

**BURT TOWNSHIP
BOARD MINUTES
March 4, 2021**

The regular meeting of the Burt Township Board was called to order by Supervisor Harold Koviak on March 4, 2021 at 1:55 pm via teleconference 1-866-678-6823 code 7861936#.

PRESENT: Harold Koviak, Shirley Reimann, Katie Parker, Gene Hodulik, Christy Kozlowski
Absent: None

Also Attending via phone: Fred Lindroth, Jim Larson, Mike English (Topinabee Fire Chief)

AGENDA - Koviak

MOTION: Moved by Hodulik, supported by Kozlowski to approve the Agenda

MOTION APPROVED

PUBLIC COMMENT – N/A

CONSENT AGENDA – Minutes of February 4, 2021 and Payment of the Bills

MOTION: Moved by Parker, supported by Hodulik to approve payment of bills and the minutes of the February 4th meeting.

MOTION APPROVED

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Fire Agreement with Mullett Township - Koviak

- Koviak had conversation with Laz Surabian (Mullett Supervisor) about the fire agreement expiring March 2021, the discussion did not go well. Mullett Township is still looking for 1 ½ mill from Burt Township to provide fire services. The new Mullett Board is not interested in a fire board or having Burt Township be a part of it and stated they will build the new fire hall on their own.
 - If there is a EMS/fire call after that date, they will still respond
 - Koviak suggesting 1) A trustee and Koviak meet with them in person or 2) Board decides what we want to do and have Tim McArthur (lawyer) compose and send a letter.
 - Hodulik: Supports an in-person meeting and based on the outcome the Board would decide what to present to them as an alternative. The 1 ½ mill *for the entire township* could equate to approximately \$200,000 (we currently pay *Mullet Township \$30,100*) and would require taxpayers to vote for a large increase which is unlikely. Could we come up with a flat amount, not based on a millage, but possibly based on EMS/fire runs, or a combination of a flat fee and fee per run? Also, given the percentage differences between the East and West side – how do we make it more equitable?
 - Koviak asked Mike English if they have an average cost of an ambulance run versus a fire run but he does not. English was not sure what the fee structure would look like as each run is different
 - Koviak to set up a meeting with Mullett to discuss the fire agreement
- Mike English put a letter out to both Koviak and Surabian regarding Francine Lane incident
 - The Burt Township Board has no problem with Topinabee handling calls from this road

Township Hall Remodel - Hodulik

- Hall entrance is done. Brian Coffell will come back in the spring to make sure everything is cleaned up sufficiently.
- Original quote: \$48,098 – but with small additions (no fault to Brian), architectural prints (\$500), installing commercial door for MDA (fire rail and fire push-out door - \$2,600). Total bill is = \$51,197.83. Koviak to give bill to Kozlowski for payment
- Message board is not up and is too large – Koviak to check it out

NEW BUSINESS

1. Topinabee Fire Chief - Mike English

- Update on 2020 run report supplied in January
 - 118 total runs, down 50 runs from 2019 total, Burt Township was only down by 10 runs
 - 60 fire, 47 EMS runs, 8 car accidents, 5 ice/water rescue, 26 powerline/gas leak, 15 fire alarms
 - 40 runs in Burt, 69 in Mullet, and 9 outside both townships
 - Burt Township: 7 false alarms, 2 fire (1 kitchen, 1 tractor trailer on expressway), 17 EMS, 5 auto accidents, 3 ice/water rescue, 6 powerline/gas leak
- 2021 Update
 - Secured 2nd boat, Burt Lake will have a boat on a hoist tentatively planned to be at Chris Kindsvatter’s house, the other is on Mullet Lake near Mullett-Burt Road
 - Worked out a plan with Sheriff’s department and dive team, 4 of English’s personnel will be responding with the Sheriff’s department
 - Upgraded radio infrastructure to 800-megahertz system – radios being installed today

1. Francine Lane incident

- Pellston was paged 4 times and did not respond, as Topinabee was getting ready to respond Pellston asked them to stand down. A 24-minute delay was experienced and if a legitimate incident had taken place (this was a false fire alarm), it could have affected life safety and property conservation
- Would like to see Francine Lane added to their coverage, as the Board expressed that it makes sense

2. Assessor-Resolutions for Poverty Exemptions

Two resolutions that need to be passed for Board of Review on Monday:

- 1) Allow Extension of Poverty Exemption
- 2) Adopt Poverty Exemption Income Guidelines and Asset Test

Per Lindroth, both resolutions are required to be updated by Department of Treasury. Same resolutions as previously passed but with updated poverty levels. The township has other asset requirements in addition – those are already in place and will remain. New paperwork is required and Lindroth will supply those ahead of the Monday Board of Review meeting.

Per Koviak, we only have one resident that falls within the guidelines and applied for the poverty exemption.

