

**Charter Township of Ironwood  
Special Meeting  
September 21, 2016**

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

**Roll Call:** Supervisor Al Baron, Treasurer Jyl Olson-DeRosso, Mary Segalin Clerk

**Trustees:** Kevin Lyons, Kathy Maki, Bernie Brunello, Steve Boyd

**Absent:** None

**Also Present:** Lynn Coron-Deputy Clerk, Joe Rohde, Darrin Kimbler, Kim Pelkola, James Simmons, Maria Graser, Mark McDonald, Rich Jenkins, Officer McRae from Gogebic County Sheriff's Department

**Public Comment:** None

**Supervisor Baron stated he would like noted in the minutes that we have a police presence in the audience, as we have in the past, as a Board member currently has a Personal Protection Order (PPO) on a township citizen.**

**New Business:** A discussion was had by all Board members concerning the purposed contract between the Township and the Michigan Dept. of Treasury audit division as it is presented. It was recommended by our auditor, Karl Ahonen we have the state auditor's office come in and review our records. Ahonen has been in contact with Cary Jay Vaughn, State Auditor. Lyons raised a question about just contracting with a fraud auditor first. Segalin stated that no one has evidence of fraud at this time, that is up to the State to determine. A motion was made by Brunello supported by DeRosso to approve signing the contract between the Charter Township of Ironwood and the Michigan Dept. of Treasury Audit Division. Motion carried on a roll call vote. All voting aye.

The board members would also request the State auditor meet with them individually if any questions arise. Also, if the Auditor would send a preliminary report to the Board with its findings.

**Public Comment: (3 minute limit):** A citizen had asked if the clerk has to send in a quarterly report to State of Michigan with financial statements Segalin answered no, but she does send quarterly financial statement to the local Ahonen for his review.

Mr. Simmons had read a letter to the board regarding his opinion on the financial aspect of the Township and his concern of how proper accounting controls would have ensured the validity and accuracy of the financial records for 2015. He hopes this Board feels embarrassed that the Michigan Department of Treasury has to become involved. The whole affair has been very costly to the Township in both financial and human resources. He will continue to be critical of the failing in our Township. Mr. Simmons further stated our Township needs a fresh start with a full forensic audit by a certified independent accounting firm specializing in this type of service, he believes the citizens can accept their findings as the final answer.

Another citizen had stated for transparency reasons that the Board to try not to call a special meeting when a regular meeting is going to be held within days.

**Adjournment:** A motion was made by Brunello supported by Segalin to adjourn the meeting at 5:57 pm. Motion carried.

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**Alan Baron, Supervisor**

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**Mary Segalin, Clerk**