

BARODA TOWNSHIP
Special Meeting Minutes
April 9th, 2025
Draft Minutes

The Baroda Township Board met on Wednesday April 9th, 2025 at 9091 First St in the Municipal Buildings meeting room, Baroda. The purpose of this meeting was to discuss the Fire Station and Municipal Building Project and the appraisal. Present were Board Members Dennis Krotzer, Christina Price, William Hurst, Larry Klug and David Wolf. There were 30 audience members. The meeting was opened at 6:00pm with a recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Appraisal for Municipal Building and Fire Station – Dennis Krotzer talked about the appraisal for both the Municipal Building and Fire Station. The Municipal Building appraised at \$356,000.00 and the Fire Station appraised at \$315,000.00. Dennis explained that both buildings have newer roofs and the Fire Station has many improvements and not enough space. Both buildings are in decent condition and that the consolidation would be an efficient way to save money and only have maintenance on one building.

Discussion On New Fire Station and Municipal Building – William Hurst talked about what are the next steps for the Township Board. Does the Township Board move forward with a joint Fire Station and Municipal Building or does the Fire Station stand alone. Support for a new Fire Station was expressed by Board Members and audience members. Some Board Members mentioned it depends on the cost for adding the Municipal Building. There are concerns about the language for the Millage Proposal, that it could possibly not pass, if it was a joint building. There is question on how many mils are needed for this project and what would the interest rate be. It was asked how many parcels pay taxes in the Village and Township. David Wolf presented a numbers sheet on the square footage for the addition to the Fire Station for the Municipal Building of about 2,330sf for the offices needed for the Township and Village. The current design of the Fire Station is 12,161SF. There was discussion if a Fire Suppression System would be needed. There was discussion about scaling back on the original Fire Station design to save money. Christina Price mentioned that there is a meeting with Pearson's in the next week to discuss metal framed buildings and the cost of pre-design work that she and Dennis Krotzer will attend. Brad Mattner raised the concerns about the Eagle Wetland 303, this is something that will be looked into.

Kelly Clark brought up the Clerks hours for both Township and Village clerk. She also mentioned the Township wanting to Dissolve the Village. Some Board members indicated they are not part of that discussion. Christina Price mentioned that to dissolve the Village it has to be petitioned with about 123 signatures from a Village resident and then goes to the ballot to be voted on by Village Residents. Christina Price stated it does not make sense to have two local governments operating half of a Township. Currently the Village collects 9.616mil and the Township collects 8.384Mils, this could save the Village Residents on local taxes if the Village were to dissolve.

William Hurst talked about his concerns of joining the Municipal Building and Fire Station. He has concerns about how it would benefit and why it is needed. He is also concerned about leaving emptied buildings in the Village.

Larry Klug mentioned his concern for the not joining the buildings in case the Millage would not pass.

The Fire Chief, Chris Burch mentioned he has no problem with a joint building as long they are separated and the public cannot access the Fire Station building. Chief Burch also indicated he believed the Fire Station meeting room could be successfully shared with the Township and Village in one combined building. The Fire Chief also came up with having a group of people gather and go look at other Fire Stations in the area and get the details and costs. They will come up with a question sheet and take pictures and present this at a future meeting. The group will be himself, Tom Giudice, Katie Zordel, and William Hurst.

There was also discussion on bringing the Municipal Building up to code and what that would cost, this would be a question for Wightman.

David Wolf made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:30pm, supported by Larry Klug, Vote- All Yes. Motion Carried.

Christina Price,
Baroda Township Clerk