

BARODA TOWNSHIP
Board Meeting Minutes
February 19th, 2024

The Baroda Township Board met on Monday, February 19th, 2024 at 9091 First St in the Municipal Buildings meeting room, Baroda. Present were Board Members Dennis Krotzer, Christina Price, William Hurst, and David Wolf. Larry Klug was joined by phone and was not a voting member. There were 5 audience members. The meeting was opened at 7:00pm with a recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Library Report

- Joelle Wake the Library Director gave the Library Report for January 2024. Collections/Circulation for January 2024 for Baroda was 768, based off of a population of 2,835. LTPL was awarded a \$81,000 grant from the State Court Administrative Office to become a Legal Self-Help Center. Friends of the Library gave \$8,700 for summer reading and they approved the purchase of a new kitchen playset for Rosetta House. Upcoming Program Spotlights were also reported.
- Cindy Casper Library Services Manager was present to report the Easter Egg Hunt at Baroda Townships' Hess Lake Park on March 24th at 2:00pm. She reported that they have 5,000 eggs and plan to do an activity around the walking path with chalk. Baroda Fire Department will drive the Easter Bunny in and Sparky will also be attending this event. Honor Credit Union will have a photo booth there with three volunteers. Dennis Krotzer made a motion to give \$500.00 to Lincoln Township Library to purchase more items for this event, seconded by William Hurst. By Roll Call Vote – Voting Yes; William Hurst, David Wolf, Dennis Krotzer, and Christina Price. Voting No, None. Motion Carried
- Cindy Casper reported that Southwest Conservation District would like to hold a class at Hess Lake Park to explore invasive species. This is a free class and participants will bring their own kayaks and sign a waiver. The Board did not have an issue with this.

Police Report- Dennis Krotzer read the Police Report from Chief Shawn Martin with a total of 319 calls for January 2024. Lake Twp. had 209, Baroda Twp. 66, Baroda Village 28 and 16 outside our jurisdiction. He also mentioned that he spoke with Chief Martin about have additional police coverage for Elections in 2024.

Fire Department Report

- Fire Chief Chris Burch gave the Fire Department report. He reported total incidents for the month of January 2024 were 5 and year to date was 5. He reported the total hours of training for January were 127.75 hours. Total Burn Permits 8. Other items discussed: Accomplished Department, New Goals, Department needs, Smoke Alarm Install Program. He also mentioned that he would like to have all the Fire Fighters taken Oath of Office by April 1st, 2024.
- After reviewing the Departments Needs List David Wolf made a motion to approve spending no more than \$2000.00 on Utility Sink, Foam Cannon, Radio Straps, No parking Fire Station Sign, Emergency push button, shirts and hats for department members, supported by Dennis Krotzer. By Roll Call Vote – Voting Yes; William Hurst, David Wolf, Dennis Krotzer, and Christina Price. Voting No, None. Motion Carried
- Dennis Krotzer presented the AMS Displays contract and mentioned he added \$200 for the Village permit fee so the total will be \$25,200.00. The Board agreed to move forward and sign the contract that was already approved.
- Christina Price presented a flyer for the Fire Works and reported that Honor Credit union is now having the community file on their website for donations. This was a draft copy of the flyer and she would also like to have banners made. Assistant Chief Donnie Johnson plans to look into the banners. She also mentioned about charging for parking to help raise money for the event. Dennis Krotzer will run the idea by the school.
- Christina Price asked to be on the Active 911, the Board members agreed.
- Christian Price also mentioned that she would like to look for an ID maker for the Fire Department, Elected Officials and Building Department. She mentioned the bill could be split between all three funds. The Township Board agreed.

Medic One – Dennis Krotzer reported that Medic One is working on raising Cost per resident rates up to \$10 for the Municipalities that are below that rate.

Assessors Report- None

Treasurers Report

William Hurst presented the Treasurers report as of January 2024, Baroda Township Funds had cash balances as follows: All funds and CDs are with Honor Credit Union:

General Fund =	Cash Balance, \$312,722.97	CD Balance, \$252,526.95
Library Fund =	Cash Balance, \$3958.38	CD Balance, \$50.45
Road Fund =	Cash Balance, \$7970.06	CD Balance, \$45,454.86
Baroda Police Fund =	Cash Balance, \$11,848.31	CD Balance, \$15,533.22
Fire Maintenance Fund =	Cash Balance, \$12,221.66	CD Balance, \$141,415.11
Fire Equipment Fund =	Cash Balance, \$20,947.59	CD Balance, \$65,738.86
Rubbish Fund =	Cash Balance, \$9,930.17	CD Balance, \$80,962.46
Ambulance Fund =	Cash Balance, \$3,209.35	CD Balance, \$27,293.74
Building Fund =	Cash Balance, \$11,295.27	CD Balance, \$50,562.78
Water Fund =	Cash Balance, \$8,070.54	CD Balance, \$136,364.59
Tax Fund =	Cash Balance, \$174,372.53	CD Balance, \$687,939.33

– David Wolf made a motion to approve the Treasurers report as presented, supported by Dennis Krotzer. Vote. All Yes. Motion Carried.

