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# CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF BEDFORD

115 S. Uldriks Drive, Battle Creek, MI 49037

December 14, 2017 – 7:00 pm

## MINUTES

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### **1. CALL TO ORDER**

Supervisor Heikkila called the regularly scheduled Board meeting to order at 7:00pm.

### **2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The audience and Board members recited the Pledge of Allegiance. A prayer was said.

### **3. ROLL CALL**

Adam Heikkila, Supervisor; Joyce Feraco, Clerk; Chrisandra Dezotell, Treasurer; Joseph Cipic, Trustee; Connie Gibson, Trustee; Randolph Johnson, Trustee; Sally Shaw, Trustee.

### **4. APPROVAL OF THE NOVEMBER 9, 2017 MINUTES**

Moved by Supervisor Heikkila, supported by Trustee Johnson and resolved by the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Bedford to approve the November 9, 2017 minutes, as submitted.

**ROLL CALL:** Gibson-yes; Johnson –yes, Heikkila-yes; Feraco –yes; Dezotell-yes; Cipic-yes; Shaw-yes; 7 yes, 0 no; Motion carried.

### **5. SUPERVISOR'S ADDRESS**

Supervisor Heikkila thanked everyone for their support of the Santa and his Reindeer event, turnout was in excess of 1,000 people. He is hoping that by doing things differently it will change attitudes and spur resident involvement. He thanked the Board for working together.

### **6. SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS**

Presentation by Jeff Wingard and John Scott of Fleis & Vandenbrink, in regard to the proposed preparation of a Park & Recreation 5-Year Master Plan. A brief outline of the process was explained. They were available for questions. Money was allocated during the budget process in anticipation of developing the 5- year plan.

### **RES.12/14/17/62**

Moved by Supervisor Heikkila, supported by Trustee Gibson and resolved by the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Bedford to approve the Professional Services of Fleis & Vandenbrink for preparation of a Park & Recreation 5-Year Master Plan, at a cost of \$7,700.00.

**ROLL CALL:** Heikkila-yes; Feraco –yes; Dezotell-yes; Cipic-yes; Shaw-yes; Gibson-yes; Johnson –yes; 7 yes, 0 no; Motion carried.

### **7. COMMUNICATIONS - ATTACHED DOCUMENTS**

- \* Draft November 9, 2017 Minutes
- \*Check Register
- \*Board Meeting Schedule
- \*Urban Livestock Ordinance - Draft
- \*Fleis & Vandenbrink Proposal - for preparation of a Park & Recreation 5-Year Master Plan

**8. REPORTS**

**{A) FINANCE**

**RES.12/14/17/63**

Moved by Supervisor Heikkila, supported by Trustee Shaw and resolved by the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Bedford to approve payment of expenses totaling \$46,557.48.

**ROLL CALL:** Feraco –yes; Dezotell-yes; Cipcic-yes; Shaw-yes; Gibson-yes; Johnson –yes; Heikkila-yes; 7 yes, 0 no; Motion carried.

**RES.12/14/17/64**

Moved by Supervisor Heikkila, supported by Treasurer Dezotell 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:

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**2017 DEPARTMENT BUDGET EXPENDITURES**

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**THE FOLLOWING DEPARTMENTS WILL:**

	<u>INCREASE</u>	<u>DECREASE</u>
Admin Fund	250.00	
Planning Commission	1,000.00	
Building Department	2,000.00	
Building Inspector	1,500.00	
Plumbing Inspector	600.00	
Fire Department	\$ 10,000.00	
Township Board		\$15,350.00
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$ 15,350.00</b>	<b>\$15,350.00</b>

**ROLL CALL:** Dezotell-yes; Cipic-yes; Shaw-yes; Gibson-yes; Johnson –yes; Heikkila-yes; Feraco –yes; 7 yes, 0 no; Motion carried.

**(B) PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY**

**POLICE:** Sgt Hug and Officer Kidney from BCPD talked about mailbox theft as something new going on. They were available to answer questions from the community and board.

**FIRE:** Chief Cochensparger commented that people would be using their wood burners, fireplaces and other heat devices, safety should be a priority. Be careful when driving, road conditions are constantly changing.

Captain Matt Godde, displayed the breathing apparatus and tanks and talked about the opportunity to purchase them, at a discount. He also showed and talked about the functions of the AED machines recently obtained through a grant. Chief Cochensparger and Supervisor Heikkila will meet to discuss the details.

