

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
HOUGHTON TOWNSHIP BOARD
SEPTEMBER 21, 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, Stanley Hill, Kathee Toth –Banovetz, Sallee Olson, Sharon Deal, Jan Cole Jerry Cole, Perry Lynch, Leard Wylie, Kathy McEvers, Les and Jean Bant, Gary and Audrey Erickson, Julene Dahlgren,

CONSENT AGENDA APPROVAL/ ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

- Approve minutes of August 17, 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.

ASSESSOR DEPARTMENT – Shari read an email from Carol Little. She took 16 hours of education this past week; plans to be in office 11 am Friday. She has been working at the courthouse, looking at records to make sure ours match. She will be looking at sales.

WATER DEPARTMENT – Mel reported on the recent water leak problem. See the attached report for documentation of the search for the origin of the leak. A serious problem was found at the Kerchner residence, with a valve that was left on and broken. Kerchners will be billed for the water used during the time the water was running.

Erickson's driveway was insulated with 1 ½ inch pipe so there is enough water for use by new construction in the area.

Motion by Treganowan, seconded by Chase, to adopt the ordinance as presented for the water system with the addition of word "monthly" to the late fee charge of 1.5%. Motion passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

- Camping on the beach – (there is nothing in writing to prevent camping on the beach.) The bracketed words were changed to read "as of now, no document has been found that prohibits overnight camping on the beach." An ordinance may be worked on over the winter.
- FOIA will be discussed at the next meeting.
- The Tioga has been moved. Jim is concerned about how snow will collect around it. He suggested adjusting the location slightly. The history committee is researching the original color, to restore it to the original color.
- Museum – Discussed using the two closets for display, with the doors closed when the museum is not open. The Keweenaw Historical Society also would like to make two more historical panels. Jim asked for a written proposal for plans for the first floor. Shari and Mary questioned the wisdom of more displays.

TREASURER'S REPORT - Shari will be rebilling for unpaid tax bills. The piano player she has been in contact with cannot come this fall, and he wants to play the historical piano next year. (Mel reported on the progress of the piano). Shari will have the piano player get in touch with Mel.

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT - Jim ordered the windows for the entry; new markers ordered for the cemetery.

CLERK'S REPORT – Carol asked for the board's wishes concerning a request for use of the beach on Saturday afternoon July 30, 2016. There was concern expressed about parking for the large number of guests, and her intention to ask beach users to move. The person making the request will be called again.

BUDGET - Motion by Vivian, seconded by Long, to increase the budget line supplies in the Water Fund from \$200 to \$600. Motion passed unanimously.

FLOOR COMMENTS – Gary Erickson – Dogs are still running loose on the beach – request enforcement; Jim suggested to call the sheriff. Audrey mentioned that the main sign was knocked down. Jim will get a bigger sign. Kathy mentioned that the dog bags were gone. Tom Hall will check on them.

Stanley Hill – asked what the emergency policy for frozen water is to ensure that customers have access to water supply. Short discussion followed, and will be considered in the future.

Confirm date for next meeting – Monday, October 19, 2015

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 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 September 21, 2015.

Carol Jones, Clerk
Houghton Township