

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
HOUGHTON TOWNSHIP BOARD
January 20, 2014
Houghton Township Community Building

CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Supervisor Vivian called the regular meeting to order at 7 p.m.

Trustee Treganowan led the Board and those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Supervisor Vivian, Clerk Jones, Treasurer Chase, Trustee Long and Trustee Treganowan.

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

GUESTS PRESENT: Tom and Elaine Hall, Mel Jones

CONSENT AGENDA APPROVAL/ ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

- Approve minutes of December 20, 2013 regular meeting
- Accept financial report
- Approve payment of bills for all funds

General Fund – \$10,160.66

Water Fund – \$1146.85

- Adopt agenda for tonight's meeting- added Bant property split; Keweenaw Mountain Lodge

Motion by Treganowan, seconded by Chase, to approve the consent agenda, with additions: Bant property split and Mountain Lodge report. Motion passed unanimously.

WATER DEPARTMENT – Uppco recognized the problem of fluctuating electricity, and the damage and expense it has caused the water dept. Sirtola will come when the weather is better.

OLD BUSINESS

ZONING – At the last county meeting, the recommendations that were passed at the Houghton Township meeting were presented. The zoning commission meets again on Tuesday, Jan 28th. Tom noted that perhaps a community might have its own more restrictive regulations.

MUSEUM – Phil Mason informed Jim that the Taskila family would like to donate the Tioga pilot house to the museum. Jack brought up that there will be some repair expenses before the public could access it.

REVISE/REVIEW TOWNSHIP RENTAL AGREEMENT - Shari will present the final revised copy to the board at the February meeting.

NEW BUSINESS –

Bant family property – they want to sell the houses separately. One is 47 ft. frontage, and the other is 70 feet. Jack informed the board that the property lines are in question on both sides of the lots – with Swanks and Mintkins. Each of the houses has a separate drain field, and separate meter connections. They are asking for a variation for the 47 foot frontage property.

Motion by Treganowan, seconded by Long that the Houghton Township Board recommend that the variance requested by the Bants be held in abeyance until the property can be properly inspected, as well as septic and water and other issues resolved.

3 ayes, Vivian and Chase had to abstain because of they are members of the zoning board, and they cannot vote twice.

Mountain Lodge – Controversy over financing – county is delinquent on loan from Rural Development. This could affect our township if we should seek funding sometime in the future.

SHARI – Sent out 6 letters, and rec'd 2 no's. No other responses.

CLK has asked for a refund of the CCISD check, but they are charged by all the other townships.

CLERK – Noted that one street light is out completely, and another is intermittent; a used file cabinet has been purchased for the clerk's office (cost \$37.50)

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT - Jim questioned whether the zoning request by Bant's should be held in abeyance until septic could be properly inspected.

Budget amendments – Motion by Treganowan, seconded by Chase, to amend the Genereal fund budget line 525700 - Sanitary landfill with and increase from \$1605 to \$2255. Motion passed unanimously.

FLOOR COMMENTS

Tom – needs someone to cover for him Feb 3 - 17

Confirm date for next meeting – Monday, February 17, 2014

Meeting adjourned at 8:17 p.m.

Carol Jones, Clerk
Houghton Township

-CERTIFICATION-

I, the undersigned, Carol Jones, the duly qualified and elected Clerk for the Township of Houghton, Keweenaw County, Michigan, DO CERTIFY that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of the certain proceedings taken by the Township Board of said Township at a regular board meeting held on the 20th of January, 2014

Carol Jones, Clerk
Houghton Township