

**Charter Township of Ironwood
Regular Meeting
Monday, August 24, 2020
Time: 5:30 pm
Ironwood Township Gym**

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

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

Trustees: Marlene Saari, Kevin Lyons, Bernie Brunello

Absent: Bev Michaels

Due to COVID-19- The meeting was held outdoors in the parking lot next to the Township Building.

Also Present: Sandy Lahtinen, Brenda Angus, Leroy Johnson- Zoning Administrator, Jay Kangas, Lynn Coron- Deputy Clerk, Rich Jenkins, Mark McDonald- Township Attorney, Katie Nelson, Shane Condon, Amy Condon, Lynn Vanderschagen, Bob Brentar, Vicki Nelson, Tom Novascone- Township Assessor, Scott Carlson- Fire Dept. Chief, Danielle Halz, Donna Lipske, Ken Haanpaa, Brittney Pertile, James Hastings

Supervisor Simmons stated before the meeting: This is a business meeting, we ask that you abide by the rules of order, be respectful and stay on point.

Public Comment: (3-minute limit) There were several comments about the fire dept tires, the Fire Dept. ordinance, the PAUD truck bid amount, the PAUD office space at the Township building, scrolling LED sign.

Amendments to Agenda: None

Consent Agenda: A motion was made by Brunello supported by Saari to accept the minutes from the Regular Meeting, Aug. 10, 2020, as presented. Motion carried.

Bills and Salaries: General Fund-46256-46296, EFT-34,35,36,37- Totaling \$121,439.56, Water Fund-#9125-9127- Totaling \$1,238.78, Wastewater Fund- #1960 & 1961- Totaling \$4,723.91, Tax Fund - #8411 & 8412- Totaling \$1,274.29. 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 LED scrolling sign for outside of the township building was discussed again. Graser stated it would be informative for the citizens who don't have the internet/computer or the newspaper to know what is happening in the Township on a daily basis. The Board asked for an updated price quote and will revisit the issue at the next meeting.

A motion was made by Saari supported by Segalin to allow a Township clean-up, the date is set for Sept. 15th through the 30th, 2020. Citizens will be required to show their ID to show

township residency to the transfer station employees, they will check citizen's name off of the list. This information will be posted in the newspaper and on the website. Motion carried. Johnson reported on mandated documentation from the Fire Dept. It is either missing or not being produced or filled out at all. He stated the documentation is mandated by Michigan Law. The Fire Chief is responsible to have a paper trail in every transaction, but none have been produced, even after several requests. He handed out reports to the board showing them what is required of the board/Township as the Fire Dept. employer. He and Simmons have had meetings with the chief and assistant chief stating he wants this Dept. to be the best in Gogebic County. After much discussion and finding discrepancies with fund raising monies- A motion was made by Brunello supported by Graser to outsource these issues to an outside agency- to find and correlate fundraising monies and the proof of where it came from and where it was intended for- pool filling, Christmas for Kids etc. Motion carried. Due to the payroll sheets not being completely and correctly filled out by the Fire Chief-July payroll has not been processed yet. A motion was made by Lyons supported by Saari to allow Segalin to pay the FD members with this being the last time the paperwork unfinished will be accepted. Motion carried.

Communications: A letter from Jake's Excavating regarding his assessed value of his Personal Property was presented. He was told by our Assessor, Tom Novascone, the Board of Review met on two separate occasions this year, it was noticed in the newspaper and was sent to every property owner. The board cannot change any assessed value, it had to have come through the Board of Review first.

Simmons had placed a bid on the truck that the Powderhorn Area Utility District had placed out on bids. The Township was able to secure the bid and purchase the vehicle for \$18,753. The truck will be paid for by 1/3 of the amount coming from the General, Water and Sewer Funds.

A motion was made by Brunello supported by Graser to place the 2002 Ford with the plow out for bids. Motion carried on a roll call vote.

A motion was made by Saari supported by Segalin to place both correspondences on file. Motion carried.

New Business: None

Reports:

Supervisor: Nothing to report

Treasurer: There were 8 people who paid on their delinquent water bills this past month. There are several more. Graser stated the Health Dept. will be assisting with payments toward them in the near future.

Clerk: Segalin is looking into purchasing a bigger drop box for ballots and other Township payments. The cost is approximately \$1,000.

Trustees:

Michaels- Absent

Saari- Attended the Solid Waste meeting. Reported that the Lost Lake road is in disrepair, needs gravel. Requested a structural engineer to check out the Fire Hall basement/garage floor again as the FD members have no access to a bathroom. The FD truck tires should go under the capital

improvement list. Asked where the maintenance men were with the fire number placements. Simmons stated they are on Black River Harbor Rd.

Brunello- Brunello attended a Gogebic Range Water Authority meeting.

Lyons- Lyons attended a PAUD meeting, they are reducing their rates by 5%.

Fire Dept.: Chief Carlson said they had 9 fire calls this past month and 2 birthday drive by. Carlson stated that the Building Inspector needs to be notified as there are issues in the attics of Milltrace Apts with the fire walls.

Public comment: Segalin stated that the Nov. ballots will be here the end of September. A citizen had questions about the Mobile Home Park, potential new owners were advised of the past due water bill amount. Another citizen stated that Lost lake needs for sand for its beach. If the board was going to address the bathroom issue concerning the Fire Department. Another citizen had complaints about the Supervisor making decisions on the burn ban in effect during the COVID crisis, also HIPPA laws over the FD member files. HIPPA does not pertain to this situation, HIPPA is for health care.

Adjournment: A motion was made by Brunello supported by Graser to adjourn the meeting at 7:13pm. Motion carried.

James Simmons, Supervisor

Mary Segalin, Clerk