

**Charter Township of Ironwood  
Regular Meeting  
April 22, 2019**

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

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

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

**Absent:**

A motion was made by Segalin supported by Brunello to allow Lyons to chair the meeting due to the vacancy of the Supervisor. Motion carried.

**Also Present:** Joe Rohde, Ron Jacobson, LeRoy Johnson, Sandy Lahtinen, Scott Carlson- Fire Chief, George Kivi, Kathy Maki, Darrin Kimbler, Brenda Angus, Kathy Erickson, Allen Erickson, Ginger Kivisto, Brett Imwalle, Adam Graser, Jay Kangas, Richard Jenkins and Attorney Mark McDonald.

**Amendments to Agenda:** Old Business: PAUD Office Location, New Business: Res. 2019-002 Poverty Exemption, Res. 2019-003-Waive Penalty Affidavit and move Closed session after last Public comment due to a Closed Session. A motion was made by Brunello accepted by Graser to accept the agenda as amended. Motion carried.

**Public Comment: (3 minute limits)** A citizen commented on a sewer backup in his basement during the last storm. This is the 14<sup>th</sup> time this has happened since new road was put in on Sunset Road, also what we are going to do about the sump pumps being drained into the sewer system. A citizen asked what the procedure on hiring supervisor and if are we going to post in newspaper and on website. Another citizen asked if the Township is still looking into high speed broadband. A letter was read by Brett Imwalle concerning a mechanical permit needed for a heating appliance next to his property, in which he says is a violation of the zoning ordinance.

**Consent Agenda:** A motion was made by Brunello supported by Michaels to accept the minutes as presented from the Regular Meeting on April 8, 2019. Motion carried.

**Bills and Salaries:** General Fund-44758-44794- \$37,395.25, Water Fund- #8983-8989- \$28,714.68, Wastewater Fund- 1873-1875- \$2,262.77.

A motion was made by Saari supported by Michaels to accept the bills and salaries as presented. Motion carried on a roll call vote.

**Appearances:** None

**Old Business:** The board discussed the sewer infiltration problems in the Township. Johnson requested all Ordinances pertaining to this problem be looked at to be combined and form one new Ordinance. Segalin will prepare them for the next meeting.

The Baseball field clay for the Sunset Road Park was discussed. It is tabled until next meeting due to budget matters and wetness of the field.

The PAUD office will be located inside the Township building in the near future. Previously, Supervisor Boyd agreed they could move in with a \$50 per month lease. A motion was made by Saari supported by Graser to allow the lease. Motion carried on a roll call vote. All ayes.

**Communications:** A motion was made by Brunello supported by Michaels to place the Masterplan of the Township of Wakefield and a letter from Mark McDonald (township attorney) concerning Gogebic Co. Forestry & Parks committee-2018 PILT, on file. Motion carried.

**New Business:** The First reading of Ordinance #56-Amendment to Ord. #21 was reviewed. The changes reflect the Fire numbers and who may install them. This new Ordinance will be presented for adoption at the May 13, 2019 regular board meeting.

The Supervisor vacancy was discussed. The only qualifications are that person has to be a resident and registered voter in the Township. They would fill the remainder of this term which is November 19, 2020. The Township has forty-five days to fill this vacancy. A motion was made by Saari supported by Michaels to publish an Ad in the Daily Globe x 5 days for this position and posting on the website. Letters of interest shall be submitted by end of business day, April 29<sup>th</sup>. Motion carried on a roll call vote with 5 Ayes with Brunello voting Nay.

Due to the Supervisor position being vacant, the Supervisor serves on several boards outside of the Township Board and/or attended meeting on our behalf. All of those positions are being filled by the alternates except the Gogebic County Board as attendee and MTA as attendee. This position attends the MTA meeting and reports on the County Board activities. Saari volunteered to attend these board meetings temporarily. A motion was made by Segalin supported by Graser to accept this temporary appointment. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Segalin supported by Graser to adopt Resolution 2019-002 Poverty Exemption. Motion carried on a roll call vote.

