

HOUGHTON TOWNSHIP
SPECIAL BOARD MEETING
THURSDAY, JANUARY 4TH 2018 – 5 P.M.
Houghton Township Community Building

Meeting called to order by supervisor Shari Chase

Board members present: Supervisor Shari Chase, Clerk Carol Jones, Treasurer Mary Long and Trustees Jack Treganowan and Kathy McEvers

Guests present: Jim Vivian, Mike LaMotte, Jim LaMotte, Dan Steck, Mel Jones and Tom and Elaine Hall.

AGENDA

- Retaining an Attorney – Charles Miller could not consider the position as he works as attorney for Keweenaw County. Roger Kerchner will be contacted for the position.
- Computer for treasurer's office – The treasurer's office is in need of a new computer as the current machine has stopped working. Up and Running (computer sales, maintenance and repair) will have it repaired in about a week. Their recommendation was that a new computer should be considered. If purchased from them, they would transfer all files to the new computer. Motion by McEvers, seconded by Treganowan that Mary be authorized to spend up to \$1500 for a new computer. Motion passed unanimously.
- Deer Park agreement with Edochi LLC (to maintain the park)
 - ✓ Board and guests present reviewed letters, minutes and other documents relating to the park and its connection with Houghton Township, as well as the agreement recently presented to the board by Edochi LLC.
 - ✓ Many expressed the opinion that in 2011 the agreement that was entered into with MDOT, was with the understanding that the park (land and buildings) were being turned over to the Township.
 - ✓ Our review of the documents (some of which were not made available to the board in 2011) revealed that the township did not own the land. However, the township has been maintaining the park and buildings since 2011 at its own expense.
 - ✓ Some questioned the wisdom of entering into this kind of agreement with a private party. Jim Vivian would like to see the township continue maintenance of Deer Park and sign the agreement with Edochi LLC.
 - ✓ The park is privately owned. The water connection that has been available to the public at that location, at no expense to them, will have to be relocated.
 - ✓ The water connection for the park property will not be disconnected.
 - ✓ Motion by Treganowan, seconded by Chase, that the public water supply be moved to the township grounds near the community building, and that Houghton Township not enter into the license agreement with Edochi LLC. Motion passed unanimously.
 - ✓ Meeting adjourned at 5:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Jones, Houghton Township Clerk