

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
HOUGHTON TOWNSHIP BOARD
July 16, 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 Jim Vivian, Clerk Carol Jones, Treasurer Shari Chase, Trustee Mary Long and Trustee Jack Treganowan.

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

GUESTS PRESENT: Tom and Elaine Hall, Tom Bates, Elaine Swank, Marion Streider, Edith Niederer, Tom and Joanne Kehoe, Sarah Kelly, Mary Lark and Judith Hauk.

CONSENT AGENDA APPROVAL/ ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

- Approve minutes of June 18, 2012 regular meeting
- Accept financial report
- Approve payment of bills for all funds as listed on attached sheet
- Adopt agenda for tonight's meeting

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

AGREEMENT DOCUMENT with Keweenaw Historical Society:

Motion by Treganowan, seconded by Long, to authorize Jim Vivian to seek legal counsel if he deems it necessary. Motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

Shari's Report – working with the assessor to get taxes loaded on her computer/ long distance activated and working.

Don Keith – Military Cemetery

A resolution was passed this spring by all VFW chapters in the Upper Peninsula to support the establishment of a regional upper Midwest Veteran's National Cemetery. The nearest one now to our area is in Milwaukee WI. One of the possible locations in the U.P. for the facility is a thousand acre section on Mount Horace Greely, which would include the old air base location. The soil survey indicates that section 31 would be a perfect spot for burials (north of the lagoon.) The project would be built and maintained by the Federal Government. Rev. Elmer Liimatta is spearheading the effort to locate the cemetery in our area.

Motion by Vivian, seconded by Treganowan, to support the effort to locate the Veteran's National Cemetery on Mount Horace Greely. The ayes were Vivian, Jones, Treganowan and Long. Abstain: Chase. Motion passed.

A letter of support will be sent to Elmer Liimatta, and to Don Keith.

Board informed that Clint Jones had requested permission to sell a lot along Maple Street. (See map.) His proposal meets all zoning requirements. There are provisions for water to the lot, and it is not a dunes area.

The board considered a request to place three urns in one cemetery lot. The current policy states that two urns may be placed in one lot. The request was denied.

Phil Mason's requested that the board discuss the purchase of window shades for the second floor of the building. Jim proposed that the cost of the shades be shared by the township, the Keweenaw Historical Society and public donations. It would take nine shades for a cost of \$1000. Motion by Vivian, seconded by Long, to purchase shades with shared funding. Motion passed unanimously. With township putting up the money ½ at first and then get reimbursed by donations and the KHS>

Recycling discussed – a facility to be set up near the airport. The township supports the recycling, and Jim will ask them if they want to put a satellite recycling container up here.

Elaine Swank: Noted that there is a problem with dogs on the beach, and she is suggesting another sign. By next year, if the Horizons grant does not come through, the board will look into buying bags for those who bring their dogs to the beach.

Bridgefest: Donations are needed for the silent auction ahead of time. Johnsons have a fundraising idea – directed to talk to Jim, Gary or Mark.

Tom and Jim are discussing plans to build more picnic tables – buy materials and volunteers put them together.

Tom reported that the dumpster is overflowing, and household garbage is being placed in the park garbage cans. Jim and Ron are working on it.

Meeting adjourned at 7:55

Next meeting scheduled for Saturday, August 18, 2012 at 10:00 a.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 July 16, 2012.

Carol Jones, Clerk
Houghton Township