

**BIG CREEK TOWNSHIP
REGULAR MEETING
December 16, 2021
BIG CREEK TOWNSHIP HALL**

Call Regular Meeting to Order at 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Booth, Stone, Mundt, Avery, Coulon, Commissioners Bondar, McCauley, Blight
Officer Bundoff, Fire Chief Shepard, 9 electors

ABSENT: None

MINUTES – November 18, 2021

**Stone/Coulon to approve minutes of November 18, 2021 meeting as presented. All ayes.
Motion carried.**

LIST OF BILLS

Total \$24,191.67

Avery/Mundt to pay bills totaling \$24,191.67 as presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

TREASURER’S REPORT

Account Balances: General Fund - \$427,389.00; Cemetery Fund - \$51,349.53; Parks Fund - \$58,361.65; Road Fund - \$311,929.94; Luzerne Fire Fund - \$124,988.88; Fire Millage - \$138,919.43.

FIRE REPORT

Responded to vehicle accident.

This week there have been some necessity for fire dept. personnel to stand by at downed powerlines. Shepard will get the clerk information necessary to bill Consumers for time and equipment under Ordinance #19 – Responding to Dangerous Goods/Hazardous Material Emergency Incident.

**Stone/Booth to authorize purchase of approximately \$1800 of nozzles with Title III money.
All ayes. Motion carried.**

SUPERVISOR’S REPORT

Thompson Road engineering is complete, C2ae will send a bid for the next phase. The work will be completed by a contractor as the Road Commission is not involved.

Road Commission has no money for our roads for next year.

Jim Anderson, CPA – Interpretation of Marihuana licensing funds – We can’t use it for roads, we can charge for permitting agents, some of clerk’s and treasurer’s office, we can provide a vehicle for enforcement that can be used for other projects as well. We need to provide a spread sheet for the next audit showing how funds are being used. Right now we could buy a ¾ ton pickup for \$28000. Booth will have info on purchase of a truck for the next meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORT

MTA – Barger Creek & Allband representatives at meeting, looking for money from townships to assist with updating broadband.

Nothing to report from Utility Authority.

BLIGHT OFFICER REPORT

Still have 8 open tickets. 47 new complaints this year. Are going to hold off on any additional legal action until the ordinance comes back.

OLD BUSINESS:

Comstock Park pavilion roof update – Builder will do it in the spring.

River Park Pavilion repairs – K. Kirby and a helper did some updates on the pavilion, installed some baby swings.

Caregiver Ordinance - We can't be notified of caregiver licenses in our township (HIPPA) but we are to send a copy of the Caregiver Ordinance to LARA and they are to be inspected by MSP and should notify us if they're not in compliance with our ordinance.

Coulon/Booth to adopt the proposed Caregiver Ordinance # 2021-26. Roll Call Vote: Ayes – Avery, Coulon, Stone, Booth, Mundt. Nays – None.

Booth/Stone to approve Resolution #2021-11 to amend the annual fee schedule to include a \$50 fee for a caregiver license. Ayes – Avery, Coulon, Stone, Booth, Mundt. Nays – None Resolution Passed.

Blight Ordinance – No information back from attorney.

Snow Plow Contract for Special Assessment Roads Update – Paul Smith bid \$125 per plow for Cedar Lane, \$120 for Nancy St. That's the only bid received to date.

Booth/Avery to accept the bid of \$125 per plow for Cedar Lane, \$120 per plow for Nancy Street, from Paul Smith since we're so late into the year, and seek new bids next year. All ayes. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

Scott Lawrence RE: Radio Grant Application – McKinley communication is terrible so he's looking into a FEMA grant for 800 Mhz radios. Most of their communication is with USFS, and they are using 800 Mhz. The radios they currently have are obsolete. He'd like to cover all county fire depts. with this grant application.

Total grant application is for \$649,542.74. Grants don't cover installation of a tower, new software – total of \$4534.80 per the bid from Grand Traverse Mobile Communications, which will be split 4 ways. We will have to pay 5% of the total cost (based on county population) divided by 4 fire depts. Grant writer fee will be \$300 and the balance of her fee will go into the grant.

Grant cost includes boosters for the trucks to enhance the service.

License fee is \$750, renews every 10 years for \$2-300, cost to be split among departments.

New State law re: officers. Now all officers have to go thru Officer Certifications and all testing goes thru the State.

If a fireman is convicted of a felony, they can't take more classes. No one can join as a firefighter if they have been convicted of a felony. All firefighters must do FIT testing, SCBA, hose testing annually. If it isn't done, the state can fine the Department for not complying.

American Tower Communication – Received an offer of \$20000 to extend the lease to 2079. The annual fee includes \$10% increase every 5 years.

Road Commission signs – About \$332 for 4 Street name signs.

Stone/Coulon to approve Road Commission purchase of road signs. All ayes. Motion carried.

Speed limit signs for Luzerne – Luzerne Chamber willing to purchase the signs. Signs will provide a lot of data. Signs can be placed temporarily before MDOT requires a permit.

Stone/Coulon to support Luzerne Chamber's request to place speed signs. All ayes. Motion carried.

Budget Discussion – Board members to consider projects to be completed next year and be prepared to discuss them at the January meeting.

MAIL:

PUBLIC COMMENT:

New fees from Equalization Dept. – Several fees going up because they haven't been upgraded for several years. EMS fees will go up also.

BOARD COMMENT:

Meeting adjourned 8:40 p.m.

Rhonda Mundt
Twp. Clerk