

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
HOUGHTON TOWNSHIP BOARD
March 21, 2015
Houghton Township Community Building

BUDGET REVIEW – PLDGE – 6:30 – 7:25 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Supervisor Vivian called the regular meeting to order at 7 p.m.

Trustee Treganowan led the Board and those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Supervisor Vivian, Clerk Jones, Treasurer Chase, Trustee Long and Trustee Treganowan.

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

GUESTS PRESENT: Tom and Elaine Hall, Carol I Little, Mel Jones, Mike and Kathy McEvers, Stan Hill, Gary Erickson, Paul Mihelcich

CONSENT AGENDA APPROVAL/ ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

- Approve minutes of February 16, 2015 regular meeting
- Accept financial report
- Approve payment of bills for all funds as listed on attached sheet
- Adopt agenda for tonight's meeting
- Executive session

Motion by Long, seconded by Treganowan, that the board go into executive session during the regular meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Treganowan, seconded by Long, to approve the consent agenda. Motion passed unanimously.

WATER DEPARTMENT – The water agreement was given to Faye on behalf of the condo association. The bill for work done by Sirtola on the frozen water pipes has not come yet.

Mary reported that the new water billing system should be ready for the March billing.

BOARD OF REVIEW - Carol Little reported that the state is doing an audit statewide, but Keweenaw County is not on the list yet. She requested authorization to purchase an enhanced map program to use with the county program. It would cost \$75.00.

Motion by Treganowan, seconded by Chase, to purchase a map file program at a cost up to \$100. Motion passed unanimously.

The board of review went well – all issues were handled successfully. They will meet on Wed, March 18 to close.

NEW BUSINESS – Motion by Treganowan, seconded by Chase, that Mary Long be hired as the billing clerk for the water department. Motion passed unanimously.

BOARD REPORTS -

Shari – the office has been organized for all people needing a desk area to do their work.

Jim – thanked Mel and Jack for their work on recent frozen water problems

Kathy McEvers asked about the previous meetings report about letting go of the right of way – Jim said the price was too high for purchase the adjoining property so any action on the right of way will not be taken. Abandoning the right of way would require giving half of it away.

Carol – Shirley Huestis has been notified about permission to use the township hall for the music camp; there is an election coming up in May.

BUDGET REVIEW

Motion by Long, seconded by Jones, that the maintenance line of the Cemetery fund be increased from 0 to \$250 for the 2014/15 fiscal year. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Long, seconded by Chase, that the line item postage of the Water Fund (2014.15 fiscal year) be increased from \$250 to \$300. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Long, seconded by Chase, that the General Fund Budget, line item 101-Township board be increased from \$3234 to \$3434 for the 2014/15 fiscal year. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Long, seconded by Chase that the General Fund Budget, line item 265 – Township building – be increased from \$7590 to \$8590. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Vivian, seconded by Jones, that the General Fund line item 447 – Roads and streets – be increased from \$6000 to \$6029. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Long, seconded by Vivian, that the General Fund line item 525 – Sanitary landfill- be increased from \$3206 to \$3236. Motion passed unanimously.

ADOPTION OF BUDGETS FOR ALL FUNDS

Motion by Treganowan, seconded by Long, that the Bridge Restoration Fund budget presented for 2015-16 be adopted. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Treg, seconded by Chase, that the Cemetery Fund Budget presented for 2015-16 be accepted. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Treg, seconded by Long, that the Water Fund budget presented for 2015-16 be accepted. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Treganowan, seconded by Chase, that the General Fund budget presented for 2015-16 be accepted. Motion passed unanimously.

FLOOR COMMENTS – Tom asked about a lock on the garbage bin –and how to notify residents. Various methods and the pros and cons were discussed. Jim will look into what it cost for an auxiliary unit for July and August. Mark suggested that two pickups a week may be a cheaper option.

Meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m. Next meeting – Monday, April 20, 2015.

Carol Jones, Clerk
Houghton Township

-CERTIFICATION-

I, the undersigned, Carol Jones, the duly qualified and elected Clerk for the Township of Houghton, Keweenaw County, Michigan, DO CERTIFY that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of the certain proceedings taken by the Township Board of said Township at a regular board meeting held on the 16th day of March, 16th 2015.

Carol Jones, Clerk
Houghton Township