

**South Branch Township  
February 14, 2023  
Regular Board Meeting  
Budget Public Hearing  
Unapproved**

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m. Attending: Barkley, Barritt, and Nelson. Janisse and Sylvester absent. Pledge of Allegiance.

Attending: Fire Chief Umphrey

Guest Speaker: Greg Stansbury – AuSable Canoe Race Advertising

**Motion** by Barkley and second by Barritt to accept agenda as presented. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion passed.

**Motion** by Barritt and second by Barkley to accept consent agenda, January Regular Meeting Minutes, Budget Meeting minutes, January bills and invoices paid, the Treasurer's Report, Fire/EMS Report, and projected bills for February, as presented. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion passed.

**Guest Presentation:** Greg Stansbury, volunteer for the AuSable Canoe Race Committee gave a presentation asking the board to purchase advertising in the race committees' annual magazine. The board asked if Mr. Stansbury was contacting local businesses and he stated he was. The board thanked him for his presentation and would table until March meeting for any further discussion.

**Motion** by Barritt and second by Barkley, to close regular board meeting and open public hearing on budget. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion passed. Clerk Nelson stated the 2023/2024 Budget has been available for viewing at township office after the Budget Meeting. Changes were needed in the Election budget since the Presidential Primary was moved to February 2024. The Election budget was credited \$2500 and the Recreation budget was debited \$2500. The board announced the Ambulance Millage would be increasing to the allowable amount of 2.5 mill. Resident Cris Jones, expressed concern the millage was being doubled. Clerk Nelson and Chief Umphrey explained the increase was needed to due to increased expenses for 24/7 Fire and EMS coverage and increasing use of the fund balances to pay costs associated with the coverage and increased operating costs in general. The township would be unable to purchase replacement equipment when needed. Mr. Jones said he understood why the increase was necessary. No further public comment was made and a Motion was made Barkley, second by Barritt to close the public hearing. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion passed. Motion by Barritt was made on accepting the budget as presented, second by Barkley to support. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion passed.

**Fire/EMS:**

Reviewed fire department report. Motion by Nelson, second by Barkley to approve payment to Fire Programs for \$1,158.00 for annual support of incident reporting module. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion passed. Submitted for new hire, Darren Zunno, Fire/EMT. Motion by Nelson, second by Barkley to approve hire for 90 day probationary period. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion passed. Chief Umphrey announced the wildland brush truck would be completed in two weeks.

**Reviewed** Committee and Commission reports. Reviewed meeting minutes for the Planning Commission and Zoning Report. No ZBA report. County's Master Plan is completed, reviewed, and will be distributed in the next couple weeks.

**Old Business: None.**

**New Business:**

Salary Resolutions were re-submitted to the board individually to be voted.

Treasurer: \$ 25,750.00. Motion by Nelson, support by Barritt. Roll call vote: Barritt, Aye. Barkley, Aye. Nelson, Aye. Janisse, Absent. Sylvester, Absent. Motion passed.

Supervisor: \$ 25,750.00. Motion by Barritt, support by Barkley. Roll call vote: Barritt, Aye. Barkley, Aye. Nelson, Aye. Janisse, Absent. Sylvester, Absent. Motion passed.

Clerk: \$ 27,750.00. Motion by Barkley, support by Barritt. Roll call vote: Barritt, Aye. Barkley, Aye. Nelson, Aye. Janisse, Absent. Sylvester, Absent. Motion passed.

Motion by Nelson, second by Barkley, to pay Young, Graham, Wendling, \$1,017.00; BS&A Software, \$1,396.00; and KCI Assessment Notices, \$2,2217.25. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion passed.

Motion by Barritt, second by Barkley, to approve annual billing for \$8,632.14 to John Hancock. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion passed.

Public Comment.

Meeting adjourned 7:52 pm

Brenda Nelson, Clerk