

**Charter Township of Ironwood  
Regular Meeting  
July 09, 2018**

000973

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

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

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

**Absent:** None

**Also Present:** Sandy Lahtinen, Joe Rohde, Fire Chief-Scott Carlson, Dave Kinnunen, Ron Jacobson, George Kivi, and LeRoy Johnson.

**Amendments to Agenda:** None. A motion was made by Lyons supported by Saari to accept the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

**Public Comment: (3 minute limit).** A citizen had requested that her comments from the last meeting be added to the minutes. She had brought up the questions of conflict of interest with the Township doing administrative work for PAUD due to the Clerk being involved with Powderhorn personally.

**Consent Agenda:** Minutes from June 25, 2018 Regular Meeting was presented. A motion was made by Brunello supported by Michaels to accept the Minutes as presented. Motion carried.

**Bills and Salaries:** General Fund-43866- 43925- \$34,566.76, Water Fund- 8876-8879- \$7,295.26, Wastewater Fund- 1825 & 1826- \$11,635.50.

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

**Appearances:** Dave Kinnunen presented a donation of two NBA basketball nets for the basketball hoops for the Sunset Rd. courts. He suggested the backboards need to be painted before the nets should go up. The board thanked him for the donation.

**Old Business:** A motion was made by Brunello supported by Michaels to table the Revised PAUD Articles of Incorporation edition, due to too many questions still from the Township Board. Motion carried.

**Communications:** A Notice of Dismissal from Attorney McDonald was received in case against the Township from the former Treasurer DeRosso. The civil case the Township has filed against Ms. DeRosso is not dismissed. Copperwood is requesting an amendment from the DEQ. The National Forest Fund check to the Township was received from Gogebic County Treasurer. It specifies on the check the funds are only be used for Road improvements. A notice from the Gogebic County Treasurer on foreclosed properties was given with the rite of the Township to purchase those lands. The Township declined. Boyd signed off on them to not purchase such properties. A motion was made by Saari supported by Graser to place all correspondence on file. Motion carried.

**New Business:** A motion was made by Brunello supported by Saari to adopt Resolution 2018-08 Supporting Opposition to HB 6049/SB 1025. Motion carried on a roll call vote.

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A motion was made by Brunello supported by Michaels to allow the purchase of Gas Monitors for the lift stations- to monitor the air quality, for 4 different types of gases, before the maintenance men go underground to check them with the amount not to exceed \$1600. Motion carried on a roll call vote.

**Reports:  
Supervisor:**

**Meetings:** Gravel road inspection with the road commissioner, Road Commission meeting and a meeting with the new Superintendent of Ironwood Schools, Travis Powell, to bring him up to speed on the restitution and insurance issues still pending.

**Roads:** Airport Road has been chip sealed; oil will be applied today or tomorrow.  
**Lake Rd.:** 2 culverts near the spring will be replaced, necessitating closure of the road, probably between Monday and Thurs next week. Our website is linked to the Road Commission website so people can check on the status of the closure. Section 12 Road may be started earlier than expected, within 2 weeks. Gravel road assessment was done; we should have a prioritized list for the next meeting to vote on. Gravel from the recent flooding will be cleared out of the ditches on Lake Road sometime during the summer. They will also cut back the brush at Lake and Airport to facilitate field of view.

**Issues from last meeting:**

Boyd is waiting for responses from Giovannoni's and Lindquist Electric about LED bulb replacements. Boyd called them again and they said they would respond soon.

**Other:**

Boyd thanked trustee Lyons running the last meeting during his absence.  
The forensic auditor, Plante Moran, is tweaking their report to better answer questions from the insurance carriers regarding bonds. No further news on that front as of yet.

**Treasurer:** Graser reports that the tax bills, garbage bills and the 2018 spring/fall newsletters went out in the mail.

**Clerk:** Segalin reported that there were 25 late water bill notices sent out. The August Primary election is coming up on August 7, 2018. Also, July 9, 2018 is last day to register to vote for the August Primary.

**Trustees:**

Brunello-nothing to report

Lyons – nothing to report

Michaels-Asked Boyd for an update on Milltrace Apartments rehab project

Saari- Stated the Lost Lake benches have been painted, but the dock needed repairs

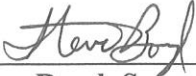
**Fire Department:** None

**Closed Session:** None

**Public Comment: (3 minute limit).** None

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**Adjournment:** A motion was made by Brūnello supported by Graser to adjourn the meeting at 6:05 pm. Motion carried.



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Steve Boyd, Supervisor



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Mary Segalin, Clerk

**Charter Township of Ironwood**  
**Resolution 2018-08**  
**In opposition to HB 6049 and SB 1025**

**Whereas**, House Bill (HB) 6049 and Senate Bill (SB) 1025 seeks to completely restructure the tax assessing qualifications, process and boundaries of local assessing units in Gogebic County; and

**Whereas**, HB 6049/ SB 1025 will impose a huge financial burden on Gogebic County as well as Michigan's other counties and local units because its mandates will require increased staffing levels with benefits and office space while providing a woefully inadequate 1% administrative fee and undefined "Start-up funding" to compensate the counties and other local units for the drastic expenses that will surely accompany the new mandates; and

**Whereas**, HB 6049/ SB 1025 will put Gogebic County at odds with its local townships by requiring us to take the 1% administration fee from the local units to pay for our increased costs; this 1% administration fee is earmarked for tax collection and assessment administration; and

**Whereas**, HB6049/ SB 1025 changes the method in which local boards of review (BOR) are conducted. By putting specialized BORs at the county level, HB 6049/SB 1025 has the potential to strip elected township supervisors and local assessing units of control over the tax assessing process, depriving them of the ability to account for unique conditions and values unknown to county-wide, regional and/or statewide assessing units but well known in the local units; and

**Whereas**, HB 6049/ SB 1025 appears to have been designed without any input from existing assessors, MEAD or their associations, and the previous drafts were not made public to the counties and townships directly affected by its sweeping changes until nearly ready for introduction into the Michigan Legislature. In this context, it is difficult to view HB 6049/ SB 1025 as anything other than an impetuous action generating from Lansing; and

**Whereas**, there are no guarantees that quality education will be available locally or even regionally to allow for the increased certification levels imposed by HB 6049/ SB 1025; and

**Whereas**, HB 6049/ SB 1025's proposed levels of certification for assessors may not achieve the results that are being sought. The real problem is deficient assessors, not their levels of certification. The solution lies in better policing of assessors by the State Tax Commission, not simply imposing increased educational requirements that may be impossible to achieve and that do nothing to weed out the bad actors; and

**Whereas**, Charter Township of Ironwood views HB 6049/ SB 1025 in its current form as an unconstitutional, unfunded mandate which does little or nothing to accomplish its stated goals and will inflict undue hardship to Gogebic County and their local units.

**Now, therefore, be it resolved**, that the Charter Township of Ironwood Board hereby opposes HB 6049/ SB 1025 and asks that it be withdrawn from consideration until the funding issues and other problems identified above can be properly addressed.

**Certification**

The undersigned hereby certify that the foregoing resolution in opposition to HB 6049/ SB 1025 was duly approved at a meeting of the Charter Township of Ironwood held on the 9<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2018.

A MOTION was made by Brunello supported by Saari to adopt Resolution 2018-08.

Motion carried.

  
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Steven Boyd, Supervisor

  
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Mary Segalin, Clerk

Ayes: All

Nays: None

Absent: None