

**Charter Township of Ironwood
Regular Meeting
Monday, January 13, 2020**

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

Roll Call: Jim Simmons-Supervisor, Mary Segalin-Clerk

Trustees: Bernie Brunello, Marlene Saari, Bev Michaels

Absent: Kevin Lyons-Trustee, Maria Graser-Treasurer

Also Present: LeRoy Johnson- Zoning Administrator, Karl Ahonen with Makela, Pollack & Ahonen PLLC, Scott Carlson-Fire Chief, Ron Jacobson, Joe Rohde, and George Kivi.

Public Comment: (3 minute limit) none

Amendments to Agenda: A motion was made by ~~Lyons~~ Michaels supported by Saari to accept the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

Consent Agenda: A motion was made by Brunello supported by Michaels to accept the minutes from the Regular Meeting, December 18, 2019 as presented. Motion carried.

Bills and Salaries: General Fund-#45564-45639- \$93,441.53, Water Fund- #9061-9075- \$112,086.56, Wastewater Fund- #1917-1922-\$34,601.79. A motion was made by Saari supported by Michaels to accept the bills and salaries as presented. Motion carried on a roll call vote. All ayes.

Appearances: Karl Ahonen, Township Auditor from Makela, Pollack & Ahonen accounting firm presented the Board with the completed and filed 2018 Audit. Ahonen outlined the audit briefly. The opinion was unqualified, clean opinion. All previous years violations were cleared up and met. All property taxes that were paid went directly on roads. There were NO audit findings again for 2018 as there were also no findings for 2017. A motion was made by Brunello supported by Saari to place the 2018 Audit on file. Motion carried

Old Business: Milltrace PILOT payments have expired. The apartment complex will now be added to the ad valorem tax rolls for 2020.

Communications: None

New Business: A motion was made by Brunello supported by Segalin to purchase new gym mats costing \$7,500 to be ordered from Nasi Roofing. Motion carried on a roll call vote

Segalin, Graser, and Simmons will be attending the annual MTA conference on April 28-30, 2020. Michaels and Saari also are interested in attending if schedules allow.

A motion was made by Brunello supported by Saari to renew the insurance contract for 2020 with Hannula Agency. There is an increase in costs of approximately \$8,000 over last year. Motion carried on a roll call vote. All ayes.

Reports:

Supervisor: Simmons made a statement concerning the 2017 & 2018 audits- We are pleased with the results of the last two Township Audits covering the years of 2017 and 2018. Having no deficiencies for two consecutive years is a remarkable achievement. This is direct result of hard work, accuracy, and attention to detail. Ironwood Township is now current with the Michigan Dept. of Treasury with our required filings.

Since the embezzlement by the former treasurer, strong internal controls were put into place and implemented. The Township invested in new BS&A Software which fully interfaces between the Treasurer and Clerk. It's fair to say we learned from what happened and are on the right path of rebuilding the public's trust.

Phil Strong, Engineer for the Gogebic County Road Commission will be attending the next meeting to discuss 2020 road projects.

Simmons is in the process of gathering info for a Township asset list.

There is a Plaintiff motion for partial summary disposition on Friday, Feb. 21, 2020 at 11:00 am at the Gogebic County Courthouse in the case involving restitution of the bond money.

Treasurer: Absent

Clerk: Segalin has been in contact with BS&A for the new software program. Implementation is going as scheduled with training and going live with the new programs in June 2020. It has been determined that a new computer is needed for the Clerk's office. Al's Computer service has order a new one and will be installing ASAP.

Trustees:

Michaels- Wondered if there is a timeline scheduled for the new fire signs to be installed this spring. Simmons stated he will work on a time line for them to start the process of installing them when maintenance can. Michaels stated she was asked if there are term limits for the township elected offices. She spoke with MTA and there are no term limits for any of the elected offices.

Saari- Gogebic Range Solid Waste Authority has hired a new employee for garbage pickup. They are in training.

Brunello- Brunello stated a change in the scheduled meeting date for the Wastewater Meeting for next week is from 1/23/20 to 1/21/20. He also added that there is ice on some spots of the new gym roof. Simmons stated he will be calling the contractor to see if anything can be done to correct it.

Lyons- Absent

Fire Dept: The fire department held their annual elections for 2020. Scott Carlson is still Fire Chief, Zach Brentar is Assistant Chief, and Bob Brentar, Josh Ellsworth and Tyler Saari are Captains. Carlson also added that he needs a few training classes yet to finish his Fire Chief certification. A motion was made by Brunello supported by Michaels to allow Carlson to attend the trainings in Marquette and the Township will cover such costs. Motion carried. LeRoy Johnson also stated it is recommended and required by law that he attend these trainings.

Public Comment: None

Adjournment: A motion was made by Brunello supported by Saari to adjourn the meeting at 6:00 pm. Motion carried.

James Simmons, Supervisor

Mary Segalin, Clerk