Ordinance Officer Report

No Report

Clerks Report

*Christina Price presented an itemized credit card report with copies of all receipts that will be stated in the bills report.

* **Christina Price presented the Bills Report.** After discussion Dennis Krotzer moved to approve the bills report, seconded by David Wolf. By Roll Call Vote – Voting Yes; William Hurst, David Wolf, Dennis Krotzer, and Christina Price. Voting No, None. Motion Carried

***Hess Lake Park Farm Field** – Dennis Krotzer presented the contract for the farm field and talked about updating it. David Wolf mentioned that he would scan it and send it to Christina Price. They also discussed to leave it at 15 acres because of the trees on the property.

* **Budget Amendments-** Postponed until March meeting.

***Final Budget Agreement** – After reviewing the budget the Board was in agreement to move forward with the public hearing for March 25th, 2024.

***Planning Commission-** Christina Price made a motion to reappoint Tom Shafer and Tom Lippert to the Planning Commission Board, seconded by David Wolf. Vote All-Yes. Motion Carried.

***Election Inspector pay for February 27th, 2024 Primary** – Christina Price reported that the nine days of Early Voting is under way and that her turn for Site Supervisor is this Friday all day and then she will be doing her eight hours on Saturday for the Election on February 27th, 2024. She also reported that the refund from the state for the May and August elections should take place by the end of March 2024.

***Clerk Training-** Christina Price mentioned that she would like to Conference on Demand for the MTA Education Conference since she will have to be in office because of Election Deadlines. It was agreed to let her do that by the Board. She also mentioned that she would like to attend the MAMC Conference for the first two days that costs \$250, plus hotel and mileage. Dennis Krotzer made a motion for her to spend up \$2000.00 on Training, supported by William Hurst. By Roll Call Vote – Voting Yes; William Hurst, David Wolf, Dennis Krotzer, and Christina Price. Christina Price reported that she would like to attend the Cemetery Conference in August and renew the membership. After further discussion Dennis Krotzer made a motion to approve that Michael Price the Sexton and herself to attend this training and renew the membership, supported by William Hurst. By Roll Call Vote – Voting Yes; William Hurst, David Wolf, Dennis Krotzer, and Christina Price. Voting No, None. Motion Carried

Maintenance Report

It was reported that someone applied for the Maintenance department. This candidate would like a couple of days of work and would be willing to learn burials. It was mentioned to ask our current employees as there is concern about not having enough hours for everyone.

Unfinished Business –

Hess Lake Park 17acre Field Next Steps – Postponed

Broadband Update – No Report

Lake Township Sewer Contract – Postponed

Cleveland Road Property- It was reported that we are waiting on the County to create parcel numbers.

Republic Service – Dennis Krotzer and David Wolf met with the company. The price is substantially more.

Old Pavilion Window Door Quote – After further discussion David Wolf made a motion to purchase the roll-up window for the old pavilion as quoted, supported by Dennis Krotzer. By Roll Call Vote – Voting Yes; William Hurst, David Wolf, Dennis Krotzer, and Christina Price. Voting No, None. Motion Carried

Berrien County Oblique Aerial Imagery Proposal – Ask the Zoning Administrator his opinion.

Dates to discuss project – After further discussion it was decided to meet on March 28th, 2024.

New Business –

Hungerford Audit Contract – After further discussion David Wolf made a motion to approve the contract depending on there not being a three-year contract, supported by Dennis Krotzer. By Roll Call Vote – Voting Yes; William Hurst, David Wolf, Dennis Krotzer, and Christina Price. Voting No, None. Motion Carried

Drain Maintenance Notices – The Notices were reviewed by the Board Members.

Millage Renewals – Christina Price and Dennis Krotzer reported that the Ambulance, Fire Maintenance, Library, Road and General Fund Millages are up for renewal. There is discussion about doing a .50mil increase since inflation has gone up and the Cemetery and Park need improvements. Christina Price reported that the language has been submitted to the attorney and she will send the due dates to the Board this week. William Hurst expressed his concern for the .50 Millage proposal discussed and mentioned there ~~There~~ will also be discussion of this at the March 28th, 2024 meeting.

Southwest Michigan Planning Commission – Dennis Krotzer reported that Zach Aldrich sent notice out about a call for projects. He mentioned that Christina Price has submitted the Cemetery project already and the he plans to submit the park project.

Minutes-

After further discussion Dennis Krotzer made a motion to approve 1/15/2024 minutes, seconded by ~~Willia~~ William Hurst. Vote. All yes-Motion Carried.

Supervisors Comments – None

Audience Comments –None

Dennis Krotzer made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:48pm, supported by David Wolf, Vote- All Yes. Motion Carried.

Christina Price,
Baroda Township Clerk