

CALL TO ORDER

The regular January 2, 2014 meeting of the Buchanan Township Board of Trustees was called to order by Supervisor Jane Mitchell at 7:00 pm.

Members Present: Jane Mitchell, Supervisor; Cathy Ganus, Clerk; Janet Dehring, Treasurer; Lynn Ferris and Thomas VanAntwerp, Trustees.

Members Absent: None.

Others Present: Scott Schofield, Berrien County District Judge; six (6) township residents; no staff; and no members of the press.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The *Pledge of Allegiance* was led by Cathy Ganus.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the December 19, 2013 minutes was approved as presented.

ADDITIONS / CORRECTIONS TO AGENDA

None.

BRIEF PUBLIC COMMENT – AGENDA ITEMS

Berrien County District Court Judge Scott Schofield introduced himself and explained that he was running for Berrien County Circuit Court Judge in 2014.

SHERIFF'S REPORT – November, 2013

No representative from the Berrien County Sheriff's Department was present.

CORRESPONDENCE

Michigan Township's Association 2014 Board of Review Training – February 18, 2014

Motion by Mitchell, second by Ferris, to approve Board of Review member and Township Board member attendance to the Michigan Townships Association's 2014 Board of Review training to be held in Lawrence, MI, on February 18, 2014, from 12:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. at a cost of \$79 per person to include mileage. Roll call vote showed unanimous approval, motion carried (5-0).

TREASURER'S REPORT

Motion by Dehring, second by Ganus, to approve General Fund check # 8969 to and including check # 8989 totaling \$15,164.80 as well as Fire Fund check # 5442 to and including check # 5461 totaling \$6,645.11. Roll call vote showed unanimous approval, motion carried (5-0).

REPORTS

Fire Report - Tim Jesswein - on file

Motion by Ganus, second by Mitchell, to approve the purchase of four (4) GPS units at \$225 each as well as two (2) wireless back-up cameras at \$500 each for the Fire Department. Roll call vote showed unanimous approval, motion carried (5-0).

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

2014-2015 Berrien County Tax Agreement

Berrien County provides tax processing services for Buchanan Township. The new two-year agreement commencing January 1, 2014 and terminating December 31, 2015 reflects a rate of \$3,214 due by June 30, 2014 (no increase from last year) for 2014. The 2015 rate has been set at \$3,214 plus the BS&A increase from 2014 due by June 30, 2015; however, local units will not be advised of the rate increase until May, 2014. Ganus expressed displeasure with the increase not being known until five (5) months into the new agreement.

Motion by Mitchell, second by Ganus, to approve the Agreement between the Township of Buchanan and the Berrien County Board of Commissioners for the provision of tax processing services for Buchanan Township commencing January 1, 2014 and terminating December 31, 2015 as presented. Voice vote showed unanimous approval, motion carried (5-0).

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The annual Buchanan Township / Berrien County Road Commission meeting has been set for Tuesday, January 14, 2014 at 11:00 a.m.

CITIZEN COMMENTS - NON-AGENDA ITEMS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:16 p.m.

Cathy A. Ganus
Buchanan Township Clerk