

**,REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
HOUGHTON TOWNSHIP BOARD
JUNE 17, 2013
Houghton Township Community Building**

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, Mel Jones, Tom Kehoe, Elaine Swank and Carol Little

CONSENT AGENDA APPROVAL/ ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

- Approve minutes of May 20th, 2013 regular meeting
- Accept financial report
- Approve payment of bills for all funds

General Fund – \$12,750.11

Water Fund – 426.85

Cemetery Fund - \$89.47

Bridge Fund - \$0

- Adopt agenda for tonight's meeting

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

ASSESSOR'S REPORT – All necessary documents have been delivered to Carol Little for the 2013 tax roll. The State had thought they may need to sieze the tax assessment rolls, but that will not be necessary.

Jim has contacted Gordon Jaaskelainen about the reassessment issue and getting our money back from DPM Associates – but we do not have an answer yet.

The board would like to have Carol Little do the reassessment.

Carol Little's report: she has visited 10 properties this week, toward fulfilling the annual 20% reassessment as is in her contract.

OLD BUSINESS

MUSEUM – AGREEMENT - Mel will contact Phil as soon as possible. The agreement must be in place by our July meeting.

REVISE/REVIEW TOWNSHIP RENTAL AGREEMENT- The board discussed the revised edition of the rental agreement presented by Shari Chase. The rental fee agreed on was \$50 for tax payers or residents of the township, and \$200 for non-residents. Item #11 was changed to read that use of the buildings and grounds was until 11 p.m. The event must close at that time.

Motion by Treganowan, seconded by Vivian, to accept the revised agreement with the above mentioned changes. Motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS –

- The board discussed pursuing a grant for a dry hydrant at Phoenix; this will be considered again next year.
- Keweenaw County Supervisors committee – they have agreed that the garbage service is getting expensive and are looking at the possibility of locating a land fill transfer station in Keweenaw County.
- A zoning question was asked (currently being researched) A certain area needs to be RS1- if it is not already. Jim would like the board to request a change if needed, or perhaps the entire village should be RS1 which would allow lodging, shops and food service.
- Insurance: some townships have an insurance with the Michigan Municipal League – a quote will be secured from them, as well as some others.
- Tax bills: Motion by Vivian, and seconded by Treganowan, that the treasurer be paid \$1.00 per tax bill preparation. Motion passed unanimously.
- Mel shared the results of his meeting with Richard Supina of Traverse Engineering Services. Richard suggested three options:
 1. Paint and repair present tank if needed
 2. Replace the tank with bladder tanks
 3. Replace tank with a tank similar to what we have now.

Board discussed all the options but did not make a decision.

- Motion by Vivian, seconded by Treganowan, that fences in the new section of the cemetery not be allowed. Motion passed unanimously.
- Board discussed request for an 8 ft. wide monument to go across 4 lots. There was nothing in the current agreement to prohibit this, so it will be allowed.

CLERK –

- Shirley Huestis has requested permission to use the township building for the Village Music Camp July 20 – 27, 2013. Permission granted, but the group will not be permitted to use the museum area upstairs, but can use the entrance area.
- Motion by Vivian, seconded by Treganowan, that the clerk may attend an MTA conference in July about cemetery management and using Quikbooks. Motion passed unanimously.
- Board informed of street light credit. Jim will get pole numbers of two lights that need to be deleted, as well as the number on the pole by the Huovinen residence. Clerk then to write letter to UPPCO.
- The credit at Lowe's in Marquette will be used for purchasing flowers.

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT –

Motion by Vivian, seconded by Treganowan, that the third payment to DPM Associates not be paid due to pending litigation.

Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Treganowan, seconded by Chase, that Jim Vivian be authorized to pursue legal action against DPM Associates on behalf of the board to recoup the \$7400.00 already paid to them. The reason for the action is non performance of duties of the contract with the township dated between DPM Associates and the Houghton Township Board. Motion passed unanimously.

FLOOR COMMENTS

- Tom Kehoe reported problems with 4 wheelers near his home and along the beach. He was advised to let the County Sheriff know.
- Carol Little reminded the board about the mandatory Board of Review meeting on July 16th.
- Elaine asked about the status of the dog signs on the beach. Jim said the posts have been painted.
- Tom Hall suggested that 2 or 3 more skeleton keys be made.
- Mine rock has been placed at each end of the lower bridge.
- Bridgefest plans are going well.

Confirm date for next meeting – Monday, July 15^h, 2013
Meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

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 17th of June, 2013.

Carol Jones, Clerk
Houghton Township

Agenda for July 15, 2013

1. Call to order
2. Pledge of allegiance
3. Consent agenda – minutes, financial report and authorization of bills for all fund and adopt agenda.
4. Old business
 - Assessor's report
 - Museum report – sign placement; system for volunteers? Key, lock box; disbursement of donated money
 - Agreement document - passed by Keweenaw County Historical Society
5. New Business
 - Shari 's report
 - Supervisor's report
 - Clerk's report - cemetery question, music camp, MTA classes, street lights
 - Assessment issues – legal action
 - Rezoning issue - letter from Ann Gasperich
6. Budget review
7. Floor comments
8. Confirm date for next meeting – August 19, 2013

FINANCIAL REPORT OF ALL FUNDS

As of 7/15/13

General - \$14,268.61

Bridge - \$718.23

Water - \$27,268.61

Cemetery - \$1397.92

Savings - \$1231.32

CD - \$14,336.79

Building Maintenance Fund - \$8539.18

Museum Fund - \$101.12