

**Charter Township of Ironwood
Regular Meeting Minutes
Monday, January 11, 2021
Time: 6:00 pm
Teleconference meeting
Call: (701) 802-5250
Access Code: 714999#**

Call to Order: 6:00 pm Pledge of Allegiance.

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

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

Absent: None

Also Present: Bob Brentar (FD), Brett Imwalle, Sandy Lahtinen, Mark McDonald- Township attorney, Peggy Krohn, Leroy Johnson- Zoning Administrator, Larry Grimsby.

Kangas made a comment concerning how the meetings are to be run- it is a business meeting, must adhere to the agenda, try to run an orderly meeting.

Public Comment: (3-minute limit) ~~A citizen-~~ Sandy Lahtinen made several comments to the minutes for Dec. 29, 2020 public hearing and some corrections.

Another citizen had welcomed the new board and hopes they will be conduct business in a positive manner.

Amendments to Agenda: Communications: Letter from Sandy Lahtinen. A motion was made by Simmons supported Aili-Angus to accept the agenda as amended. Motion carried.

Consent Agenda: A motion was made by Lyons supported by Aili-Angus to accept the minutes as from the Regular Meeting, as corrected, Dec. 17 and Dec. 21, 2020. Motion carried.

The Dec. 29th public hearing minutes were tabled as a board member could not locate them in his board meeting information.

Bills and Salaries: General Fund-46678-46742- \$41,672.74 EFT 77-81- \$4,986.72, Water Fund-9161-9169- \$198,228.60, Wastewater Fund-1977-1981- \$53,544.08, CTF- 8505-8527- \$122,334.18 A motion was made by Justinak supported by Simmons to accept the bills and salaries as presented. Motion carried on a roll call vote.

Appearances: None

Old Business: A motion was made by Lyons supported by Justinak to ratify the Union Contract with employees. Motion carried on a roll call vote.

Communications: A motion was made by Segalin supported by Lyons to place the Brett Imwalle- Open meetings act letter on file. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Lyons supported by Graser to place the Ironwood Area Schools Summer Tax Collections Resolution on file. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Lyons supported by Graser to place on file the Gogebic County Council of Veterans Affairs Contribution letter, until an agreement be presented and signed. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Graser supported by Lyons to place on file, LeRoy Johnson's 2020 Zoning log of activities. Lyons requested a monthly report, Johnson offered a quarterly report., which was agreed upon. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Lyons supported by Simmons to place the letter from Sandy Lahtinen on file. Motion carried.

New Business: None

Reports:

Supervisor: Kangas reached out to the owners of the Trailer Park in regards to the water leak. He sent 3 certified letters. Only received one back. Trying to obtain construction Co. quotes for fixing the leak. The tenants there are concerned about the road leading through the park as it is not being plowed- it is a private driveway so the Twp. Cannot do anything about it. Kangas contacted the Health Dept. concerning the COVID vaccine- they will be available possibly mid-January for the office staff.

Treasurer: Graser reports that a lot of homes and properties have been sold so she's been busy making necessary changes in her software program. The Utility and Garbage bills were sent out. The thermal imagers and training books have been ordered for the Fire Dept.

Clerk: The Fire Dept. has been requesting a lot of office supplies to keep up with today's technology and paperwork. The requested MTA training info is in the Board meeting paperwork for discussion. Segalin stated she is working on end of the year financials.

Trustees:

Lyons: Asking again that the "Amendments to the Agenda" be placed before "public comment". Also, requesting that whenever the board is legally able to attend the meetings in person, that we should do so.

Simmons: Nothing to report

Justinak: Nothing to report

Aili-Angus: Nothing to report

Fire Dept.: Bob Brentar- Fire Chief reported on the 2020 fire calls. They had 34 call outs all together. Brentar is looking into more grants to write for. Thanks, the Board for ordering the thermal imagers and the Fire Dept. training books. The COVID vaccines are being scheduled now but has a lot of Fire fighters being reluctant. The Fire Dept. has decided to not hold the annual Frost Fest this year due to COVID restrictions and the area economy.

Public comment: Larry Grimsby- 911 Coordinator- spoke about the change in dispatch for the Little Girls Point citizens- from Iron Co. to the Negaunee dispatch. ~~It has been tested with no problems. He reminded citizens, Aspirus is now taking appointments for the COVID vaccine for people 65yrs old and older. He also stated the meeting notice in the Daily Globe state the meetings are at 5:30pm, not 6:00pm and needs to be corrected.~~

A citizen had thanked Kangas for his powerful and positive statement in the beginning of the meeting, but stated that he thinks that the Open Meetings Act is being violated and that citizens

should not be limited to only 3-minute comments during public comment. Only if there are several people wanting to make a comment, otherwise its impractical.

Another citizen had wondered what the decision was on the Zoning Administrator's wage. Kangas stated it has been resolved and will remain the same. She asked that the board follow-up in the meetings when something has been brought up for discussion.

Sandy Lahtinen commented on her letter she sent to the Board under communications and wanted it read into the minutes. Her letter was acknowledged by the Board and was placed on file.

Adjournment: A motion was made by Simmons supported by Justinak to adjourn the meeting at 6:53pm. Motion carried.

Jay Kangas, Supervisor

Mary Segalin, Clerk