A motion made by Saari supported by Brunello to adopt Resolution 2019-003 Waive penalties of property affidavits. Motion carried on a roll call vote.

#### **Reports:**

**Supervisor:** None

**Treasurer:** A motion made by Segalin supported by Brunello to place the Treasurer's March 2019 report on file. Motion carried. Graser stated that the 2018 Park/Forestry report is available at the office for review, if anyone is interested.

**Clerk:** A motion was made by Michaels supported by Graser to place March 2019 Bank Balances on file. Motion carried.

#### **Trustees:**

Michaels: Requested the non-partisan resolution to be added to next meeting's agenda-per MTA recommendation.

Saari: Saari reported that the Transfer station is requested the residents of the Township adhere to the garbage bag weight limits of #35 lbs. max. Also a citizen stated in our Ordinance it is a #50 lb. weight limit. Saari was going to check on the limit with transfer station.

Brunello: Attended a Wastewater meeting. There will be a retirement party for Mark Bowman on April 26, 2019 at 8:00 am if anyone wants to attend.

Lyons: PAUD Board will be conducting the new administrator interviews this week.

**Fire Dept.:** Chief Carlson reported on two fires for the month of March 2019. A motion was made by Brunello supported by Segalin to allow Amy Condon and Adam Graser to be added to the Fire Department roster effective immediately. Motion carried.

**Public Comment:** Several citizens had comments about: The supervisor position and how the candidate should be selected on qualifying attributes not on popularity, agenda items that fall off the agenda from one meeting to the next, concerns the County Treasurer will be withholding payment for delinquent taxes and the Board needs to listen to our maintenance men and what their needs are in order to do their job effectively.

**Closed Session:** A motion was made by Brunello supported by Segalin to enter into closed session at 6:26 pm. Motion carried. A motion was made by Lyons supported by Graser to go back into open session at 7:11 pm. Motion carried.

**Adjournment:** A motion was made by Lyons supported by Graser to adjourn the meeting at 7:12 pm. Motion carried.

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Kevin Lyons, Trustee/Acting Chair

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Mary Segalin, Clerk

## Resolution #2019-002

### Charter Township of Ironwood

#### GUIDELINE RESOLUTION FOR POVERTY EXEMPTION

*WHEREAS*, the adoption of guidelines for poverty exemptions is required of the Ironwood Township Board; and

*WHEREAS*, the principal residence of persons, who the Assessor and Board of Review determines by reason of poverty to be unable to contribute to the public charge, is eligible for exemption in whole or in part from taxation under Public Act 390 of 1994 (MCL 211.7u); and

*WHEREAS*, pursuant to PA 390 of 1994, the Township of Ironwood, Gogebic County adopts the following guidelines for the Board of Review to implement. The guidelines shall include but not be limited to the specific income and asset levels of the claimant and all persons residing in the household, including any property tax credit returns, filed in the current or immediately preceding year;

To be eligible, a person shall do all the following on an annual basis:

1. The applicant must appeal personally, by appointment, in writing, or through an agent authorized in writing by the property owner.
2. The applicant shall complete the hardship petition form in advance of the hearing date, including a copy of the current or prior year Income Tax Returns, both Federal and Michigan, for all persons residing in the home or listed as an owner on the deed. This must include the MI1040 CR showing the homestead Property Tax Credit. Any additional information to be presented to the Board must be in writing and attached to the petition.
3. Any relief granted is a reduction over and above the \$1200 maximum Homestead Property Tax Credit granted by the State of Michigan.
4. All applications must be RECEIVED by the Assessor's office after January 1, but one day before the final published session of the Board of Review.
5. All applications shall be processed by the Assessor's office to calculate the percentage of Household Income consumed by property taxes. A hardship situation does not exist when property taxes do not exceed 5% of the household/owner adjusted income.
6. The Board of Review may require a driver's license, deed, or any form of documentation necessary for verification.
7. An explanation will be required for all household members over the age of eighteen who are not cited as contributing to the household income.
8. The property being appealed must be the applicant's Homestead (Principle Residence).

