk Price reported there are other signs that need to be added in to Hess Lake Park and maybe Ruggles. After further discussion it was decided to stick with the current sign company and get quotes.

**Ordinance Number 39 for Code of Ethics for Baroda Township** – Clerk Christina Price presented an Ordinance #39 for Code of Ethics for Baroda Township as other Townships and Villages have these Ordinances to represent their Municipalities. After further discussion it could not be agreed upon by the Board Members to work on this moving forward.

**November Board Meeting Date** – Dennis Krotzer made a motion to move the November 15<sup>th</sup>, 2021 Board Meeting Date to November 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2021 because of opening day deer hunting season, seconded by Larry Klug. Vote All- Yes. Motion Carried.

**Lawn Vacuum – Postponed**

**Hess Lake Trails – Resident Questions** – Supervisor Dennis Krotzer reported that a resident wanted to come cut fire wood in the Parks wooded trails after checking with the insurance company it would be a liability.

**Russell Road Speed Survey and Resolution** – Supervisor Dennis Krotzer presented Resolution 21-9 for a Russell Road Speed Study survey to be completed since residents are concerned about the safety on Russell Rd since the current speed limit is 55. After further discussion David Wolf made a motion to approve the Resolution for Russell Road Speed Study Survey, seconded by Dennis Krotzer. By Roll Call Vote – Voting Yes; Larry Klug, David Wolf, Dennis Krotzer, James Zobl and Christina Price. Voting No, None. Motion Carried

**Municipal Emergency Coordinator Contact – Postponed to gather more information.**

**Woods Cannabis Company Presentation in September** – Supervisor Dennis Krotzer reported that Woods Cannabis Company will hold a presentation in September.

**Consent Agenda-**

Minutes of the last Township Board Meeting. After further discussion Dennis Krotzer made a motion to accept the consent agenda as amended, supported by David Wolf Vote – All yes. Motion Carried.

**Supervisors Comments** – None

**Audience Comments** - **Cindy Shephard** made a statement to the Clerk about her letter that was read and talked about multiple concerns and asked multiple questions about the Fire Department and how things are being handled, the Treasurers Duties and Planning Commissions Meeting Dates. **Audra Johnson** stated multiple concerns about how the Fire Department is being ran, asked who is in charge of Tuttle Road Repairs and her concerns of the Budget Amendments increasing each month. **Tom Lippert** – Stated his concern about inter fund transfer, the pool fillings for the Fire Department and misc. signs on Hills Road.

Supervisor Dennis Krotzer made a motion to end the meeting at 9:10pm, seconded by David Wolf. Vote- All Yes. Motion Carried.

Christina Price,  
Baroda Township Clerk