

Benson Town Board  
Special Meeting  
Oct. 15, 2014

Meeting

Meeting Opened @6:30 PM  
Pledge of Allegiance  
Roll Call

Present: Supervisor: Phil Snyder  
Councilmen: Robert Cox, John Stortecky, John Shepard, Doug Gregor  
Hwy. Supt. Cecil Blowers

Public Present: Charles Biche, Peter and Beth Junquera, Cheryl Gregor, Nancy Stortecky,  
Dick Barlow, Peg Schutze

John Shepard III read letter of opinion to town board

A motion was made by P. Snyder that they table anymore discussion of John Stortecky for the rest of the meeting; 2<sup>nd</sup> by J. Shepard

Vote: R. Cox – Aye, J. Stortecky- abstain , J. Shepard – Aye, D. Gregor – Aye, P. Snyder – Aye  
Motion Carried.

Public Input: Mrs. Nancy Stortecky asked what statutes J. Shepard was quoting in his letter to the board.

Mr. Shepard: It is my personal opinion.

Nancy: Do you have the case law?

Mr. Shepard: No

Ms. Schutze: What is going to happen from this point on?

Mr. Snyder: I do not know.

Ms. Schutze: What process is going to move forward to find some solution?

Mr. Snyder: I do not know.

Ms. Schutze: Do we have anything in writing that states the town clerk can go ahead and accept this withdrawal of resignation?

Mr. Shepard: She was correct in accepting and filing the documents. That was the scope of her authority. That sets other actions in place that the town clerk has no control over. Other government agencies have control over what happens next. That is where we are now.

Mrs. Gregor: Why did the town clerk get opinions from the Attorney General's Office?

R. Cox: To clarify situation because no guidance was given.

Mr. Gregor asked if the board was going to accept John Stortecky's vote. Mr. Snyder responded that if John Stortecky sat at the table or voted it could jeopardize Benson in a law suit.

John Shepard III requested letter read at Oct. 15, 2014 meeting be filed in the town clerk's office. It will be filed under Councilmen's Correspondence for the year 2014.

John Shepard made a motion to accept the minutes as amended for the Sept. 10, 2014 meeting; 2<sup>nd</sup> by R. Cox.

Vote: R. Cox – Aye, J. Stortecky – Abstain, J. Shepard – Aye, D. Gregor – Aye, P. Snyder – Aye  
Motion Carried

The board discussed the disposal of the 2000 Pickup truck. Doug made a motion to scrap it minus the catalytic converter; 2<sup>nd</sup> by J. Shepard

Vote: R. Cox – Aye, J. Stortecky – Aye, J. Shepard – Aye, D. Gregor – Aye, P. Snyder – Aye  
Motion Carried.

Board went over the budget. The current condition of machinery was discussed and future purchase of same.

Doug asked if it was not wise to raise taxes for new machinery and that a list be compiled on how much the old dump trucks are costing in repairs including last year.

Mr. Barlow: Was equipment reserve money put aside in 2012?

Mr. Shepard: It was not a separate fund and the money went back into the general fund at the end of the year.

Mr. Barlow: Has fire budget changed?

Mr. Snyder: No

Mr. Gregor asked if the board wanted to make any changes to health insurance policy regarding insured families. Mr. Shepard and Mr. Snyder contended they would prefer to leave them as they are.

Mr. Stortecky thanked Phil for a budget so easily comprehended and well planned.

Board adopted Resolution # 63-14 to accept tentative budget as preliminary budget.

Mr. Shepard made a motion to implement paperwork to have a public hearing on Nov. 12, 2014 @6:30 PM at the town hall on Preliminary Budget and Proposed Tax Cap Override Law.

There was no second or vote.

Town Justice book audit to be set up by Phil for the Dec. 10, 2014 meeting.

J. Shepard made a motion to enter into contract for the 2015 year with the James Brennan Memorial Society; 2<sup>nd</sup> by J. Stortecky

Vote: R. Cox – Aye, J. Stortecky – Aye, J. Shepard – Aye, D. Gregor – Nay, P. Snyder – Aye  
Motion Carried.

Board discussed the Shared Services Agreement

Mr. Gregor: I am concerned as I stated prior about potential money that could be spend from Benson.

The shared service agreement we currently have has to do with lending, borrowing and leasing. It doesn't say anything about constructing or purchasing. We spent money on a project with Hope and possess no documentation that covers payment (concrete pad). A plan and analysis should be done by a committee from Benson and Hope and look at future percentage of costs shared.

The Board agreed that this should be done.

Mr. Shepard made a motion to approve the abstracts; 2<sup>nd</sup> by D. Gregor

Vote: R. Cox – Aye, J. Stortecky – Aye, J. Shepard – Aye, D. Gregor, P. Snyder – Aye  
General Fund Payables: \$3993.83

Hwy. Fund Payables: \$34,475.31 (chips paid out of this)

Public Input:

Dick Barlow: Is there going to be a partition between Benson's area and Hope's area in the salt and sand shed?

Phil: There are many partitions but usage will be kept track of differently.

Nancy: I've heard of a 50/50 split. Does that have anything to do with salt/sand?

Phil: No, only pad and plywood costs.

Nancy: Who gets a project done without any cost estimates under any circumstances?

Phil: Terry said he didn't have bills or costs, yet.

Nancy: But you get the estimate before the project is started.

Phil: I agree with you, but Cecil is in charge of the Hwy. Dept. We gave Cecil agreement to do the project and he is granted a certain amount he can spend.

Peg: You really don't go ahead and do something like this without something in writing, even if it is only an estimate.

I do think anything else should be a percentage.

Dick Barlow: On the purchase of a truck, there are a lot of these in Truck Digest, etc.

Phil: There certainly are.

Dick Barlow: Need to know what abstracts were

Phil responded by reciting them

When power went out last week, Phil got in touch with Hamilton County Emergency Services for the phone outage.

Motion to adjourn @8:25 PM made by D. Gregor; 2<sup>nd</sup> by J. Shepard.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Jeanne Cox