

**Charter Township of Ironwood**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**Monday, July 13, 2020**  
**Dial-in Number (US): (701) 802-5250**  
**Access Code: 714999#**

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

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

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

**Absent:** none

**Also Present:** Sandy Lahtinen, Brenda Angus, Leroy Johnson- Zoning administrator, Jay Kangas, Lori and Jim Betzold, Rich Jenkins, Vicki Nelson and Mark McDonald- Township Attorney.

Simmons read a statement before the meeting started: If there is anyone who would like to speak during public comment, please state your name when addressing the board.

**Public Comment: (3-minute limit)** A citizen voiced her concern with the General Fund Vouchers-missing some checks to the final amount paid on the agenda, needs correction before the board approves it. Segalin explained that with the new BS&A software- there is a learning curve and to be patient, as the new software doesn't allow for some applications very easily. The vouchers will be corrected before approval. A citizen requested they be exempt from having a garbage bill for one of their homes in the township that is currently not being occupied. Graser stated that if it is a habitable home according to our ordinance and contract with Solid Waste Mgt., the residence will be charged accordingly. Graser also stated that she will look into the rate at which it can be charged-possibly a cottage rate may apply. Another citizen had asked why fireworks and gunfire were not addressed in the noise ordinance.

**Amendments to Agenda:** Old business: Lake Rd. Spring and the Fire Dept. Ordinance shall be kept on the agenda until resolved. Clarification of Road Contract with the GCRC, A motion was made by Brunello supported by Michaels to accept the agenda as amended. Motion carried.

**Consent Agenda:** A motion was made by Brunello supported by Michaels to accept the minutes from the Regular Meeting, June 22, 2020, as corrected. Motion carried.

**Bills and Salaries:** General Fund-epay, #46094-46100-46168- \$58,485.55, Water Fund- #9112-9113- \$6483.60, Wastewater Fund- #1952-1954- \$13,214.47. A motion was made by Brunello supported by Saari to accept the bills and salaries as corrected. Motion carried on a roll call vote.

**Appearances:** None

**Old Business:** Johnson stated Ordinance 61-anti-noise and public nuisance replaces Ordinance 1 which is outdated, but still has some elements incorporated into the new ordinance. Much discussion was had by the board about the contents of the ordinance along with the Attorney

McDonald stating the ordinance is being created but is un-enforceable. A motion was made by Segalin supported by Brunello to table Ordinance 61 until the next meeting and the contents of the ordinance are reviewed and corrected by Johnson. Motion carried.

McDonald reported on the Walmart Tax Assessment- The assessments are continuously lowering each year. There are 3 approaches to assess this property- Cost, Income or Sales. McDonald reviewed the appraisal with the assessor- \$3.8 million, by which the attorney has nothing to dispute the value in comparison.

The Gogebic County Road Commission road contract was discussed briefly, as a board member wondered if Saari Ln and North Star Rd were going to get paved this year. It is not in the contract this year.

The Fire Dept. Ordinance and Lake Rd Spring will be discussed at a later time when the meeting can be held in person.

**Communications:** None

**New Business:** Due to the increase in virus numbers in the County- The office is closed to walk-in traffic and is not accepting cash payments at this time. A motion was made by Segalin supported by Brunello to amend the Township's preparedness plan to include "no cash payments", unless it an emergency, until the end of August 2020. Motion carried.

**Reports:**

**Supervisor:** The new fire number installation will begin this week. Also the Gogebic County Road Commission is in the process of filling pot holes on the township roads.

**Treasurer:** The Fire Chief isn't able to attend tonight's meeting so he is requesting permission to allow 2 fire trucks to be in Scott Eilken's funeral procession on Saturday, he was a fellow firefighter. A motion was made by Segalin supported by Brunello to grant such permission. Motion carried.

**Clerk:** Nothing to report

**Trustees:**

Michaels- Nothing to report

Saari- Attended a Broadband committee meeting, the next one will be July 29<sup>th</sup>.

Brunello- Waste Water reported a major water line break on Indianhead Rd, the cost to repair it will be approximately \$60,000.

Lyons- Nothing to report

**Fire Dept.:** No report

**Public comment:** A citizen had concerns about the Walmart Tax assessment and why the Township Assessor isn't at the meeting to explain his assessment of Walmart, instead of the township attorney. Another citizen had voiced her concern about the Fire Dept Ord. and how it is only a suggestion from MTA, not laws. Also, none of the Fire Fighters received a copy of the ordinance yet.

**Adjournment:** A motion was made by Segalin supported by Brunello to adjourn the meeting at 6:45 pm. Motion carried.

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James Simmons, Supervisor

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Mary Segalin, Clerk