

**Charter Township of Ironwood
Regular Meeting
June 14, 2018**

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, Kim Pelkola, Fire Chief-Scott Carlson, Dave Kinnunen, Tracie Wittla, Marc Sprague, Lynne Wiercinski, Amber Hurkmans, LeRoy Johnson, Susan Spaete and Melissa Lupino.

Amendments to Agenda: Appearances: Tracy Wittla, Old Business: Green Timber Invoice. A motion was made by Lyons supported by Michaels to accept the agenda as amended. Motion carried.

Public Comment: (3 minute limit). None

Consent Agenda: Minutes from May 14, 2018 and May 29, 2018 regular meetings were presented with corrections to the 29th minutes to include a letter from a citizen under Correspondence. On the 29th minutes under Trustee, Michaels suggested to the Supervisor the feasibility of placing a stop sign or blinking light at the corner of Airport Rd/Lake Rd. Also, under Trustee, Saari noted that the Enbridge meeting was for elected officials also, not just first responders. A motion was made by Brunello supported by Lyons to accept the minutes for both meetings as amended. Motion carried.

Bills and Salaries: General Fund-43770 thru 43847 - \$48,652.50 , Water Fund- 8867 thru 8873- \$37,809.16, Wastewater Fund- 1816 thru 1822- \$11,193.63.

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

Appearances: Tracy Wittla, Attorney, introduced herself to the Board, as she is running for Probate Judge in the August Primary.

Old Business: The two library bids were discussed. The Ironwood Carnegie proposed a \$6,999 contribution plus the 100% of the penal fines. The Bessemer Library proposed a \$0 contribution plus 100% of the penal fines. Both asked for a 1 year contract 7/1/18-6/30/19. A motion was made by Brunello supported by Segalin to accept the bid with the Bessemer Library for one (1) year contract at no further costs to the township. Motion carried with a 4-3 vote with Lyons, Graser and Boyd voting “nay”. Motion carried.

The contract with Mike Foley in regards to the unused cemetery property lease was tabled again due to the board having further questions. A motion was made by Lyons supported by Saari to table this item until the next meeting. Motion carried.

Boyd informed the Board he hired Erik Tervonen as an additional seasonal worker for the Township. Palmeter will be working 21-24 hrs. Per week, with Tervonen to make up the remaining weekly hours equaling no more than 30 hrs. per week. Boyd reported the (2)MI Works High School students started working on Monday; they have a supervisor with them at all times.

Segalin is going to ask the auditors about the Green Timber invoice for \$4,900 as to where it should be accounted for before processing for payment. This was tabled till next meeting.

Communications: A motion was made by Lyons supported by Graser to place the GRWA monthly water use report on file. Motion carried.

New Business: A motion was made by Brunello supported by Saari to allow Saari, Segalin, Boyd and possibly Lyons to attend the UP North Summit training in Escanaba. August 1-2, 2018. Motion carried on a roll call vote.

Reports:

Supervisor:

Meetings: A gentleman from Efficiency United about the LED grant, GIWWA, Hospital/Beacon ambulance talks: All government entities have agreed to contribute to the ambulance requests. The County will be going for a 3 year millage of 1 mill per year at the November 2018 election.

There has been discussion again in regards to another prison in Michigan closing and one of them being the Ojibway Prison in Marenisco stated for possible closure. Boyd stated we need to lobby for this closure not to happen.

Road Issues: A scheduled road trip with Pionk, Engineer from the Road Commission is set for Friday, June 15 to look at repair possibilities and to rate gravel projects.

Previous Meeting Issues:

Qualifications for Internet Assist previous report is as follows:

To qualify for Spectrum Internet Assist, a member of the household must be a recipient of one of the following programs:

The National School Lunch Program (NSLP); free or reduced cost lunch

The Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) of the NSLP

Supplemental Security Income (≥ age 65 only)

Programs that do not qualify for Spectrum Internet Assist: Social Security Disability (SSD), Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI), and Social Security Retirement and Survivor Benefits are different from Supplemental Security Income and do NOT meet eligibility requirements.

Explore LED options for building:

Had an evaluation done with a spreadsheet representing costs and savings. 75% of the costs are funded. The assessment of our bulbs indicates a yearly savings of \$960, with incentives of \$810.

Information on a stop sign or blinking light at Airport/Lake:

1. Variance issued to Rick's Muffler when they rebuilt
2. Getting report on last 10 years accident record to show justification
3. Checked on difference between that and Lake/Sunset
4. 4-way stop not an option due to maintaining traffic flow

Social Media Presence: MTA does not take a position, however it does note

1. A robust website can serve as an information portal
2. You will need to pay/hire someone to monitor it constantly, as there is the potential for liability issues
3. Need to first establish rules and policies as far as usage and monitoring.

What do other pipelines do to protect the township?

1. Trans Canada
2. Northern Natural (gas)

Both have protocols in place in case of a leak or blowout. They are good about communicating with locals, and evacuation plans are set with emergency shelters and supplies ready. They also have an agreement with Enbridge if they are not present to step in and assist where needed.

What percent of medical premiums do the GIWWA employees pay? (Include cash in lieu option in comments)

1. Currently it is 5% of the BCBS premium. The 5% contribution has been the same for several years, but employees have taken reduced coverage in order to keep this amount down. A couple of years ago the prescription coverage was reduced to keep GIWWA's health insurance costs down.
2. If an employee elects to opt out of the Employers Group Health Insurance plan the employee will receive 30% of the appropriate monthly premium.

Cemetery Bulletin Board-We are looking into this...good idea for visitors.

Treasurer: Graser attended the local ambulance meeting. Graser reports that over 100 tire vouchers were given out for recycling.

Clerk: Segalin also attended the local ambulance meeting. The auditors have started completion of the audits, 2015 thru 2017. Segalin thanked Dave Kinnunen for helping out at the annual Township spring clean-up held on June 9, 2018.

Trustees:

Brunello states that there will be a Daily Globe press release concerning the proposed sewer rate increase from the GIWWA.

Lyons – nothing to report

Michaels- nothing to report

Saari- nothing to report

Fire Department: 2 grass fire calls and 1 mutual aid call were responded to for the Month of May. The department also did their annual road side clean up on Lake Rd on June 5, 2018.

Closed Session: None

Public Comment: (3 minute limit). A citizen had several questions concerning the Cemetery/ Foley lease contract and the Green Timber contract.

Adjournment: A motion was made by Graser supported by Segalin to adjourn the meeting at 6:23 pm. Motion carried.

Steve Boyd, Supervisor

Mary Segalin, Clerk