MOTION: Moved by Parker, supported by Hodulik to pass the Resolution to Allow the Extension of the Poverty Exemption

MOTION APPROVED

Roll call: Reimann – yes, Parker – yes, Hodulik – yes, Kozlowski – yes, Koviak - yes

MOTION: Moved by Parker, supported by Kozlowski to pass the Resolution to Adopt Poverty Exemption Income Guidelines and Asset Test

MOTION APPROVED

Roll call: Reimann – yes, Parker – yes, Hodulik – yes, Kozlowski – yes, Koviak - yes

3. Budget Adjustments-Current Year

- Township hall remodel – need to increase town hall budget by \$45,000 (\$75,000 amended)
- Clerk supplies – over due to purchase of new computer, printer – move Deputy Clerk funds here
- Elections – move Contingency here
- Public Improvement – need to increase by \$17k
- Rest will come out of cash
- Per Kozlowski, Joe Kosanke said we don't need to move line items as long you don't have a negative ending fund balance. Kozlowski will amend the amounts and notate where adjustments are being made.

MOTION: Moved by Hodulik, supported by Parker to allow Kozlowski to amend the budget as discussed.

MOTION APPROVED

4. Approve Budget for 2021-2022

MOTION: Moved by Parker, supported by Hodulik to approve 2021-2022 (ending March 31, 2022).

MOTION APPROVED

Roll call: Reimann – yes, Hodulik – yes, Parker – yes, Kozlowski – yes, Koviak - yes

5. Road Projects for 2021

Per Koviak, at November 5, 2020 Board Meeting a motion was made to complete several road projects totaling \$113,700. Due to increased costs received by the Road Commission adjustments need to be made:

- Recommendation is that we abandon Indian Rd, Crump Rd, and Cedar Point projects (Cedar Point residents do not want tar and chip and have voiced that to Koviak)
- Proposing paving West Numbers @ \$91,200 (originally estimated at \$105,000)
- Proposing a single chip seal on Eagles Nest (\$56,400) and Numbers Rd (\$20,600) - \$77,000
- Cedar Point – estimates for 2" paving, single chip seal, and ¾ overlay and Koviak will supply to residents for a future project
- 'Roads Other' budget has \$100,000 allocated, \$77k will be used for Eagles Nest and rest will be used for brine, crushed rock on Mundt road, and other miscellaneous jobs
- New bid projects may have an increase due to cost of gas and diesel which makes the cost of asphalt to go up
- Corner store is being torn down so Crump Rd will get torn up from that and will be fixed. Koviak drove both Crump and Indian Rd are still in good shape

MOTION: Moved by Parker, supported by Kozlowski to rescind the motion made by Parker, supported by Kozlowski on November 5th to approve Chip and seal for Eagles Nest Rd, Indian Rd, Numbers Rd, Cedar Dr and Cedar Point Dr, Deerfield Ln, and Crump Rd.

MOTION APPROVED

Roll call: Reimann – yes, Hodulik – yes, Parker – yes, Kozlowski – yes, Koviak - yes

MOTION: Moved by Hodulik, supported by Parker to pave West Numbers Rd with 2” of asphalt, 24 inches wide, for \$91,200 which will come out of the Township Road Millage account

MOTION APPROVED

Roll call: Reimann – yes, Hodulik – yes, Parker – yes, Kozlowski – yes, Koviak - yes

MOTION: Moved by Hodulik, supported by Parker to single chip seal Eagles Nest and Numbers Rd for a total \$77,000 which will come out of the Roads other account

MOTION APPROVED

Roll call: Reimann – yes, Hodulik – yes, Parker – yes, Kozlowski – yes, Koviak - yes

REPORTS

Burt Lake Trail Committee – Hodulik

- Adding two new members from Mullet Township – Brett Lindgren and Mike Geoke. They will be replacing Dale Covy (Monroe Township) and Virginia Chenevere (Burt Township)
- Private easements have been completed. U of M easement for Phase III has been proofread by Hodulik and sent back to Kari Slavik at U of M. It will be printed and signed, with exhibits put into the documents and will be sent to Kozlowski. The documents must be signed by Kozlowski and Koviak, then taken to the Cheboygan County Register of Deeds to be recorded. One original needs to be sent back to U of M in March
- Paying back \$100k
- Topinabee Mail Rt in Mullett Township is scheduled to pave 2–3-inch blacktop on top existing road this summer but does not have anything to do with the trail

Planning Commission - Hodulik

- Public hearing on poll barns was tabled
- Internet still being discussed
- Discussion on rental properties – Hodulik following what Cheboygan is doing on this front

Zoning Board of Appeals – Koviak

- Appeals board meeting – 4 out of 5 were approved
 - Not approved: Festival Lane – homeowners may reduce original proposal
 - Approved:
 - New home on West Burt Lake Rd – Mark Archer and Suzann Noel
 - Replace a current cottage on Nippissing trail – Walter and Barbara Holdan
 - New home on Peace Trail – Clark Bay
 - Extension on deck on West Burt Lake Rd – John and Linda Roberts

Zoning Administrator's Report – Larson

- Busy as usual

Supervisor's Report – Koviak

- Koviak to work with Kozlowski on scrap tire grant
- MTA convention – sign up is recommended and is virtual and content will be available after the fact as a recording
- Meetings can resume in person with a 25-person limit

PUBLIC COMMENT – Hodulik congratulated Koviak on his election to Secretary of the MTA

Next meeting April 1, 2021 at 2:00 pm

MOTION: Moved by Parker, supported by Hodulik to adjourn.

MOTION APPROVED

Respectfully submitted,

Christy Kozlowski, Clerk