

**BIG CREEK TOWNSHIP
REGULAR MEETING
JUNE 8, 2017
BIG CREEK TOWNSHIP HALL**

Meeting called to order at 7 P.M.

PRESENT – Booth, Avery, McGregor, Mitchell, Mundt, Commissioners Kischnick and P. Kelly, Fire Chief Roddy, 11 electors.

ABSENT - None

MINUTES – May 11, 2017 Regular Meeting

McGregor/Mitchell to accept minutes as presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

LIST OF BILLS – Invoices presented totaling \$26,049.93.

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

TREASURER’S REPORT

Paid first quarter Tri-Town, nothing else unusual. Account Balances: General Fund - \$248,259.80; Cemetery Fund - \$22,908.53; Parks Fund - \$99,340.80; Road Fund - \$313,967.45; Luzerne Fire Fund - \$16,980.16; Fie Millage - \$219,455.96.

FIRE REPORT

Two fires, training, and picked up light tower from DNR surplus in Lansing.

Application for new firefighter Drake Thornton was review by Board members.

McGregor/Avery to approve Drake Thornton to Luzerne Fire Dept. on probationary status pending FF I & II certification. All ayes. Motion carried.

Roddy request the board reconsider paying R. Ellis for training we had previously denied (no permission given to take the class). The Board discussed it, decided not to pay.

There will be firefighting equipment (nozzles, gloves, etc.) at the auction on the 10th.

Booth/Mitchell to allow Chief Roddy up to \$250 to purchase nozzles, etc. at auction. All ayes. Motion carried.

SUPERVISOR’S REPORT

Mishler Rd. paved today on the North half; Luzerne River Park had 3 or 4 bad electrical breakers that had to be replaced today.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finished policy manuals for Tri-Town and Luzerne.

McGregor went to State Comprehensive Outdoor Plan meeting with DNR. DNR listened to the committee members and will use those comments to prepare a statewide plan.

Booth resigned from National Guard Joint Land Use Committee.

Utility Authority still looking for screening for the plant; looking for a grant to do some updates.

OLD BUSINESS:

Blight Enforcement Officer – Applications from Robert Ellis and Andrew Thompson Both applicants were questioned by the Board and their questions answered. Officer will primarily act on complaints from the public.

Avery/Mitchell to hire Robert Ellis for Blight Enforcement Officer. All ayes. Motion carried.

Maplewood Housing tax exemption – Booth spoke with USDA and is waiting info from them on updating our ordinance. Maplewood is making payment in lieu, but property still under mortgage for another 20 years and most apartments are rent-subsidized. Need to update ordinance to give them another 20 years.

Dues Invoice from MTA. - \$2009.64 for 2017.

McGregor/Mitchell to pay annual dues for MTA. All ayes. Motion carried.

Trainings – Assessor's BS&A on 6/23/17, Clerks MTA on 7/19/17, Treasurers MTA in July

McGregor/Mundt to authorize Booth to attend BS&A training. All ayes. Motion carried.

Booth/McGregor – To authorize Clerk and Treasurer to attend MTA sessions. All ayes. Motion carried.

AuSable Way – Because we don't have a legal easement on AuSable Way, Steve DuFour (Road Commission) recommended the Twp. get a legal easement before we make any improvements.

NEW BUSINESS:

Township Attorney – Our attorney, Gerard Brabant, retired May 31. He recommended we retain his partners to represent us.

Booth/Mundt to appoint Kristi McGregor as Township Attorney. McGregor requested to abstain from the vote. Ayes – 4, Nays – None, McGregor – Abstain. Motion carried.

L-4029 Tax Rate Request reviewed.

Booth/Mitchell to approve proposed millage for 2017 at .8720 for general fund, 1.000 for fire fund. All ayes. Motion carried.

Luzerne Fire Dept. Policies - Both Chief Roddy and Asst. Chief Shepard reviewed new policies as revised from Tri-Town policies and have no objections

Booth/McGregor to adopt new Luzerne Fire Dept. Policies as presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

There are new CPAs in the local area. One Board member suggested we take bids from them on doing our annual audit. After brief discussion, the consensus of the Board was to continue having Jim Anderson do the audit.

MAIL:

Par Plan Board of Directors Ballot –

McGregor/Mitchell – to vote for Joann Donaldson for Par Plan Bd. Of Directors as she's a Township official. 4 ayes, 1 nay. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Commissioner Kischnick – Discussed training on Robert's Rules of Orders. The trainer focused on rules for small boards. Open Meetings Act – for a closed session, the employee or potential employee needs to request the closed session. Good attendance at the session.

Health Dept. warned re: mosquitos because of Zika and West Nile viruses are in Michigan.

Fire Chief Roddy – invited everyone to Luzerne July 1st for Independence Day festivities.

Fireworks at Legion hall this year.

Booth/McGregor – to authorize Luzerne Independence Day festivities to use twp. property. All ayes. Motion carried.

BOARD COMMENT:

McGregor – Whiffle ball contest on July 1 & 2, proceeds to benefit the Luzerne Legion to be used for veterans.

Kids Fishing June 10 on the pond.

July 29 – event on pond (from County Park) for 15-person canoes.

Boyer junk complaint taken to court; the Township won a judgement but nothing has been done to clean it up so far (Shepard St.). Also, the old Church building in town not under building permit any more. The owner was given 30 days to tear it down. The gable end on the East wall came down over the weekend.

Meeting adjourned 8:18 pm.

Rhonda Mundt
Township Clerk