

**BREITUNG TOWNSHIP BOARD  
2006 BUDGET WORKSHOP  
OCTOBER 3, 2005**

The budget workshop was called to order by Supervisor Olson at 7:02 p.m.

**Roll Call: Present;** Supervisor Olson, Trustees; Gaudette and Dixon, Clerk Coron, Treasurer Cahee, Trustees; Wales and Erickson.

Also Present: Superintendent, Steve Soltis

Those in attendance gave Pledge to the Flag.

No Public Comment:

The board started with the general fund GOVERNING BOARD.

It was proposed by the Personnel Committee that the Township Trustees be given the following raises:

From a \$60 base monthly pay to a \$70 base monthly pay.  
From a \$40 board meeting fee to a \$45 board meeting fee.  
From a \$30 committee fee to a \$35 committee fee.

Treasurer Cahee handed out an article from one of the past MTA catalogs stating that yes, a board may choose to pay the Treasurer, Clerk and Supervisor committee fees along with the Trustees who are serving on that committee, seeing as a committee is not a part of the elected officials statutory duties.

Superintendent Soltis brought up paying him a committee fee instead of comp time. Trustee Dixon thought that all of these meetings were spelled out in the Superintendent's duties already and fell under his salary. Clerk Coron stated that what is expected of the Superintendent should be clearly spelled out in the Personnel Manual and the contract that was signed between Mr. Soltis and our former Supervisor, Bill Schaal.

Trustee Gaudette brought up why the Clerk and Treasurer are the only board members receiving BC/BS, pension and life insurance as the employees receive.

Treasurer Cahee stated that the reason the Township Board had given the benefits to the Clerk and Treasurer was because of the full time status they hold in the office. The Clerk and Treasurer have always honored the scheduled office hours; which has ultimately saved the Township from hiring another employee to cover when Irene is out sick, out for a personal day or on vacation. We have an excellent group of people who work along one another, covering each other's tasks if need be.

Clerk Coron suggested that if the personnel committee is going to look at these "tough" issues that ALL of the "tough" issues need to be looked at. She also went on to ask the board not to take away her and the Treasurer's benefits and to leave the health insurance, pension and life insurance as it has been.

Trustee Wales stated that the Board can not take away the benefits and Trustee Gaudette was quick to state that yes the Board can take away fringe benefits.

Treasurer Cahee asked Trustee Gaudette if there was a reason why he would call MTA and ask if they could take our benefits away? Gaudette mentioned that this issue was one of many that he inquired about.

Supervisor Olson said the real issue was can some board members receive benefits and the others not? Clerk Coron then inquired if the Trustees and the Supervisor were looking to get health insurance benefits from the Township.

Township mileage reimbursement was brought up. The personnel committee will be proposing that anything within 10 miles of the township hall not be reimbursed. Treasurer Cahee was very upset that the personnel committee would propose taking away her mileage for running to the banks each week. It was brought up that once a new police car is purchased the old car can be used for all township business. Treasurer Cahee brought up that the Township will be paying more on car insurance and upkeep each year than they would for her to run with her own vehicle.

Treasurer Cahee suggested that if the board is looking to save money, then only one board member per year should attend the annual MTA conference as plenty of money would be saved in motel expenses, mileage, meals, per diem for Trustees, etc.

Seeing as we really can get no further this evening without knowing what the raises, etc. will be, it was decided to schedule the next budget meeting for October 12, 2005 at 7:00 p.m. and to review all other general accounts except for the wages.

**Motion** by Trustee Wales, second by Trustee Dixon to adjourn the budget workshop meeting.

**Vote: Unanimous**

**Motion carried.**

The meeting was declared adjourned by Supervisor Olson at 8:55 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by,

Samantha Coron  
Breitung Township Clerk