

**BIG CREEK TOWNSHIP
REGULAR MEETING
APRIL 13, 2017
BIG CREEK TOWNSHIP HALL**

Meeting called to order at 7 P.M.

Present: Booth, Avery, McGregor, Mitchell, Mundt, Commissioner Kischnick, Fire Chief Roddy, 9 electors.

MINUTES of March 23, 2017 Budget Hearing and March 23, 2017 Regular Meeting were presented.

Mitchell/Mundt to approve minutes as presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

LIST OF BILLS Total 5864.62 including \$801.20 additional.

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

TREASURER'S REPORT

Taxes all finished and reimbursed by county for delinquent taxes. Approximately \$2200 of personal property tax unpaid to date. Received \$15,000 from Title I for Road fund.

Account Balances: General Fund - \$291,099.21; Cemetery - \$24,585.53; Parks - \$42,616.76; Road Fund - \$237,88.83; Luzerne Fire - \$7811.49; Fire Millage - \$141,809.54.

FIRE REPORT

Total of three fires, meetings, training with DNR and USFS for this year's fire season and to meet new staff. Cleanup at fire hall and grounds.

Flashover training at West Branch coming up on May 20. Three firefighters would like to attend.

Mundt/Mitchell - To authorize firefighters that want to attend the May 20 Flashover training be reimbursed for their hours. All ayes. Motion carried.

Firefighter O'Brien passed his FFI & II class.

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

Sending out blight letters, more to go. Assessment roll turned in to county; the county has equalized the assessment roll.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Utility Authority still looking at purchasing equipment, and reviewing CD coming up in August that was held as security for the old loan but is not required for the new loan. May use part of the CD funds to pay for the new equipment which will save a substantial amount of money.

Looking at replacing phone lines that go to each station with alarms which will call authority employees, saving substantial funds and streamlining the alarm procedure.

Tri-Town - Nearly finished with policies; Chief will go thru remaining policy and make recommendation to board.

MTA – N. Caldwell made a presentation on updates at The Steiner.

OLD BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

Parks maintenance for 2017 – L. Heeg willing to do Comstock-Nelson Park, Luzerne Fire Hall and Cemetery.

Kevin Kirby applied for maintenance position.

Booth/Mundt to hire Kevin Kirby to take care of Luzerne River Park, Joe Pillars Park, and Township Hall maintenance and pay at rate of \$12.50/hr. All ayes. Motion carried.

Fire Dept. maintenance projects – Frank Wyrembelski requested authorization to accomplish some projects at the fire hall.

- Would like to move the memorial for Don McCosh to an area in front of the hall. Luzerne Firefighters' Association will purchase new flag pole; Shawn McCosh will donate flowers.
- **Mitchell/McGregor to allow fire dept. to place the memorial. All ayes. Motion carried.**
- Tree Trimming – Booth will get bids for trimming oaks in front of hall and will talk to tree co. about removing dead pines hanging over trailers next door.
- Some of the trim from last year's roofing job on the fire dept. has not been painted yet; can be handled by the maintenance staff. Old siren sitting in the yard not being used. Requires 3-phase electric. Firemen will attempt to find a buyer.
- Gutter over door needs to be repaired; Booth will locate someone to check into it.
- Ellis donated new cabinets; old cabinets and pile of vinyl siding laying next to conex box. Authorized Luzerne Firefighters' Assn. to get rid of them and any proceeds can be donated to association.

Discussion re: asst. Chief – getting rid of equipment without permission, not requesting authorization to attend classes; leaving fire truck outside at his residence allowing pump to freeze up.

Chief Roddy feels he has communication problems and is being undermined with the other firefighters by the Asst. Chief. Also there is an issue re: his use of language around women.

Avery/Mitchell To remove McNamara as asst. chief of Luzerne Fire Dept. effective today (4/13/2017). All ayes. Motion carried.

McGregor/ Booth To remove K. McNamara from Luzerne fire dept. for insubordination, failure to use proper chain of command, immoral or indecent conduct effective immediately. All ayes. Motion carried.

Will contact locksmith re: changing codes on door at fire dept.

Need a letters of interest from those interested in the Asst. Chief position.

Discussion regarding Ellis' request for training reimbursement for an unapproved meeting.

Booth/McGregor to deny Ellis' request for reimbursement for training because it was not preauthorized by the Board. All ayes. Motion carried.

Blight Ordinance enforcement – Attorney retiring May 31. We need to get a new attorney before we start proceedings against other residents. Also, we need to start following our ordinance and issue citations in blight situations. We budgeted \$5000 to hire a blight enforcement officer for this fiscal year.

Booth/Mitchell to advertise for a blight enforcement officer for next meeting. All ayes. Motion carried.

Booth also would like to order civil infraction tickets to issue.

NEMCOG Joint Land Use Study – Camp Grayling Joint Military Training Center and Alpena Combat Readiness Training Center. Would like someone on our board to sit on the committee. Booth volunteered to sit on the committee if there was no interest from others. Booth will be on the Committee.

Booth presented information on High-Def surveillance system and key fob entry system and requested permission to apply for Par Plan Grant for the security system.

Avery/McGregor to authorize Booth to apply for Par Plan Grant for fire department security system. All ayes. Motion carried.

MAIL:

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Kischnick – Re: MDOT Rural Elected Official meeting – Not much happening in Oscoda Co. within the next 5 years. Most work being done on West side of state. 2018-2019 resurfacing of M-33 from Co. Line N. to Fairview. Two-thirds of Zimowski Rd. being resurfaced this year. Anyone interested in serving on the Co. Board to replace Brandy Wright should apply. She has submitted resignation effective 4/25.

BOARD COMMENT:

Meeting adjourned 8:50 pm

Rhonda Mundt
Township Clerk