

**BIG CREEK TOWNSHIP  
REGULAR MEETING  
March 17, 2015  
BIG CREEK TOWNSHIP HALL**

Meeting called to order at 5 P.M.

PRESENT: Booth, Mitchell, McGregor, Avery, Mundt, Luzerne Fire Chief Roddy, Sheriff Grace, Steve Goldman (USFS), 21 electors

ABSENT:

**Minutes**

**McGregor/Booth to approve minutes as presented. All ayes. Motion carried.**

**Bills**

Total of invoices presented: \$52,504.68.

**Mitchell/McGregor to pay invoices as presented. All ayes. Motion carried.**

**Treasurer's Report**

Balances: General Fund - \$199,813.93; Cemetery - \$15,328.45; Parks - \$8,030.02; Roads - \$138,842.74; Fire Millage - \$129,071.78; Luzerne Fire - \$144,300.05.

**Fire Report**

Attended fire 2/20 (-31 degrees). Truck froze up; is now at CSI for repairs and will be down at least another week.

Should have new truck from USFS for spring fire season (for Wildland fires).

Approx. \$20,000 left in grant after purchase of turn-out gear and SCBA. Can amend the grant to include a Boom Box and compressor to fill SCBA, total \$18,445.

**Mitchell/Booth to authorize Dak to amend the grant to allow the purchase of a Boom Box and compressor to fill SCBA. All ayes. Motion carried.**

**Assessor's Report**

Working on Board of Review, should be completed this week.

**Committee Reports**

Tri-Town – Interviews for Friday cancelled, looking at 4/9 (Thurs) to review applications for Chief and do interviews.

Steiner Museum – Requested money for a well and a lean-to. Lions Club will be building a 24x48' pole barn rather than building lean-to.

Utility Authority – More frozen pipes but not as bad as last year.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Steve Goldman, USFS, re: roads - USFS considering a program that would donate 100% of timber receipts to road and trail repairs. In order to qualify for the program, roads or trails must involve a stream or wetland area. He would like a list of our priorities to present to the Cadillac District office.
2. Cemetery Fees – Proposed to increase open/close fee to \$500, and not charge fee for marking a grave for a foundation. There will still be a fee for pouring foundation. Proposed additional income would be saved in the Cemetery Fund for site preparation on the north side of the existing cemetery.

**Avery/Mitchell to raise cemetery open/close fee to \$500. All ayes. Motion carried.**

3. Meeting dates for 2015/2016 – Trying to come up with a better time that fits work schedules better.

**Mitchell/Mundt to change regular meeting to 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday at 7 pm beginning April, 2015. All ayes. Motion carried.**

New dates and times will be posted and printed in the newspaper.

4. Pay rates – Discussed raising pay for Luzerne firefighters to be equal to the pay for Tri-Town firefighters.

**Booth/McGregor to raise fire run pay for Luzerne VFD to \$16.00/hr. All ayes. Motion carried.**

Discussed pay rate for Deputy Treasurer, Deputy Clerk and maintenance personnel.

**Booth/McGregor to raise hourly rate for deputies and maintenance personnel to \$11.50/hr. All ayes. Motion carried.**

5. Discussed payment of per diem for attending in-county meetings. No action taken at this time.
6. Budget for Annual Meeting March 28, 2015

Total of all funds to propose to electors:

General Fund:	\$374,830.00
Road Fund:	39,000.00
Cemetery	16,200.00
Luzerne Fire Dept.	\$195,190.00
Park Fund:	24,550.00
Fire Millage	89,410.00
Nancy Street	1,590.00
Oak & Cedar Streets	1,800.00
Grand total:	\$742,570.00

**Mundt/Avery to propose total budget in the amount of \$742,570.00 to electors at the annual meeting. All ayes. Motion carried.**

MAIL: None

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Sheriff Grace – some accidents with roads refreezing. Some scams happening now so be extra vigilant.

Larry Lange – requested info about new business in Luzerne.

A member of the public requested that the fire dept. consider charging for fires since many insurance companies include that in their insurance policies, and that money could be used for

training. Booth responded that such a charge had been attempted previously, and there were many complaints so it was discontinued. Now there is a millage to support the fire departments. The Board will take the request into consideration.

Proposed budget amendments were presented.

**Budget amendments –McGregor/Mitchell to make recommended budget amendments. All ayes. Motion carried.**

BOARD COMMENT:

Meeting adjourned 5:41 p.m.

Annual Meeting March 28, 2015, 9:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Rhonda Mundt  
Township Clerk