

Minutes of September 28, 2022 Special St. James Board Meeting
Beaver Island Community Center | 26215 Main St. | Beaver Island, MI | 10:00 am

Present:

Welke, Fingerroot, Cole, McDonough

Absent:

Gillespie

Others:

Tessa Jones, Deputy Township Clerk represented the absent clerk. Kitty McNamara and Rick Speck representing the Beaver Island ESA/EMS, Lori Taylor-Blitz representing the Beaver Island Historical Society, Ann Partridge and Frank D'Andraia representing the Beaver Island Rural Health Center, along with other interested community members. A total of 12 people attended this meeting, plus the four board members and deputy clerk.

Public Hearing

Supervisor Welke called the Public Hearing to order at 10:05 am on September 28, 2022. Supervisor Welke presented information via a power point presentation regarding December 1, 2022 property tax levies for St. James Township, including how they are decided and the proposal to increase the tax levy for Beaver Island EMS from 2.2000 to 2.9000 mills.

Public Comment

Community members shared comments and concerns regarding the raise in taxes. There were questions from the Public and the Board about the financial status of the Beaver Island EMS and what has caused the lack of funds to pay employees. Answers were provided by Ms. McNamara and Mr. Speck. Overall, there was support towards aiding the EMS via this tax levy.

It was brought to the attention of the board that the wrong millage rate for the Fire Department was made in the form L-4029, showing the Fire Department as having a 0.9000 levy (to match the 2021 amount and as voted in August 2022). Rather, members of the BIESA Board pointed out that their 2022/2023 budget calls for a 0.6000 levy. Therefore, the levy was changed to 0.6000 mills, which represents a reduction of 0.3000 mills from that levied on December 1, 2022.

Post Meeting Note: The preset resolution was amended to reflect this Fire Department levy change and the L-4029 was updated to include the proper millage. **This reduction results in a total of 14.6611 mills being allocated by St James Township for December 1, 2022. This total amount represents an increase of 0.3611 mills over the 14.3000 mills levied on December 1, 2021.**

Supervisor Welke closed the Public Hearing at 10:43 am.

Special Meeting

Supervisor Welke called the Special Meeting to order at 10:43 am.

Moved by Welke, supported by Cole to approve the resolution to accept and submit form L-4029 to the County Equalization Office with the correction to the Fire Department's millage reduction made.

Motion Carried-Unanimous

Public Comment

None.

Moved by Cole, supported by Fingerroot to adjourn Special Meeting at 11:00 am.

Motion Carried-Unanimous

Submitted by:

Tessa Jones, Deputy Clerk
St. James Township
COUNTY OF CHARLEVOIX