

HOUGHTON TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING

HOUGHTON TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY BUILDING

Monday, November 17, 2014

The regular board meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by Supervisor Jim Vivian, preceded by the Pledge of Allegiance. Other board members present: Shari Chase, Treasurer, Kathy McEvers, Deputy Clerk for Carol Jones, Jack Treganowan and Mary Long, Trustees. Guests present: Tom Hall, Elaine Hall, Stan Hill and Paul Mihelich.

Motion by Jack Treganowan, seconded by Shari Chase , to accept the consent agenda (minutes, bills for all funds and meeting agenda.) Motion passed unanimously.

WATER DEPARTMENT –

Shari Chase informed the board as to recent information received from the auditor. A meeting will be set with Debbie Bradford wherein she will give instruction concerning Quickbooks, etc. to board member(s). An hourly wage for the training will be later determined by the Township Board. Per the auditor, Carol Jones will need to abstain from voting regarding the wages for Mel Jones.

There was some discussion concerning the recent water line leak on Pine Street, Eagle River. A Motion was made by Chase , supported by Vivian, to appoint Jack Treganowan as Assistant to Mel Jones for the Water Department, with an hourly wage to be determined by the Board at a later date. With Jack Treganowan abstaining , the Motion passed unanimously. Paul Mihelich indicated that his water is very cloudy since the recent water line issue. Vivian indicated that Mel Jones would submit a water sample for testing once he returned from vacation

MUSEUM –

Brief discussion concerning the Douglas Houghton Monument (information station) that will be placed near the white fence near the Township Hall. Photos have been taken, and per Tom and Elaine Hall, all of the required information has been submitted to the State.

OLD BUSINESS -

A chain has been installed and a “No Trespassing” Sign has been posted at the maintenance stairs on side of the walking bridge.

SUPERVISOR’S REPORT -

Jim Vivian advised the board that he recently met with Tom Lindeman, the Risk Control Representative for the Township’s insurance carrier. Mr. Lindeman made a recommendation that a signage be posted on the beach to indicate “No Lifeguard On Duty.” Jim advised that Mr. Lindeman had no issues with the walking bridge. Regarding the Township Hall, Mr. Lindeman requested a copy of the Hold Harmless Agreement that the Township has from the Keweenaw County Historical Society for the museum. We

have replacement value on the policy for the bladder tanks at the pumphouse. The insurance carrier will be sending a letter to the Township concerning the review.

NEW BUSINESS –

The Township received four bids for a new snowblower for the Township. The bids were reviewed, and after discussion, the lowest bid (\$1,698.88 from Car Quest/Harter's) was accepted. The Motion to accept the bid from Harter's and to cut a check for payment of the snowblower was made by Jack Treganowan, and supported by Jim Vivian. The Motion passed unanimously.

There was discussion concerning the old snowblower . It was decided that it would be placed for sale (with a set reserve), and that it would be advertised for sale on the Township website. The snowblower is in working condition, but the pull start does not work, only the electric start.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Shari Chase advised the Board that the Township was paid over \$1,900 from the schools for collecting their taxes in 2014. The contract to collect the 2015 taxes for the schools has been signed & accepted.

Mary Long advised that there are budget numbers that will need to be corrected for the 2014-2015 FY.

Winter tax bills will be mailed out on December 1, 2014. There was discussion regarding the delinquent summer tax bills. A Motion was made by Jack Treganowan, supported by Mary Long, to allow the Treasurer to include reminder notices for delinquent taxes when mailing out the new tax bills. The Motion passed unanimously.

Floor Comments

On February 27, 2015 Copper Dog will be here. Jan Reese is in charge this year.

Next Meeting – Monday, December 15, 2014 at 7:00 p.m.

(Motion to Adjourn by Jim Vivian, supported by Jack Treganowan. Passed unanimously.)

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy McEvers, Deputy Clerk

CERTIFICATION

I, Kathy McEvers, Deputy Clerk for the Township of Houghton, Keweenaw County, Michigan, certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of the proceedings taken by the Houghton Township Board at a regular board meeting held on November 17, 2014

Kathy McEvers, Deputy Clerk
Houghton Township