

**Charter Township of Ironwood
Regular Meeting
September 25, 2017**

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

Roll Call: Supervisor Steve Boyd, Clerk Mary Segalin and Treasurer Maria Graser

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

Absent: None

Also Present: Scott Carlson-Fire Chief, Joe Rohde, Linda Ellos, Kim Pelkola, Kathy Maki, Laurie Soltis, Peggy Krone, Brenda Aili-Angus, Rich Jenkins, Darrin Kimbler, Rachel and Joe Peck, Ron Jacobson, George Kivi, Ginger Kivisto, Andrea Mesich, Claire Mesich, Maria Cecilia Aho, Sandy Lahtinen, James Simmons, Bob Murphy, Kelly Stanczak.

Boyd stated: Before we start the first public comment section, I'd like to remind you that this is a business meeting. Your comments are welcome, and if you have questions we will make note of them and respond to you in a timely manner. So we can do that, please begin by stating your name and address so that we can get back to you. I would also ask that you refrain from vulgarity, be respectful towards everyone, and refrain from personal attacks because this is not an appropriate matter to be discussed under public comment. If you have an issue with any employee or official, please send it to us in writing or email first. So we can ascertain if it is true and give a full response. If you have an issue with an employee or elected official, feel free to stop in and discuss it with us, as we have procedures in place to deal with issues that cannot be resolved through a discussion. The public comment section is not the place for personal attacks, as we will not be able to resolve your issue here. Also keep in mind you may speak once tonight, there is a 3 minute time limit, and one at a time. Again, in order to respond as completely as possible to your questions, we will take the time to answer them as fully and completely as possible after the meeting. If your issues involve anything legal, our attorney is here and can speak to you privately after the meeting. Michigan Township association legal opinion is that "there really is no point in a meeting where there should be a back and forth between the board and the public, other than during a public hearing or an open forum discussion."

Public Comment: Agenda Items Only- A citizen had asked about the revenue sharing being withheld and if the board will be sharing the info on the amount. Boyd stated yes he will be.

Amendments to Agenda: Communications: Plante Moran letter. A motion was made by Brunello supported by Graser to accept the agenda as amended. Motion carried.

Minutes: A motion was made by Brunello supported by Saari to accept the minutes as presented from Sept 6 & 11, 2017. Motion carried.

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

Appearances: None

Old Business: None

Communications: Communication was received from the Michigan Department of Treasury in reference to the 2016 audit, that it has not yet been completed and State Revenue Sharing being withheld, but because the Township only receives constitutional revenue sharing, that cannot be withheld. Boyd read some portions of a letter of some findings from Plante Moran (Forensic Auditors). They also commended the Clerk and Treasurer for assisting them in a timely manner and information they requested. A motion was made by Lyons supported by Segalin to place the communications on file. Motion carried.

New Business: GRWA sent an informational letter concerning a water rate increase for Wakefield Twp. This will not affect the Ironwood Township rates.

A policy needs to be established for a Memorial Tree Sale for the cemetery. Citizens may purchase a tree to be planted in honor of a loved one at the cemetery. More information will be given at the next meeting, such as types of trees, location of trees to be planted, and the cost.

Reports:

Supervisor: UPCAP received a 2 million dollar grant for renovations at Milltrace Apartments on Lake Road. UPCAP will be submitting a request to the current PILT they are now paying.

Reminder: Hydrant flushing will commence in the Township –Oct. 9-13, 2017 with the Gogebic Range Water Authority for the water lines located in the Township. Some discoloration of water may occur.

Treasurer: Graser stated she will be changing 3 accounts at River Valley Bank, to a higher rate of interest.

Clerk: A reminder of the Sp. Meeting/ Budget Workshop will be Wed. Sept. 27, 2017 at 6 pm.

For information only- The monthly water use comparison from GRWA billings was given to the board. A significant decrease in water usage is shown since the maintenance men found and fixed the huge leak.

Trustees: None

Fire Department: None

Closed session: None

Public Comment: (3 minute limits) Non agenda items only- A citizen was wondering how and why the agenda changed and why wasn't the public notified. Another citizen had still asked why the Clerk and Treasurer are being paid double for water/sewer as it

is part of their statutory duty. Another citizen wanted to know the township's policy on harassment and the steps to resolving this issue.

Boyd addressed another citizen's concerns about patching Vanderhagen Rd. Boyd gave her an email from Darren Pionk addressing this issue.

Adjournment: A motion was made by Brunello supported by Graser to adjourn at 6:08 pm. Motion carried.

Steve Boyd, Supervisor

Mary Segalin, Clerk