

BARODA TOWNSHIP
Board Meeting Minutes
June 20th, 2022

The Baroda Township Board met on Monday June 20th, 2022 at 9091 First St in the Municipal Buildings meeting room, Baroda. Present were Board Members Dennis Krotzer, David Wolf, Christina Price, William Hurst and Larry Klug. There were 9 audience members. The meeting was opened at 7:00pm with a recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Guest - Miss Baroda and Court – Miss Baroda and Court introduced themselves and Krista Wolf explained what the Court does and how it benefits the children. They are also in need of a place to store the float locally, in need of a new trailer or hay wagon to build a new float. They are always looking for community events to participate in as well.

Guest – Mark Schutze – Presented his application for an outdoor assembly for Blessings of the Snow Mobiles and the previous Nimby Ponds location. The event will copy the previous nimby ponds structure. The event will take place from noon until dusk (9:00pm) on September 3rd, 2022. After further discussion Dennis Krotzer made a motion to approve the one day out door assembly application, seconded by Larry Klug. Vote- All Yes. Motion Carried.

Guest – Ken Jewell- Christina Price introduced Ken Jewell who is a local inspector for multiple municipalities that submitted in letters of recommendation for him; he is also the new Plumbing and Mechanical Inspector for the Village of Baroda and is interested in joining the Township. Christina mentioned that the current Plumbing and Mechanical Inspector is John Dobberteen and the only issues have been the accounting/invoices and he use to bill for jobs not completed. She also mentioned John subs his work out to another Inspection but his signature is on all the documents, but that is not uncommon and that she has only met him once since she has been in office since 2018. Christina has not heard of any other complaints about the actual work being done with residents. After further discussion it was decided to bring John in and talk about the accounting issues and give it 90 days.

Library Report

Elizabeth Carlson from Lincoln Township Library presented the Library report. She mentioned the new collections, services, technology, did you know, upcoming events for all and a special anniversary that is on June 21st, 2022 for the 40th, Annual Teddy Bear Picnic.

Police Report- Supervisor Dennis Krotzer read the Police Report from Chief Shawn Martin with a total of 253 calls for May. Lake Twp. had 156, Baroda Twp. 48, Baroda Village 27 and 22 outside our jurisdiction.

Fire Department Report

Fire Chief Jeff Gaul gave the Fire Department report. He reported total incidents for the month of May 2022 were 4 and Year to Date is 18. He reported the total hours of training for May were 40.2 hours. Burn Permits requested 12, year to date total is 30.

Larry Klug asked how recruitment was coming along and Fire Chief mentioned that he has two new recruits that applied and is waiting for time to connect with them both.

Fire Board Position – At the previous Board Meeting Amy Covington presented her interest and turned in her resume and letter of interest to the Board. After further discussion Dennis Krotzer made a motion to appoint Amy Covington to the Fire Board, seconded by William Hurst. Vote –All Yes. Motion Carried.

Fire Hydrant Rental with the Village- Postponed

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 report for May 2022.

Assessors Report

Dennis Krotzer presented the Assessors report for June 2022.

Treasurers Report

William Hurst presented the Treasurers report as of May, 2022, Baroda Township Funds had cash balances as follows: General Fund =Honor Credit Union \$496,997.55 & Huntington \$14,702.10 Library Fund = Honor Credit Union \$51,630.62 & Huntington **(Closed)**, Road Fund =Honor Credit Union \$62,745.70 & Huntington **(Closed)**, Baroda Police Fund = Honor Credit Union \$198,727.45 & Huntington \$0.27, Fire Maintenance Fund = Honor Credit Union \$192,065.60 & Huntington \$5,000.00 Fire Equipment Fund = Honor Credit Union \$12,279.25 & Huntington **(Closed)**, Rubbish Fund = Honor Credit Union \$222,635.26 & Huntington \$0.33 Ambulance Fund = Honor Credit Union \$35,823.32 & Huntington **(Closed)**, Building Fund = Honor Credit Union \$59,047.33 & Huntington \$2,1036.00, Water Fund = Honor Credit Union \$144,878.93 & Huntington **(Closed)**, and Tax Fund = Honor Credit Union \$16,916.16 & Huntington **(Closed)**, – Dennis Krotzer made a motion to approve the Treasurers report as presented, supported by Larry Klug. All yes. Motion Carried.

William Hurst reported that he put the Township on the list for a lock box at the new Honor Credit Union in Baroda. After further discussion David Wolf made a motion to approve getting one and trying it for 6 months, seconded by Dennis Krotzer. Vote- All Yes. Motion Carried.

Ordinance Officer Report

No Report

Clerks Report

*Christina Price presented itemized credit card report with copies of all receipts that will be stated in the bills report.

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

*Budget Amended were presented and after further discussion David Wolf made a motion to approve them as written, seconded by William Hurst. Vote All-Yes. Motion Carried.

*Clerk Price reported that the Planning Commission had a Public Hearing for a rezone On Singer Lake Rd June 13th, 2022, that ended in a tie vote. The Planning Commission does not have a recommendation since it was a tie vote. Records will be forwarded to the Berrien County Planning Commission for deliberation and recommendation to the Township Board. It was also reported that there was a Bud and Breakfast being operated on Miller Rd. and the Zoning Administrator would be sending a letter to them.

