

MEETING MINUTES
BOARD OF TRUSTEES - TOWN OF BENTON
LAKE COUNTY, ILLINOIS - REGULAR MEETING
Wednesday, November 13, 2024 6:30pm
Benton Township Office
40020 N. Greenbay Road, Beach Park, IL 60099

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Booth at 6:30pm.
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG:** Supervisor Booth led the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. **ROLL CALL: Present:** Trustees Jensen, Livingston, Stried, Keske and Supervisor Booth.
A quorum was present.
4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM OCTOBER 9, 2024:** It was motioned by Trustee Livingston and seconded by Trustee Jensen to approve the meeting minutes as presented.
All in favor. Motion passes.
5. **PUBLIC ADDRESSING THE BOARD:** There was none.
6. **SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS:** There was none.
7. **FINANCIAL REPORTS:** Income, Cash on Deposit Reports and Profit & Loss Statements as of November 13, 2024 were presented by Supervisor Booth.
8. **APPROVAL OF DISBURSEMENTS:**
 - a. It was motioned by Trustee Jensen and seconded by Trustee Stried to approve the disbursements from November 13, 2024 as presented. **5 AYES, 0 NAYS. Motion passes.**
9. **RESOLUTIONS:** None
10. **ASSESSOR'S REPORT:** Assessor Woodman the appeal hearings held on October 18, 2024 were largely successful.
11. **TOWN CLERK'S REPORT:** None
12. **TRUSTEE'S REPORT**

Jensen: None
Keske: None
Livingston: None
Stried: None
13. **SUPERVISOR'S REPORT:**

General Assistance/Emergency Assistance appointments - 9
General Assistance:

 - # of clients: 2
 - Shelter: \$800
 - Utilities: \$0
 - Gift Cards: \$0

Emergency Assistance

- # of clients: 3
 - Shelter: \$0
 - Utilities: \$738.75
 - Gift Cards: \$50
- IDHS increased the TANF amount to \$439 last month. Effective 12/1 - Benton Township will increase our GA and top EA amount to \$450. Secondary amounts will stay the same.

14. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

a. Levy Discussion: Supervisor Booth reported that the Consumer Price Index (CPI) increased by 3.4%, raising it from 167,312 to 177,004.40 without requiring a referendum. Budget adjustments are ongoing, with plans to ensure grant funds are used exclusively for road work, while consulting and management fees will come from other funds. Personnel costs have slightly decreased due to board decisions, and there is a proposal to hire a part-time employee to assist during busy periods. Supervisor Booth recommended a modest \$5,000 levy increase to cover the new employee's costs and allocate funds to general assistance, instead of a larger \$30,000 increase.

15. NEW BUSINESS:

- a. United Way 211- \$1,000:** It was motioned by Trustee Livingston and seconded by Trustee Jensen to approve a disbursement to United Way 211 in the amount of \$1,000. **5 AYES, 0 NAYS. Motion passes.**
- b. The Point Food Pantry - \$1,000:** It was motioned by Trustee Keske and seconded by Trustee Stried to approve a disbursement to The Point Food Pantry in the amount of \$1,000. **5 AYES, 0 NAYS. Motion passes.**
- c. Meals on Wheels - \$1,000:** It was motioned by Trustee Livingston and seconded by Trustee Jensen to approve a disbursement to Meals on Wheels in the amount of \$1,000. **5 AYES, 0 NAYS. Motion passes.**
- d. Toys for Tots - \$500:** It was motioned by Trustee Jensen and seconded by Trustee Livingston to approve a disbursement to Toys for Tots in the amount of \$500. **5 AYES, 0 NAYS. Motion passes.**
- e. Zion Park District - \$500:** It was motioned by Trustee Keske and seconded by Trustee Livingston to approve a disbursement to Zion Park District in the amount of \$500 for Senior meetings . **5 AYES, 0 NAYS. Motion passes.**

16. EXECUTIVE SESSION: None

17. ADJOURNMENT - Being no further business to come before the Board, it was motioned by Trustee Jensen and seconded by Trustee Keske to adjourn the meeting at 6:59 pm. All in favor. Meeting adjourned.

Minutes prepared by Sonolito Bronson, Town Clerk