

**Charter Township of Ironwood**  
**N10892 Lake Rd**  
**Ironwood, MI 49938**  
**Special Meeting/ Public Hearing Minutes**  
**Thursday, December 2, 2021**  
**Time: 5:00 pm**

**Call to Order:** 5:00 pm Pledge of Allegiance.

**Roll Call:** Jay Kangas- Supervisor, Maria Graser-Treasurer, Mary Segalin- Clerk

**Trustees:** James Simmons, Kevin Lyons, Brenda Aili- Angus, Gabe Justinak

**Absent:** None

**Also, Present:** Sandy Lahtinen

A motion was made by Simmons supported by Segalin to open the Public Hearing at 5:00pm. The board offered no comments concerning the 2022 Budgets- all funds.

Sandy Lahtinen presented a letter to the board to be placed on file, also commented: I see that the wages increased significantly, except for Trustees, in the proposed budget- also can anyone answer me how salaries are figured out? The increase in just one year is 5%. Next year is 2%. Is there an actual percentage every year or do you get a cost of living already? You just raise it 5% or \$1 or \$3?

Kangas replied: At the previous meetings, we discussed insurance costs, numbers were thrown out there- 3% to 5.9%. There was a motion for 3% as well as 4%.

Simmons: I made a suggestion based on the CPI and what Social Security was going off of, the COLA they figure is 5.9%, but the officials just asked for a 3% increase.

Lahtinen: Meetings were at 4pm and its like, I mean nobody's here tonight. People have just given up on coming to meetings. They are 4, 5, and 6. The Planning Commission has their meetings at 6pm- they've been that time forever, unless there's a special meeting for some reason. I gave you a copy of the letter I wrote last year, Kevin- you were absent for that meeting, because you probably forgot that it was at 4pm, I don't know. I couldn't go to that meeting so I wrote a letter on my concerns.

Kangas: That meeting in Oct you called me and said you couldn't come because you were on your way out of town, but even if we had the meeting at 7pm- you would not have attended.

Lahtinen: Please have adequate postings of your meetings. What's so difficult about posting a meeting? We worked really hard at the Planning Commission to get a meeting together before the end of the year. It wasn't posted properly, so now we got to go through the whole process again. I gave you both letters to show you nothing's changed, increased ins. Premiums, increased salaries, deputy's salaries. The Board of Review hasn't had any training, there's been no increase in the budget for training. I use a recycled computer, barely enough money for my paper or ink cartridges. Is there money in the budget for Board of Review training, because training is mandatory now. My taxes have gone up, there's extra millage on there from the Ambulance, school taxes. Are you going to tax everyone right out of the Township? Many people are on a fixed income, and do not have computers, so if you don't put a notice in the paper about the meeting time change- they aren't going to know. These are the things I am concerned about as a citizen and taxpayer of the Township. I'm not going to stay for the rest of the meeting because it doesn't make a difference anyway. I am sure nothing will happen. I wish at least when you go home tonight, you would consider some of these things. I mentioned the Township should be a friendly place, where people like to come to meetings, so we can all work together. So when I come to the office- I don't know who's here half of the time. If you don't have a scheduled time to be in the office, put up a sign on the door. If you're getting insurance- I don't know any other job where a part-time employee can collect full-time insurance. I'm not being critical of you- I'm just talking about the township in general- myself included when I'm on the board. I think people have been intimidated-

they don't come to meetings. That's really disappointing. So do your budget meeting, give yourselves 5.9% increase- that's all I have to say.

No other public comments.

**Closing of the Public Hearing:** A motion was made by Simmons supported by Justinak to close the Public Hearing at 5:08pm. Motion carried.

**Opening of Regular Meeting:** A motion was made by Lyons supported by Graser to open the regular meeting at 5:09pm. Motion carried.

**Roll Call:** Jay Kangas- Supervisor, Mary Segalin-Clerk, Maria Graser- Treasurer

**Also present:** Trustees: Jim Simmons, Brenda Aili- Angus, Gabe Justinak, Kevin Lyons.

**Amendments to Agenda:** None.

**Public Comment on Agenda Items Only: (3-minute limit)** No comments

**New Business:** A motion was made by Segalin supported by Simmons to adopt Resolution 2021-009-2022 Supervisor Salary Resolution. Ayes: Kangas, Simmons, Lyons, Graser, Justinak and Segalin with Nay: Aili-Angus stating she was accepting of only 3% not 5.9%. Motion carried on a roll call vote.

A motion was made by Graser supported by Aili-Angus to adopt Resolution 2021-012- 2022 Water Fund Budget. Motion carried on a roll call vote.

A motion was made by Segalin supported by Aili- Angus to adopt Resolution 2021-013- 2022 Wastewater Fund Budget. Motion carried on a roll call vote.

A motion was made by Justinak supported by Aili- Angus to adopt Resolution 2021-014- 2022 Special Grant Fund Budget. Motion carried on a roll call vote.

A motion was made by Segalin supported by Simmons to adopt Resolution 2021-015- 2022 General Appropriations Budget. Motion carried on a roll call vote.

A motion was made by Justinak supported by Segalin to adopt Resolution 2021-018- 2022 Trustees Salary Resolution. Motion carried on a roll call vote.

A motion was made by Simmons supported by Graser to adopt Resolution 2021-021- 2022 Treasurer Salary Resolution. Ayes: Kangas, Simmons, Lyons, Graser, Justinak and Segalin with Nay: Aili- Angus stating she was accepting of only 3% not 5.9%. Motion carried on a roll call vote.

A motion was made by Simmons supported by Justinak to adopt Resolution 2021-022- 2022 Clerk Salary Resolution. Ayes: Kangas, Simmons, Lyons, Graser, Justinak and Segalin with Nay: Aili- Angus stating she was accepting of only 3% not 5.9%. Motion carried on a roll call vote.

## **Reports:**

**Supervisor:** Kangas suggested that the Parks and Rec committee meet soon.

**Treasurer:** Winter taxes have been sent out. They are higher due to GOISD collecting in the winter not summer to better their budget and residents are not happy.

**Clerk:** Working with BS&A – 2020 Bank Recs are finalized. Will start working on 2021. The draft audit came in from Gus Ahonen. At the next meeting Dec. 13, 2021- Ahonen will present the final audit to the board.

## **Trustees:**

Justinak: PC meeting was canceled.

Lyons: Suggested that the Township be proactive and start replacing galvanized water lines as it is mandatory. There are (5) homes in the Township with galvanized water lines.

Simmons: Nothing to report

Aili-Angus: Board of Review- AMAR didn't pass due to lack of education of the Board of Review members.

**Fire Dept:** No report

**Public comment:** None

**Adjournment:** A motion was made Segalin supported by Lyons to adjourn the meeting at 5:44 pm. Motion carried.

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Jay Kangas, Supervisor

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Mary Segalin, Clerk