**(C) BUILDING AND GROUNDS**

**(D) BUILDING OFFICIAL**

Mark Hires reported on the number permits issued this year, which is up slightly from previous years. There have been six new homes started this year.

**(E) LEGISLATIVE AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS**

**9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**RES.12/14/17/65**

Moved by Supervisor Heikkila, supported by Trustee Cipic and resolved by the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Bedford to approve the bid from Control Electric, Inc. for \$53,200.00 to install generators at Station 2 and Station 3.

**ROLL CALL:** Cipic-yes; Shaw-yes; Gibson-yes; Johnson –yes; Heikkila-yes; Feraco –yes; Dezotell-yes; 7 yes, 0 no; Motion carried.

**10. PETITIONS AND NEW BUSINESS**

The intent was to read in the Urban Livestock Ordinance to allow for urban livestock, in other than agricultural zones; to include rabbits, miniature goats, bees and chickens, to be voted on next month. Heated discussion followed which resulted in a resolution by Supervisor Heikkila to send the ordinance back to the planning commission; for changes and amendments that he felt necessary.

**RES.12/14/17/68**

Moved by Supervisor Heikkila, supported by Trustee Cipic and resolved to move the Urban Livestock Ordinance back to the Planning Commission for possible changes and amendments.

**ROLL CALL:** Shaw-no; Gibson-yes; Johnson -yes; Heikkila-yes; Feraco -yes; Dezotell-yes; Cipic-no; 5 yes, 2 no; Motion carried.

**RES.12/14/17/66**

Moved by Supervisor Heikkila, supported by Treasurer Dezotell and resolved by the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Bedford to adopt the 2018 Regular Board Meeting Schedule. Board meetings are the second Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m. The meeting dates are:

January 11	May 10	September 13
February 8	June 14	October 11
March 8	July 12	November 8
April 12	August 9	December 13

**ROLL CALL:** Gibson-yes; Johnson -yes; Heikkila-yes; Feraco -yes; Dezotell-yes; Cipic-yes; Shaw-yes; 7 yes, 0 no; Motion carried.

**RES.12/14/17/67**

Moved by Supervisor Heikkila, supported by Trustee Cipic and resolved by the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Bedford to appoint members to the Planning Commission:

**Planning Commission Members:**

Resolution to appoint members to the Planning Commission:

Justin Shotts	1/1/2018-12/31/2020	3 year term
Stacey Greenwood	1/1/2018-12/31/2020	3 year term

Supervisor Heikkila introduced Mr. Shotts and Ms. Greenwood to the audience and shared some of their experience on other boards. Confusion followed regarding why the two existing members of the Planning Commission were not being reappointed. Audience concerns addressed the same issue. Several minutes of heated discussion followed.

**ROLL CALL:** Johnson -no; Heikkila-yes; Feraco- no; Dezotell- no; Cipic- no; Shaw- no; Gibson- no; 1 yes, 6 no; Motion failed.

**11. TRUSTEES PERSONAL PRIVILEGE**

Trustee Rande Johnson remarked that he wanted to be available to the residents and was going to stay after the meeting to visit with anyone that felt inclined to do so.

Trustee Gibson expressed his desire to work with everyone and also defended Mark Hires, Planning Commission Chair.

## **12. CITIZENS TIME**

Several citizens spoke up regarding the planning commission process and the lack of follow through with blight related complaints. Multiple residents have stated they are dis-satisfied with the leadership style and the way that board meetings are handled. A suggestion was made to seek guidance from the state on proper procedures for board meetings. Residents want open discussion on topics of interest, not just comments.

## **13. ANNOUNCEMENT BY CHAIR, CHAIRPERSON OR ELECTED OFFICIAL**

Treasurer Dezotell and Clerk Feraco agreed that they would like to hear more from the people and their opinions of items on the agenda.

Supervisor Heikkila invited all to attend the 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Pennfield Alumni Basketball Tournament on December 26, 2017 at Pennfield High School.

## **14. ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Supervisor Heikkila, supported by Trustee Shaw

Voice vote by all members to adjourn the board meeting 9:10 p.m.

Next Board meeting is January 11, 2018 at 7:00pm.

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ADAM HEIKKILA, SUPERVISOR

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JOYCE FERACO, CLERK