9. Poverty reductions shall not be given to the same household for more than five (5) consecutive years, or until the applicant has reached age 65, at which time the five (5) year time limitation is removed.
10. In order to qualify for consideration for a Hardship Exemption, petitioners must qualify under the most current Federal poverty guidelines as determined annually by the United States Department of Health and Human Services. The figures listed below represent the most that could have been earned by all household members in order to qualify for a Hardship Exemption at the March, July or December Boards of Review. The Board of Review may choose to waive these income requirements if a hardship applicant has experienced a recent significant change in their household income and may grant a partial exemption.

The following are the federal poverty income guidelines which are updated annually by the United States Department of Health and Human Services. The annual allowable income includes income for all persons residing in the principal residence.

*Federal Poverty Guidelines for 2019 Assessments*

| <u>Number of Persons Residing<br/>in the Principal Residence</u> | <u>Poverty Guidelines<br/>Annual allowable income</u> |
|--|---|
| 1 person   | \$ 12,140   |
| 2 persons  | \$ 16,460   |
| 3 persons  | \$ 20,780   |
| 4 persons  | \$ 25,100   |
| 5 persons  | \$ 29,420   |
| 6 persons  | \$ 33,740   |
| 7 persons  | \$ 38,060   |
| 8 persons  | \$ 42,380   |
| Each additional person, add                                      | \$ 4,320  |

11. An Asset test will be performed to determine the resources available: cash, fixed assets or other property that could be converted to cash and used to pay property taxes in the year the poverty exemption is filed. The claimants should provide a list of all assets on the application when applying for a poverty exemption.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED** that the assessor and Board of Review shall follow the above stated policy and federal guidelines in granting or denying an exemption, unless the assessor and Board of Review determines there are substantial and compelling reasons why there should be a deviation from the policy and federal guidelines and these reasons are communicated in writing to the claimant.

The foregoing resolution offered by Segalin and supported by Graser.

Upon roll call vote, the following voted:

Yes: All

No: None

Absent: None

STATE OF MICHIGAN )  
 ) SS  
GOGEBIC COUNTY )

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of a resolution adopted by the Ironwood Township Board, County of Gogebic, State of Michigan, at a regular meeting held on April 22, 2019 and that said meeting was conducted and public notice of said meeting was given pursuant to and in full compliance with the Open Meetings Act, being Act 267, Public Act of Michigan, 1967, and that the minutes of said meeting were kept and will be or have been made available as required by said act.

  
Mary Segalin, Township Clerk

RESOLUTION #2019-003  
Charter Township of Ironwood  
RESOLUTION TO WAIVE PENALTIES FOR NON-FILING OF PROPERTY  
TRANSFER AFFIDAVITS UNDER MCL 211.27b

WHEREAS, MCL 211.27a(10) requires the buyer, grantee, or other transferee of the property shall notify the appropriate assessing office in the local unit of government in which the property is located of the transfer of ownership of the property within 45 days of the transfer of ownership, on a form prescribed by the state tax commission that states the parties to the transfer, the date of the transfer, the actual consideration for the transfer, and the property's parcel identification number or legal description and

WHEREAS, MCL 211.27b(1) requires that if the buyer, grantee, or other transferee in the immediately preceding transfer of ownership of property does not notify the appropriate assessing office of the transfer, then penalties as described in MCL 211.27b(1)(c) or (d) are levied and

WHEREAS, MCL 211.27b(5) provides that the governing body of a local tax collecting unit may waive, by resolution, the penalty levied under MCL 211.27b(1 or (d).

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township of Ironwood waives the penalty for failure to file the Property Transfer Affidavit following a transfer of ownership pursuant to the local unit's authority contained in MCL 211.27b.

Motion: Saari Support: Brunello

YES: All

NO: None

ABSENT: None

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED

I, Mary Segalin, do hereby certify that I am the duly appointed acting and qualified Clerk of the Township of Ironwood, and do further certify that the above and foregoing Resolution is a true and correct copy of the Resolution passed by the Ironwood Township Board, at a Regular Meeting held on April 22, 2019.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Mary Segalin", is written over a horizontal line.

Mary Segalin Ironwood Township Clerk