

**BALTIMORE TOWNSHIP MINUTES – REGULAR MEETING**  
**March 9, 2010**

PRESENT: Supervisor Ron Miller, Treasurer Jennifer McKeever, Clerk Penelope Ypma, Trustee Chad McKeever, Trustee Jeremy Miller.

Meeting called to order at 7:05 p.m. by Supervisor Miller.

**Pledge of Allegiance** was recited at the Budget Hearing meeting prior to regular meeting.

**HARDSHIP PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION** – Mr. Jake Ypma, Board of Review member, presented to the board the current “asset test” guidelines previously adopted. It is the advice of the current Board of Review that the township board revises the first sentence in Section 11 of Resolution #0002. The revised version would read:

*“If the other conditions for a hardship exemption are met and the applicant has total household assets (excluding the real estate value of the homestead) of less than \$30,000, a 100% reduction shall be granted. If said assets are greater than \$30K but less than or equal to \$40K, a 50% reduction shall be granted. If said assets are greater than \$40K but less than or equal to \$50K, a 25% reduction shall be granted. If said assets are over \$50K, no relief will be granted”.*

**WESTERN INSURANCE** – Melissa Swims, Insurance Representative, reviewed the township's current insurance policy. Moved by C.McKeever, supported by P.Ypma to change the deductible to \$1000, which will create approximately \$700.00 in savings annually. 5 Ayes 0 Nays  
PASSED

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**HARDSHIP PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION** – Moved by C.McKeever, supported by J. Miller to accept the Board of Review’s recommendation as presented by Mr. Ypma. 5 Ayes 0 Nays PASSED (Written report on file with the clerk).

**ELECTRONIC POLL BOOK GRANT** – Clerk Ypma reported that she will be applying for a grant from the State of Michigan to provide the township with a laptop computer to be used in future elections. The laptop will replace the paper poll book currently used. The State would like all precincts to convert to the electronic poll book by the August 2010 Primary Election.

**END OF YEAR BILLS** – Moved by C.McKeever, supported by P.Ypma to approve the clerk and the treasurer to pay all outstanding bills due in the 2009-2010 budget by April 1, 2010. 5 Ayes 0 Nays PASSED

**911 COMMITTEE MEMBER VOTE** – Clerk Ypma presented the board with candidates running for the 911 Committee Board, as provided by the MTA Barry Co. Chapter. The board agreed that because there was not any background information provided with each candidate that we would abstain from voting. The letter stated that the township would have one vote. Clerk Ypma will forward the ballot stating our decision.

**CASH POLICY**- Trustee McKeever asked for discussion regarding the current “cash policy”. The board agreed to keep the policy as written.

**AMEND 2009-10 BUDGET**- Moved by J. McKeever, supported by J.Miller to move \$2,500 from the Fire line item to the following line items: \$1,500 Capital Expense/\$500 Assessor/\$500 Street Lighting. 5 Ayes 0 Nays PASSED