MTA Annual Membership Due were presented After further discussion Dennis Krotzer made a motion to approve paying the membership, seconded by David Wolf. By Roll Call Vote – Voting Yes; William Hurst, David Wolf, Dennis Krotzer, Larry Klug and Christina Price. Voting No, None. Motion Carried

Maintenance Report

Dennis Krotzer made a motion to put Jason at \$20.00 an hour as previously budgeted for, seconded by Larry Klug. Vote All-Yes. Motion Carried.

Dennis Krotzer reported that he would like permission to hire a maintenance person without them being interviewed by the Township Board as help is needed. After further discussion David Wolf made a motion to approve his request, seconded by Dennis Krotzer. Vote All- Yes. Motion Carried.

Dennis Krotzer mentioned purchasing slings to move headstones, David Wolf recommended Dennis go to Ferguson and take pictures of what he would want and then have them custom made so that they would be new and not used.

Unfinished Business –

Maintenance Garage Foundation Issues – Postponed

Welder for Maintenance Department- Postponed

Water Contract with Lake Twp- Postponed

Grants for Ruggles Cemetery expansion- Postponed

Grants for Hess Lake Park expansion or improvements-Postponed
Baroda Township Improvements Program-Postponed

Police Millage Renewal Resolution – The new Millage would be set at 3.3089mills, which is an increase of 1.35mills per each \$1,000 of taxable valuation, as equalized. The question and answer report was presented and approved to post to the Township website.

Beaudoin Electrical Proposal for Hess Lake Park Lights – After further discussion Dennis Krotzer made the motion to approve the Beaudoin Electrical Proposal for new Electrical Poles and Park Lights at Hess Lake Park for the sum of \$10,360.00, seconded by Larry Klug. By Roll Call Vote – Voting Yes; William Hurst, David Wolf, Dennis Krotzer, Larry Klug and Christina Price. Voting No, None. Motion Carried

Cemetery Ordinance – The Township Board is still in review of the Ordinance and will revisit at the July meeting.

Baroda Fire Works – It was reported that a total of \$6,475.00 has been collected for donations for the 2023 Fireworks so far.

MGU Gas Contract – It was lightly discussed and will be reviewed at the next few meetings.

Singer Lake Road Project – It was reported that this job by the Road Department is completed.

Broadband – Dennis Krotzer gave a Broadband Summary report of what he has been working on.

New Business –

First Church of God Volunteer Work for Baroda Township – It was discussed that the Volunteers from The First Church of God came on 6/12/2022 to help clean up, paint post and picnic tables at Hess Lake Park, Help Confirm Headstones to Clerks Paperwork, and at the Municipal Building Treasurer filings and Clerk Election filings and Cemetery filings were worked. This was much appreciated and a huge help to the Township. Dennis Krotzer presented a thank you letter that all the Board members signed.

Master Plan – Christina Price mentioned that the Village will be hiring Wightman to do their Master Plan and wanted to know if the Township would like to join them. The Board agreed to and further information will be presented.

Hess Lake Park Mulch – It was discussed that Hess Lake Park needs more mulch already and that we should get 8 inches of mulch this time. Dennis Krotzer planned to get quotes on this job.

Election Sign Quote – Christina Price presented a quote form Anchor Signs on new sidewalk sign for the future elections. After further discussion Larry Klug made a motion to approve the quote for \$1,550.00, seconded by William Hurst. By Roll Call Vote – Voting Yes; William Hurst, David Wolf, Dennis Krotzer, Larry Klug and Christina Price. Voting No, None. Motion Carried.

Township 401 Pension Plan Discussion - Christina Price reported that she would like to call a special meeting to have a MERS Rep. discuss with the Township Board members different options for pension plans. It was discussed that the Township currently has been apart of a 218 agreement that was established in 1975, but there was misunderstand of how to participate and everyone has always paid into Social Security except for one person on the Fire Department. Municipal Retirement Systems will drop the Township if they plan to keep paying into Social Security as they do not offer that for Municipalities. After further discussion it was decided to meet on June 28th, 2022 between 6:30 – 7:00pm, which ever time worked best the MERS Rep.

Mowing Quote for Hess Lake Park – Dennis Krotzer presented a quote from CR Lawn Service in case he was needed to mow Hess Lake Park. After further discussion the Board did not move on the quote of \$500.00.

BS&A Zoning and Building Department Quote – The Board is waiting on this discussion for more information on what the Treasurer and Assessor are using and paying into.

Ground Thawer – Dennis Krotzer presented quotes for a ground thawer since people were complaining of no grass after burials. It was discussed to use grass seed and straw or something else that would be sufficient.

Minutes-

After further discussion Larry Klug made a motion to accept the minutes as presented from 5/16/2022, supported by David Wolf. Vote-All Yes. Motion Carried.

Supervisors Comments – None

Audience Comments –Tom Lippert asked questions about the Drain Commissioner and drains at Siemen and Miller rd. Cindy Shepard ask what the Township plans to do about the Maintenance person hitting headstones with the mower and all the headstones knock out of place.

Supervisor Dennis Krotzer made a motion end the meeting at 9:34pm, seconded by David Wolf. Vote-All Yes- Motion Carried.

Christina Price,
Baroda Township Clerk