

APPROVED 11/16/2016

WATERSMEET TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES
REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2016 6:30PM
FOREST SERVICE ADMIN BUILDING
www.watersmeet.us

The October regular meeting of the Watersmeet Township Board of Trustees was called to order by Supervisor Rogers at 6:30pm.

Members present: Mike Rogers, Paul Kemppainen, Bill Neumann, Sandy Mansfield

Members absent: Rich Henriksen

Citizens present: 23

A motion was offered by Bill Neumann with support from Paul Kemppainen to approve the minutes from the meeting of September 21, 2016. Motion carried.

A motion was offered by Paul Kemppainen with support from Sandy Mansfield to approve the minutes from the special meeting of October 4, 2016. Motion carried.

APPEARANCES:

Police Chief Richie Burke, LVD Police Department spoke about the possibility of the township getting it's own officer sometime in the future. The department is looking into then being able to have their police cross deputized under us rather than the sheriff's department. The township may be able to then apply for state grants for help with the costs of patrolling, gas, vehicle, etc. The township could still get help from the tribe through 2% funding for the salary of an officer. The possibility of being able to obtain the money from tickets issued is also something that will be researched. Chairman Williams wanted Chief Burke to bring this possibility to the attention of the Township Board. It is something worth looking into in order to keep making advances in the community.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Letters were presented to the Board from Mr. Arnie Domanus and Greg and Yvonne Clark as to the proposed zoning change regarding short term rentals. There were also comments from each of the following citizens as to the reason they feel the ordinance should be left alone...David Sherrill, Craig Hesse, Mrs. Bates, Joe LoMastro, Greg Wenzel, Steve Roth, Julie Mathiesen, Fred Duerkop, Pat Walsh. This issue must first be brought up with the Planning Commission before it is sent to the board for approval. All correspondence that is received is being forwarded to the Planning Commission and is also being kept in a file at the Township Offices for comments received at that address. The citizens present asked that if the Planning Commission sends the short term rental change to the Township Board for approval, they would like the Board to table it until this coming summer when the majority of the people affected will be in the area. They are also asking that no changes be made to any ordinance until the Master Plan and Rec Plan have been updated. Letters can be addressed to the Planning Commission in order for concerns to be heard and considered.

A motion was offered by Paul Kemppainen with support from Bill Neumann to accept the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

An application for a new Volunteer Fire Fighter was presented to the Board for final approval. Paul Runcie's application was preapproved by Fire Chief Caudill. A motion was made by Bill Neumann with support from Paul Kemppainen to approve the application. Motion carried.

A motion was offered by Paul Kemppainen with support from Bill Neumann to approve payment of the bills presented. General Fund Checks #36487 – 36497, Water check #3172, Waste Water check #3980-3981. Motion carried.

REPORTS:

Supervisor: The Planning Commission has one year to decide if we are to keep or rescind the Medical marijuana ordinance. There are changes being made by the state that gives the power to the Townships to disallow any medical marijuana operations at all in the townships' jurisdiction. If there is no ordinance in effect, then no operations of any kind can exist. This needs to be discussed by the Planning Commission.

There were some concerns over the summer as to the switching of ambulance services. The response times have been fast and consistent. Aspirus does have an ambulance that could be used in Watersmeet if we can get enough people licensed as EMTs. We received a valuable piece of equipment (Lucas machine) with 2% funding. This is a cardiac compression machine. We are also in line to receive a cardiac monitor from Aspirus, as they have upgraded. This will save the Township a great deal of money.

Treasurer: Once again the checkbook is balanced. The township Center is coming along right on schedule. We have added wiring for an emergency generator. The new LVD clinic that has opened is for the entire community to use, not just tribal. This is a great asset to our community.

Clerk: All correspondence received regarding short term rentals is being forwarded to the Planning Commission as well as being kept at the office.

Trustee: Bill Neumann reported that he has been working on collecting all the files on the fire department members regarding their training. Cemetery decorations need to be removed from graves. Anything left after this month, we be removed and disposed of. The wiring of the phones and computers will be done by Ruotsala's electrician and Bill we be available to help if needed. Power has been inspected and we will be switching from temporary power to main power.

A motion was offered by Bill Neumann with support from Paul Kemppainen to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:50pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Sandy Mansfield, Clerk
Watersmeet Township