

**Bear Creek Township Special Board Meeting  
January 18, 2023**

Called to order at 3:00 p.m.

**Roll Call:** Keiser, Hoffman, Golding, Urman, Radatovich

**2023/24 Budget Discussion**

Keiser noted that the board will be discussing the wage portion of the budget. Radatovich shared a salary survey and benefits survey from comparable northern Michigan townships. Urman shared some potential wages that he felt were fair. Golding would like to give everyone 8.7% to keep up with the cost of living adjustment as well as a 5% raise. She noted that most Bear Creek Township employees are doing two jobs for the township. Hoffman noted that other businesses in the area are doing a 10% adjustment, which he feels comfortable with. Keiser agrees with the 8% cost of living adjustment and 2% raise. He noted that we can make market adjustments as needed. Hoffman is comfortable with 8.7% for trustees.

Keiser is comfortable with an 8% or 10% adjustment for assessor. He noted that the City of Petoskey is paying \$116,000 for their assessor as well as \$75/hr for tribunal and land divisions. Keiser noted that he will eventually have to retire, and there is a young fireman who is considering going to school to be an assessor.

Urman asked if we have ever looked into the cost of family insurance.

Golding noted that she is also going to have to retire eventually, and when she does, the treasurer and building department secretary will be split into two full-time positions.

The board decided on the following wages for the upcoming budget year: Trustees: \$8,696 annually, Supervisor: \$24,000 annually, Assessor: \$80,000 annually, Treasurer: \$44,000 annually, Building Secretary: \$26,000 annually, Clerk: \$60,000 annually, Deputy Clerk: \$23/hr, Deputy Treasurer: \$19/hr, Fire Chief: \$90,000 annually, Building Inspector: \$68,000 annually, and Electrical Inspector: \$42.50/hr and \$40/inspection.

Keiser noted that he met with the Emmet County Administrator and they are in agreement for a dedicated sheriff for Bear Creek Township. We could start working on an agreement now and have this person start June 1<sup>st</sup>. Keiser suggested using some ARPA money for this expense. The board is in agreement to pursue a contract with Emmet County for a dedicated sheriff for Bear Creek Township.

The board decided on the remaining wages for the upcoming budget year: Election Workers: \$20/hr, Blight: \$25/hr, Liquor: \$4,000 annually, Sewer Meter Reader: \$500/quarter, Assistant Secretary (Sally): \$20/hr, Per Diems: \$85 for Planning Commission members, \$110 Planning Commission Chair, \$125 Emmet County Zoning Administrator (Tammy), \$70 Board and Committee members, \$90 Chairpersons and Parks and Recreation Secretary.

**Roads**

Keiser noted that we received the bids for Atkins Rd and Krause Rd. Atkins Rd came in at \$264,682.10 and Krause Rd came in at \$419,765.28. The board agreed to move forward with both projects.

**Cell Phone Booster**

Welsheimer received a quote from Tele-Rad to put in a carrier approved cell phone booster (with antennas) for approximately \$3200-3300. The board agreed to move forward with the cell booster from Tele-Rad.

**Request from the Floor/Discussion:** None

**Other Business:** None

**Adjournment:** 4:49p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Emma Radatovich*

Emma Radatovich, Bear Creek Township Clerk