

Charter Township of Ironwood
Regular Meeting
Monday, July 27, 2020
Dial-in Number (US): (701) 802-5250
Access Code: 714999#

Call to Order: 5:30 pm Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call: Supervisor- Jim Simmons, Mary Segalin-Clerk, Maria Graser- Treasurer

Trustees: Bev Michaels, Marlene Saari, Kevin Lyons, Bernie Brunello

Absent: none

Also Present: Sandy Lahtinen, Brenda Angus, Leroy Johnson- Zoning administrator, Jay Kangas, Kim Pelkola, Lynn Coron, Rich Jenkins, and Mark McDonald- Township Attorney.

Public Comment: (3-minute limit) A citizen had asked for an update on the embezzlement case.

Amendments to Agenda: Closed Session: Pending litigation. A motion was made by Brunello supported by Michaels to accept the agenda as amended. Motion carried.

Consent Agenda: A motion was made by Saari supported by Brunello to accept the minutes from the Regular Meeting, July 13, 2020, as presented. Motion carried.

Bills and Salaries: General Fund-epay, #16169-EFT29- Totaling \$59,021.64, Water Fund- #9114-9118- Totaling \$115,016.02, Wastewater Fund- #1955-1956- Totaling \$7,732.11 Tax Fund - #8384-8398- Totaling \$242,651.40. A motion was made by Brunello supported by Graser to accept the bills and salaries as presented. Motion carried on a roll call vote.

Appearances: None

Old Business: The Fire Dept. bylaws from 1997 & 2009 were presented to the board for review. A copy of each were also sent to the Township attorney for his review. The board is supposed to adopt bylaws by law but there is no proof of any formal adoption. According to the bylaws-the Fire Dept. is supposed to keep records of their activities-fires, fundraising, training etc. but when Simmons has asked for them- none are produced. The Fire Dept. claims the Ordinance is too restricting in its rules, but it is for their protection-ins coverage, fundraising expenditures, equipment purchases, etc. Johnson stated MTA recommends an Ordinance vs. bylaws. Attorney McDonald says the Fire Dept. can have bylaws but highly recommended to the board to have an Ordinance. Lyons and Saari wishes to meet with the Fire Dept. concerning the Ordinance. Simmons stated that he and Johnson have met with the Fire Dept. and have given each firefighter a copy of the proposed Ordinance, also, recently sent them another copy of the proposed Ordinance, with no feedback from the Fire Dept. members at all. The Township Attorney recommended again that the board go forward with adopting the ordinance. A motion was made

by Brunello supported by Graser to place the re-introduction to Ordinance 59- Fire Dept.- on the next agenda. Motion carried.

Simmons stated there is no new news or updates on the Lake Rd Spring.

The Township cleanup will be tentatively held this fall-late August.

A motion was made by Graser supported by Brunello to place the reintroduction of Ordinance 61- Anti-Noise on the next agenda. Motion carried.

Communications: None

New Business: Lyons asked a question about how valuable any of the foreclosed property are that were presented to the Board by the County Treasurer that are up for tax sale. A motion was made by Segalin supported by Brunello to sign the waiver and not purchase any of the foreclosed properties. Motion carried.

PAUD is placing a 2007 GMC Sierra w/ plow out for bids. There were many questions concerning the bidding process, starting bid etc., Simmons will discuss the questions with the PAUD Administrator/ PAUD Attorney, so this is tabled until the next meeting.

Reports:

Supervisor: The new fire number installation is on going, the guys are making good progress so far.

Treasurer: Nothing to report

Clerk: All June 2020 fund financials were given to the board for their review. A motion was made by Graser supported by Saari to place the financial statements on file. Motion carried.

Trustees:

Michaels- Nothing to report

Saari- Attended a Solid Waste, Planning Commission and Broadband meetings. She wondered if the board would like to appoint a board member to sit on the Broadband Committee. Simmons nominated Graser, Segalin supported it. Graser accepted the nomination.

Brunello- Attended a Waste Water meeting.

Lyons- Attended a PAUD meeting.

Fire Dept.: No report

Public comment: A citizen complaints about how she was treated when attending her BOR appointment.

A motion was made by Segalin supported by Brunello to enter into closed session according to the Open Meetings Act Section 8(e), at 6:27 pm with possible action taken. Motion carried. A motion was made by Saari supported by Segalin to authorized McDonald to negotiate a final settlement in the pending litigation. Motion carried.

Adjournment: A motion was made by Brunello supported by Graser to adjourn the meeting at 6:50 pm. Motion carried.

James Simmons, Supervisor

Mary Segalin, Clerk