



CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF BEDFORD

115 S. Uldriks Drive, Battle Creek, MI 49037

December 9, 2021 - 7:00 PM

TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. MOMENT OF REFLECTION

4. ROLL CALL

William Scutt, Supervisor; Joyce Feraco, Clerk; Erica Miller, Treasurer; Barry Beamish, Trustee; Kraig Dingman, Trustee; Mark Hires, Trustee; Joni Jones, Trustee.- all present.

5. APPROVAL OF THE DECEMBER 9, 2021 AGENDA

Moved by Trustee Dingman, supported by Trustee Jones and resolved by the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Bedford to approve the December 9, 2021 agenda, as submitted.

ROLL CALL

7 – Yes – Scutt, Feraco, Miller, Beamish, Dingman, Hires, Jones

0 – No

Motion carried.

6. APPROVAL OF THE NOVEMBER 16, 2021 MINUTES

Moved by Trustee Beamish, supported by Trustee Hires and resolved by the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Bedford to approve the November 16, 2021 minutes as submitted.

ROLL CALL

7 – Yes – Scutt, Feraco, Miller, Beamish, Dingman, Hires, Jones

0 – No

Motion carried.

7. APPROVAL OF THE DECEMBER 6, 2021 MINUTES

Moved by Dingman supported by Treasurer Miller and resolved by the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Bedford to approve the December 6, 2021 minutes as amended.

ROLL CALL

7 – Yes – Scutt, Feraco, Miller, Beamish, Dingman, Hires, Jones

0 – No

Motion carried.

8. SUPERVISOR'S ADDRESS

The fire department fought a very large fire last week and Supervisor Scutt noted the hard work
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and time involved.

Supervisor Scutt mentioned the victims of the Oxford Michigan school tragedy

The sewer system would be beneficial to our economic future growth therefore the Board and the Supervisor are working on implementing sewer in our area.

Kara Dougherty has been appointed deputy for the Supervisor.

Our public Santa event went well with many donations.

Positions for boards and employment have been posted, with not much response.

Supervisor Scutt stated that he will have someone video recording the meetings in the near future.

OPEN PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE 2022 BUDGET

Meeting opened at 7:08pm

The budget is in the amount of \$2,979,702. The Public Hearing was advertised in the Battle Creek Shopper.

9. PUBLIC COMMENT ON BUDGET ONLY

A resident inquired about budget amounts for the proposed 2022 budget. Building Inspector Trustee Hires qualified the budget as revenue neutral and explained the fluctuating amounts.

CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE 2022 BUDGET

Hearing closed at 7:11pm

10. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

11. COMMUNICATIONS – ATTACHED DOCUMENTS

- Draft November 16, 2021 minutes
- November Check Register
- November Budget Report
- November Check Disbursement Report
- BCPD activity reports
- Bedford Fire Department activity reports

12. REPORTS

A. FINANCE

RES. 12/9/21/75

Moved by Trustee Dingman, supported by Treasurer Miller and resolved by the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Bedford to approve payment of expenses totaling \$204,781.67

ROLL CALL

7 – Yes – Scutt, Feraco, Miller, Beamish, Dingman, Hires, Jones

0 – No

Motion carried.

B. PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY

POLICE: Battle Creek Police Officer LaValley- stated that breaking and entering cases have decreased and fraud complaints increased. She warned citizens to not give out any personal information.

FIRE: Chief Cochensparger- spoke of the large fire from last week. The firefighters worked diligently. He added that this year has been a record year for fire-rescue calls coming in year to date with 1023 runs. Chief provided the historical events of the Charter Township of Bedford fire department as to how it was formed and developed over the

years.

C. BUILDING AND GROUNDS – Supervisor Scutt- discussed solar panels and investigating that as an option.

D. BUILDING OFFICIAL – Trustee Hires related that the building department is closing things out. This has been a record year for his department as well.

E. BLIGHT OFFICER – Supervisor Scutt- recounted that he closed 6 blight complaints.

F. CHAIRMAN OF PLANNING COMMISSION –Trustee Beamish notes that the Planning Commission will not be having any meeting until the beginning of 2022. The chair is doing a fantastic job in her role and is to be commended.

