

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
HOUGHTON TOWNSHIP BOARD
December 19, 2012
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, Gary Erickson, and Dan Steck. Those representing the Copper Dog Race: Meredith LaBeau, Jason Makela, Brett Matuszak, Abbey Green, Kim Pici, and Leslie DuTemple

CONSENT AGENDA APPROVAL/ ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

- Approve minutes of November 19, 2012 regular meeting
- Accept financial report
- Approve payment of bills for all funds as listed on attached sheet
- Adopt agenda for tonight's meeting
 - Added – Copper Dog presentation
 - Added – street light discussion
 - Added – Board of Review appointments

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

Copper Dog Presentation: On the weekend of March 1st, 2013, will be the 4th Annual Copper Dog Race. A request is being made for use of the township building as a rest stop for the racers from approximately 11:30 p.m, to 2 a.m. There would be about 50 participants using the building, spread out over this time. Jim Vivian suggested a donation from them of \$50; there would be a township person on hand throughout that time; suggested they rent an outdoor porta potty.

Motion by Vivian, seconded by Treganowan, to host the Copper Dog Race on March 1st, 2013. Motion passed unanimously.

Museum Report: The KHS has given the contract to their attorney, Mr. Tomasi. They will get back to us. The grant paperwork has been completed by Mel. He will give the township a copy of all his paperwork. Jim has a wall mount TV to donate to the AV room, if we can use it. Virginia wants to wait until spring for the fundraising on the piano.

Matt's certification: He has the letter sent to us, but has not responded to Jim.

Motion by Long, seconded by Vivian, that we adopt the budget for the Building Maintenance Fund, with income for the 2012/13 fiscal year to be \$9000, and expenditures - \$0. Motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

Shari's report – she presented her ideas for budget cuts for the 2013/14 fiscal year. These were discussed, but no action was taken at this time. There will be further discussion at the January meeting. The list is included in the minutes book.

Street Lights: The annual cost for this service is over \$6000 per year. Jim Vivian suggested a .75 mil special assessment tax levy. He will present more details at the next meeting, and the issue will be discussed further.

Board of Review – Motion by Chase, seconded by Long, to appoint Mike Dudenas, Carol Treganowan, Mel Jones and Dar Huovinen. and Mel Jones to serve for two years on the board of review. Motion passed unanimously.

Mel will call the December meeting of the board of review to continue to resolve the Sullivan property tax issue.

Floor comments: Dan Steck presented some ideas for the water department: There should be a clearer written statement for new users to the water system including – who is considered a new user (is it new construction with a separate tap on the water main?), what does a customer get, when do water charges begin, and what are the water rates and other charges.

Meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Next meeting – Monday, January 21st, 2013

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 19th day of December, 2012.

Carol Jones, Clerk
Houghton Township