

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
HOUGHTON TOWNSHIP BOARD
MAY 11, 2015
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, Tom Kehoe, Dan Steck, Mark and Kathy McEvers

CONSENT AGENDA APPROVAL/ ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

- Approve minutes of April 20, 2015 regular meeting
- Accept financial report
- Approve payment of bills for all funds
- Adopt agenda for tonight's meeting
- Motion by Treganowan, seconded by Chase, to approve the consent agenda. Motion passed unanimously.

WATER DEPARTMENT-

- Mel informed the board that the new pump installation was complete and looked very good. He suggested waiting a year to install the soft start, as the new system is secure, and that would give time to build up funds to pay for the project.
- Motion by C. Jones, seconded by Treganowan, to pay the remainder of the bill to Siirtola for the pump installation. Motion passed unanimously.
- Discussion of ideas for revised rules for the Eagle River Water System: Jim suggested a revision to #8 – to charge residential accounts the minimum usage fee and the maintenance fee; commercial users would be charged their average monthly usage fee and the maintenance fee. This will be on the agenda for the June meeting.
- Mary reported that there was \$451.11 in past due bills.

NEW BUSINESS –

- Jim consulted with Vic Betterly about the options for painting/siding the township building. It was suggested that one side be painted every four years. Jack suggested we get quotes for painting the front plus one other side of the building.
- UPPCO will be coming this Friday to look at the street lights and possibility of different wattage for the bulbs.
- Zoning violation complaint – Mark and Kathy McEvers requested that a letter in support of the complaint that three properties in the Resort Residential district are being used for resort services. The county requested a letter of support from Houghton Township to maintain the current RR zoning. Letters would be sent to the zoning administrator and zoning commission.
- Motion by Treganowan, seconded by Long that a letter be sent to the zoning administrator and the zoning commission upholding the current resort residential zoning, and in support of the zoning violation complaint filed by Mark and Kathy McEvers. Motion passed as follows: Ayes – Jones, Treganowan and Long Nays – Vivian and Chase
- Kathy McEvers requested that Jim Vivian abstain from voting on matters relating to these properties due to a conflict of interest.

TREASURER'S REPORT – Board members were given two auditor bids to be considered at the next meeting.

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT - Covered in the new business.

CLERK'S REPORT –

- Board considered a request for overflow parking for a wedding. Parking would be allowed along the right of way around the township square.
- Clerk reported that the election went well, with 29 voters. Election expenses will be reimbursed by the state.

BUDGET – Motion by Long, seconded by Treganowan, that the Water Fund line item expense School and Education be increased from \$150 to \$350, and the line item expense item Travel be increased from \$100 to \$250. Motion passed unanimously.

FLOOR COMMENTS – Mel shared preliminary plans of the Keweenaw County Historical Society regarding placement and renovation of the Tioga. Final plans will be presents at a future meeting.

Confirm date for next meeting – Monday, June 15, 2015

Meeting adjourned at 8:25 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 11th of May, 2015.

Carol Jones, Clerk
Houghton Township