G. LEGISLATIVE AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

13. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

14. PETITIONS AND NEW BUSINESS

RES. 12/9/21/76

Moved by Trustee Hires, supported by Treasurer Beamish and resolved by the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Bedford:

Whereas, the Township Board adopted a budget for the township in accordance with the provision of The Charter Township Act pertinent thereto covering the calendar year;

Whereas, as a result of changes in the anticipated revenues and unanticipated expenditures, it appears in the best interest of the Government of the Township to modify the aforesaid budget to consider the allocations and reallocation of department funds of the unencumbered surplus funds while still maintaining a balanced budget between total revenues and anticipated expenditures, and now, therefore, in accordance with Section 28 of The Charter Township Act, it is hereby resolved that the previously mentioned budget be hereby modified as follows:

2021 BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS		
	INCREASE	DECREASE
Building Department	\$17,600	
Mechanical Inspector	\$5,000	
Building Inspector	\$3,300	
Electrical Inspector	\$6,500	
Plumbing Inspector	\$2,500	
Fund Balance		\$34,900
TOTALS	\$ 34,900.00	\$34,900.00

Discussion ensued

ROLL CALL

7 – Yes – Scutt, Feraco, Miller, Beamish, Dingman, Hires, Jones

0 – No

Motion carried.

RES. 12/9/21/77

Moved by Trustee Dingman, supported by Treasurer Miller and resolved by the Board of Trustees of The Charter Township of Bedford:

Whereas, each township office has heretofore submitted to the Supervisor an itemized estimate of anticipated expenditures for the township activities under his charge for the next calendar year of the township, and

Whereas, on the basis of the foregoing, the receiving officer has prepared a complete itemized budget proposal and has submitted the same to the Township Board, and

Whereas, a Public Hearing has been held by the Township Board on said proposed budget preceded by the less than one-week published notice as required by section 26 of the Charter Township Act, and

Whereas, all persons present at said Public Hearing were afforded an opportunity to be heard on said proposed budget, and

Whereas, such proposed budget, as modified, in the opinion of the Township Board, is in the best interest of the Government of the Township and is reasonable and proper.

Now, therefore, be it hereby resolved, that said budget is inclusive with each department for the 2022 budget year and has been modified for the next calendar year of the Township. It is hereby adopted to govern the expenditure of the township funds during said period except to the extent of any subsequent board resolution. This budget may be subsequently allocated or reallocated in the best interest of Township Government.

Be it further resolved, that the township levy millage tax for General Operation upon the taxable real and personal property within the township upon the current tax roll for collection by the Township Treasurer in the current December tax statement for the purpose of raising the necessary supplemental funds to meet the expenditures itemized in the aforesaid budget, be it further resolved, that no money shall be drawn from the treasury of the township and no obligation for the expenditure of money shall be incurred except pursuant to the budget or amended budget for a particular department, general function project, or principal activity, which limitation shall not, however, prevent the redistribution and reallocation of funds within a particular department, general function, project or principal activity without the amendment of the budget. The 2022 Budget is in the amount of \$2,979,702.00 which includes: General Fund - \$2,381,846.00, Fire Capital - \$202,563.00 and Fire Operating - \$395,293.00

Discussion ensued.

ROLL CALL

7 – Yes – Scutt, Feraco, Miller, Beamish, Dingman, Hires, Jones

0 – No

Motion carried.

RES. 12/9/21/78

Moved by Treasurer Miller, supported by Trustee Beamish and resolved by the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Bedford to endorse the application of NP Bedford Hills LLC, to operate, maintain, and administer responsibilities for drinking water supply, under state permit.

Discussion ensued.

VOICE VOTE

Unanimous

RES. 12/9/21/79

Moved by Treasurer Miller, supported by Trustee Dingman and resolved by the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Bedford to approve 2022 Township Board Meeting dates.

Discussion ensued

ROLL CALL

7 – Yes – Scutt, Feraco, Miller, Beamish, Dingman, Hires, Jones

0 – No

Motion carried.

15. PUBLIC COMMENT

One resident spoke of sewer and water and the allure that would have to future commercial business to our township.

16. TRUSTEES' PERSONAL PRIVILEGE

Trustee Hires important to commit to public sewer and water. It is important for us to correct past problems. happy to working with the new law firm.

Trustee Jones spoke of this being an ideal time to investigate water and sewer due to potential pfas in some area nearby. She touched on new funds, ARPA funds, grants for sewer and water. She is pleased with the stance that Bedford is taking for growth.

Trustee Beamish also agreed that infrastructure is needed to achieve growth in our township.

Trustee Dingman offered Happy Holidays to everyone.

17. ANNOUNCEMENT BY CHAIR, CHAIRPERSON OR ELECTED OFFICIAL

Treasurer Miller talked about the large amount of tax payments that have rolled in already. She inquired about placing welcome to Bedford signs on the North, South, East and West boundaries of the township.

Clerk Feraco recapped that the Santa Christmas party went well. There was a great turn out and everyone had fun. She also spoke of a recent visit to tour a lift station. The lift stations are getting old and extremely costly to replace and maintain. Those costs will be future expense to our township.

Supervisor Scutt wished everyone Merry Christmas.

18. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:58pm