

**BALTIMORE TOWNSHIP MINUTES – REGULAR MEETING**  
**April 8, 2008**

PRESENT: Supervisor Richard VanSyckle, Treasurer Jennifer McKeever, Clerk Penelope Ypma, Trustee James Rhodes, Trustee David Soya.

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

Pledge of Allegiance

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Supervisor VanSyckle reported that the reappraisal assessor will begin working in the field on 4-9-08.

**GUESTS:** Tom Evans, Barry County Prosecuting Attorney, presented the audience with an annual report of accomplishments during his term in office.

**ASSESSOR'S REPORT** – Due January 2008. Assessor, Dennis McKelvey has been absent January through April. No report provided.

**BOARD OF REVIEW REPORT** – Shirley Drake, BOR Chairperson presented a report. The board received 49 applications and 3 hardship cases.

**COMMISSIONER'S REPORT** – Mr. Jeff VanNortwick presented a report from the commission meeting.

**LIMITED PUBLIC COMMENT** – Question regarding property being changed from agricultural to residential. Dennis Huss would like an appointment scheduled when reappraising his property. Ron Miller would like to see more gravel added to the country roads. Question pertaining to the status of assessor McKelvey. Supervisor VanSyckle reported that Mr. McKelvey appeared in Lansing last month before the State Tax Commission and has been placed on a 1-year probation, must attend educational classes, and his work will be monitored by the State Tax Commission.

**NEW BUSINESS**

With regrets, James Rhodes, trustee, announced his retirement effective the end of his term.

**CEMETERY CONTRACT** – Moved by VanSyckle, supported by Soya to approve the 2008-09 cemetery contract with Gordon Roush. Motion carried.

**AMEND BUDGET** – Moved by Ypma, supported by McKeever to move \$856.08 to the Board of Review line item in the 2007-08 budget from the attorney line item. Motion carried.

**GRAVEL ROAD TOUR** – Scheduled at 1:00 p.m. on April, 29<sup>th</sup>. Board members to meet at the hall.

**DUST CONTROL** – Moved by Ypma, supported by McKeever to have Supervisor VanSyckle arrange for this year's dust control applications. Motion carried. David Soya, trustee, will schedule three applications as per previous year, measure properties, and ride with driver.

**BOARD OF REVIEW** – Clerk Ypma reported that the assessor's data had been corrupted during board of review hours. Clerk Ypma asked the board of review members why Steve Soya was on Mr. McKelvey's computer during board of review. No response. Due to the data being corrupted, it cost the township taxpayers \$490.00 to reinstall and correct the corrupted data.

Baltimore Township Regular Board Meeting  
April 8, 2008  
Page 2

Moved by Ypma, supported by McKeever to request that the supervisor be present at all board of review meetings to oversee the entire process. Roll call vote: Ypma – Yes VanSyckle – No McKeever – Yes Rhodes – No Soya – No Motion defeated.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**ASSESSOR** – Moved by Soya, supported by Rhodes to terminate employment with Dennis McKelvey, effective April 10, 2008. The board approved prorating Mr. McKelvey's pay for the month of April (10 days). Roll call vote: Soya – Yes Rhodes – Yes McKeever – No VanSyckle – Yes Ypma – Yes. Motion carried.

**MINUTES:** Without objection or correction the March 11, 2008 minutes were approved. Moved by Rhodes, supported by Soya. Motion carried.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:**

Report provided. No discussion. Approved as read.

**PAY BILLS:** Moved by VanSyckle, supported by Soya to pay bills as submitted. Check #'s 8129-8153. Motion carried.

**LIMITED PUBLIC COMMENT**

Dennis Huss reported attending a meeting sponsored by Brian Calley, State Representative, who suggested townships eliminate the 1% administration fees collected to mail property taxes. Mr. Huss would like the board to address this issue at the next regular board meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

ATTESTED BY:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Richard VanSyckle, Supervisor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Penelope J. Ypma, Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date