

APPROVED 1/18/2017  
WATERSMEET TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
REGULAR MEETING  
DECEMBER 21, 2016 6:30PM  
FOREST SERVICE ADMINISTRATION BUILDING  
[www.watersmeet.us](http://www.watersmeet.us)

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

Members present: Mike Rogers, Bill Neumann, Paul Kemppainen, Alan Piel, Sandy Mansfield  
Citizens present: 11

A motion to approve the minutes from the regular meeting of November 16, 2016 was made by Bill Neumann with a second by Alan Piel. Motion carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Greg Garlock and Julie Mathiesen presented a check to the Fire Department/Emergency Medical Techs in the amount of \$1000. Greg had a medical emergency in October and they were more than impressed with the knowledge and professionalism of Laurie Kopsi and Andy Hacker. He feels they saved his life.

Peggy Tuttle thanked Tim Duncan for the work he has done to promote his place of business and the surrounding grounds.

Tim Duncan asked the board about the town's hope for its own police officer in the future. Supervisor Rogers explained that it is something that will be researched and discussed, and will not take place until a later time. We will still be working with the Tribe on this issue.

Julie Mathiesen had concerns and observations from the last Planning Commission meeting. The Rec Plan and Master Plan are still not finished. There is a concern that the members of the commission are not up on planning/zoning, there are not enough people to do proper documentation and there is no proper representation on the commission. She also has concerns regarding the upcoming appointment of a new planning commission member who is also on the Fire Department. Supervisor Rogers read a letter from the township attorney on this matter. Due to the size of our township (under 40,000) many townships use members of their volunteer fire departments to fill slots on commissions. The letter from the attorney is on file if anyone would like to read it.

A motion to approve the agenda was offered by Paul Kemppainen with a second by Alan Piel. Motion carried.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

The new rental rates for the pavilion and the Community Center hall have been set with a motion by Bill Neumann and a second from Paul Kemppainen. Motion carried. The pavilion rental will be \$150.00 with a reimbursement of \$100 if left in good clean condition. The Community Hall will rent for \$250.00 with a reimbursement of \$150 if left in good and clean condition. Also added to the rental agreement will be a provision for ancillary Township equipment rentals, such as a sound system, etc. when available.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

1. A motion to re-appoint Michelle Hazen and John Cestkowski to the Planning Commission for a 2 year term to expire on 12/31/2018 was offered by Sandy Mansfield with a second by Alan Piel. Motion carried.

A motion to appoint Paul Kempainen as liaison to the Planning Commission from the Township Board was offered by Bill Neumann with a second by Alan Piel. Term to expire 12/31/2020. Motion carried.

A motion to appoint Dino Gianola to the Planning Commission to replace David Sherrill was made by Paul Kempainen with a second by Sandy Mansfield. Term to expire 12/31/2019. Motion carried with 4 Ayes and 1 Nay vote.

2. A motion to re-appoint Arnold Domanus, Jim Okraszewski and Dave Lamoreaux to the Board of Review was made by Bill Neumann with a second by Paul Kempainen. Terms to expire 12/31/2018. Motion carried.

3. A motion was offered by Sandy Mansfield with support by Alan Piel to re-appoint Bill Neumann to the Zoning Board of Appeals, term to expire 12/31/2020. Motion carried.

4. There was follow-up discussion regarding the proposed Broad Band with Northern Michigan University that was presented to the board last meeting. A motion was offered by Bill Neumann with support from Alan Piel to sign the contract in order to bring broad band internet to a larger number of township residents. Motion carried.

5 .A Performance Resolution is required by the Michigan Department of Transportation for the purposed of issuing to a municipal utility and "Individual Permit for Use of State Highway Right of Way", or an "Annual Application and Permit for Miscellaneous Operation Within State Highway Right of Way". A Resolution was offered by Bill Neumann with support from Alan Piel to sign the Performance Resolution for Governmental Agencies. Roll Call Vote: Yeas...Mike Rogers, Bill Neumann, Alan Piel, Paul Kempainen, Sandy Mansfield. Nays...none. Resolution declared passed.

6. The Fire Department Rescue Rig needs a generator to run the Jaws of Life and other equipment that is used for rescue. Ours no longer works. A motion was offered by Bill Neumann with support from Alan Piel to take money from our contingency fund in order to get the rig back into service. Cost will be approximately \$7700. Roll Call Vote: Yeas...Mike Rogers, Paul Kempainen, Bill Neumann, Alan Piel, Sandy Mansfield. Nays...none. Motion passed.

7. UPSET (Upper Peninsula Substance Enforcement Team) has program that is largely volunteer and works to keep drugs out of our towns, schools, and areas has asked for help with their effort. A motion was offered by Paul Kempainen with support from Alan Piel to send \$500 to the organization. Motion passed with a roll call vote: Ayes...Mike Rogers, Bill Neumann, Paul Kempainen, Alan Piel, Sandy Mansfield. Nays...none.

#### APPROVAL OF BILLS

A motion was made by Paul Kempainen with support from Bill Neumann to pay the bills as presented. Motion carried. GF checks to be paid #36633 thru 36649, Water checks #3183 and Waste Water checks #3994 and #3995.

## REPORTS:

Supervisor: Items that have been accomplished in 2016:

- Electric power hooked up at Bass Lake, pavilion wired, work on beach area
- New Community Center almost completed. Township did the work for water/sewer with the help of Brownell Excavating saving about \$22,000.
- Started clean up at the old Treatment Center Site and had this property surveyed
- Partnering with NMU to bring Wi-Fi Broad Band to the township
- Two (2) condemned buildings have been taken down
- Town crew eliminated the rest of the clay tile main the waste water system
- Replaced more valves at the lagoons
- Purchased and installed new recycle compactor at the transfer station with the excavation work done by Peterson Excavating
- Paved the tennis court with 2% money
- Purchased new Lucas Deviser for the EMT rescue vehicle with 2% money
- Continuation of Asset Management Plan for water/waste water
- Refurbished Well #2
- Purchased sidewalk sweeper and cleaned up and restored sidewalks in town, with the exception of a couple that couldn't be fixed
- Gutted the pavilion kitchen – restoration in progress
- Purchased equipment for better water quality monitoring
- Town crew built a retaining wall between the Fire Hall and new Community Center

Treasurer: Check book is balanced. Winter Tax Collection is ongoing.

Clerk: Elections are finally over with no recount having to be done

Bill Neumann: Community Center progress coming along very well. Infrastructure wired. Comcast will not have us hooked up until mid February. Ruotsala is doing great work.

Alan Piel: Bids for the Whitefish Trail project will probably go out in January and we are looking for completion of about 3 miles by mid summer. The main idea for the trail is to take bike traffic off of Thousand Island Lake Road for safety reasons. This is not a Township Board project, but as with the other bike trail, the money must be run through a government entity.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was offered by Bill to Neumann with support by Alan Piel. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Sandy Mansfield, Clerk  
Watersmeet Township