

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
HOUGHTON TOWNSHIP BOARD

Monday, December 21, 2020

Zoom Meeting

CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Supervisor Jim Vivian called the regular meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

The Board and those in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance

MEMBERS PRESENT: Supervisor Jim Vivian, Clerk Carol Treganowan, Treasurer Mary Long and Trustees Marjie Marshall and Kathy McEvers.

GUEST PRESENT: Mark Bonenfant, Tom Hall and Elaine Hall, Steve and Linda Kline, Mel and Carol Jones, Rodger Kershner, Dan Steck and Stephanie Tepkasetkul

CONSENT AGENDA APPROVAL/ ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

- Approve minutes of November 16, 2020 regular meeting and the November 20, 2020 special meeting
- Accept financial reports – treasurer and clerk
- Approve payment of bills for all funds – General Fund (Ch #5274 – 5295: \$6055.82)
Water Fund (Ch #1559 – 1564: \$1284.85) Park Fund (No activity)
Cemetery Fund (Check #1135 – 1136: \$121.10) Bridge Fund - (No activity)
- Adopt agenda for tonight's meeting

Motion by Carol, seconded by Mary, to approve the consent agenda. Motion passed unanimously.

ASSESSOR/BOARD OF REVIEW – Motion by Marjie, seconded by Mary, to appoint Mark McEvers, Elaine Hall, and Mike Dudenas (as chair), for 2 year terms on the Board of Review. Motion passed unanimously.

Assessor Mike Dudenas reported that there were no errors that needed correction at the December Board of Review meeting; equalization numbers were reviewed with the county and are good.

BUDGET AMMENDMENTS – Motion by Mary, seconded by Carol, to increase the 851 Other Functions Line of the General Fund by \$45, from \$2925 to \$2970. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Mary, seconded by Marjie, to increase the 191 Election Line of the General Fund by \$40, from \$2615 to \$2655. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Kathy, seconded by Carol, to increase the Water Samples Line of the Water Fund by \$700, from \$700 to \$1400. Motion passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS-

- ❖ Pavilion update (Dan Steck) 95% of the structure has been completed; remainder, as well as plumbing to be completed next spring; security system needs faster internet; park use signage should be posted for winter snowmobile us.
- ❖ Motion by Marjie, seconded by Kathy, that starting now, WIFI be upgraded. Motion passed unanimously.
- ❖ Park ordinance will be reviewed; Attorney Rodger Kershner has suggested that it be adopted as rules rather than an ordinance and that violations not be considered as misdemeanors; many park use regulations are covered by State law.

NEW BUSINESS –

- Motion by Marjie, seconded by Carol, to appoint Kathy McEvers as deputy treasurer. Motion passed unanimously.
- Resolution presented by Carol, supported by Mary, in support of the work of the Keweenaw Outdoor Recreation Coalition: **Resolution #2020-12** Supporting Keweenaw Outdoor Recreation Coalition
- **WHEREAS**, the Keweenaw Outdoor Recreation Coalition (KORC) is a group of Keweenaw County residents, organizations and landowners with a goal of combining efforts into a community-wide movement to work with the State of Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and other partners to improve public access, management, ownership and control of the outdoor natural and recreation lands of Keweenaw County.
- **WHEREAS**, KORC has donated \$5851.00 to Keweenaw County for the improvement to the amenities at the Gratiot River Park in Allouez Township; and
- **WHEREAS**, tourism is the backbone of the economy and employment in Keweenaw County and provides the comforts and amenities which visitors and residents enjoy; and
- **WHEREAS**, Houghton Township Trustees recognizes that to grow and thrive, a larger secure land base and permanent motorized and non-motorized trail systems are needed for tourism and to preserve our quality of life; and
- **WHEREAS**, KORC has demonstrated its contributions to Keweenaw County by working as a local alliance and with the DNR in improving public access and outdoor recreation by supporting and developing resources, such as extensive road repair/upgrades on West Schlatters Lake Road and installation and maintaining of bear proof garbage receptacles at High Rock, Grant Township, that help and protect our citizens, visitors, and environment; and
- **THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, the Houghton Township Trustees strongly support KORC in its mission to serve the recreation and conservation users of the lands in Keweenaw County; and
- **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, Keweenaw County supports the submission of a nomination to the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund to acquire land in Keweenaw County for public use.

Jim – aye, Mary – aye, Carol – aye, Marjie – aye, Kathy – aye : Resolution adopted.

- Resolution to send letter of support for work at Douglas Houghton Falls to presented by Kathy, supported by Mary. Jim – aye, Carol – aye, Mary – aye, Marjie – aye, Kathy – aye :Resolution adopted.
- Motion by Marjie, seconded by Kathy, to collect CLK/CCISD 2021 summer taxes, and charge CLK Public Schools \$5.50 per tax bill. Motion passed unanimously.
- Motion by Mary, seconded by Marjie, to replace Mel Jones’ name as contact person on the Park and Recreation Area Agreement (Dec. 2018) with the word supervisor. Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Next regular meeting – Monday, January 18 , 2021 at 6 p.m.

Carol Jones, Deputy Clerk
Houghton Township

CERTIFICATION

I, the undersigned, Carol Jones, the appointed Deputy 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 21st day of December, 2020.

Carol Jones, Deputy Clerk, Houghton Township