

APPROVED 10/16/13

REGULAR TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2013 6:30pm
WATERSMEET SCHOOL LIBRARY

The regular monthly meeting of the Watersmeet Township Board was called to order by Supervisor Rogers at 6:30pm. Members present: Mike Rogers, Paul Kemppainen, Richard Henriksen, Bill Neumann and Sandy Mansfield. 16 citizens were present.

A motion was made by Mr. Neumann to approve the minutes from the August 21st regular meeting and the Special Meeting of August 22nd. Motion supported by Mr. Henriksen.

Eric Ritter was present to answer questions regarding the computer update the Township is planning to make. Bill Neumann met with Eric to give him a greater understanding of what we feel we need. Mr. Ritter will have a more complete proposal by next meeting.

Public Comments:

There were several citizens who commented on what they perceive to be a “Conflict of Interest” with the Planning Commission. Comments ranged from:

- *The Master Plan must be completed by the end of the year
- * Perceived Conflict of Interest on the Planning Commission
- * Should septic inspections be for commercial properties when short term rentals occur.
- *The town needs a policy on Conflict of Interest

Craig Hesse asked to be considered for an opening on the Planning Commission.

New Business:

Supervisor Rogers solicited proposals for redoing 850’ of sidewalks in the town proper. The sidewalks to be replaced will be on A Avenue, Crozer Street and approximately 200’ on Old Hwy US2. Proposals were received from Up North Poured Foundations for \$15,350 including hauling away old concrete; Alpine Construction and Stone for \$14,858.00, we would have to haul old concrete; and Ruotsala Construction LLC for \$16,470.00 this bid only for 650’ of sidewalks. A motion was offered by Mr. Kemppainen with support from Ms. Mansfield to approve the work and have it performed by Up North Poured Foundations. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Mr. Neumann to move \$15,350 from account 101444810 (Sidewalk repair) to new account # 101979 (Capital Outlay). Motion supported by Ms. Mansfield. Motion carried with roll call vote. 5 Yea, 0 Nay

Supervisor Rogers informed the board that our auditor recommended the following water/sewer accounts be written off:

ACCT #	REASON	AMOUNT	MOTION BY:	SECOND:	CARRIED
100	Person moved	\$ 592.00	Neumann	Kemppainen	yes
132	Deceased	1,022.25	Henriksen	Neumann	yes

0002	abandoned	738.69	Kemppainen	Henriksen	yes
0153	Tax sale	1,293.24	Neumann	Kemppainen	yes
237	Moved	760.36	Neumann	Henriksen	yes
057	taxes not paid	1,100.14	Kemppainen	Neumann	yes
Mr. Neumann left the meeting for a phone call					
0052	taxes not paid	1,048.30	Henriksen	Kemppainen	yes
164	sold	845.92	Kemppainen	Henriksen	yes
0226	sold	822.54	Henriksen	Kemppainen	yes
137	sold & condemned	1,403.25	Kemppainen	Henriksen	yes
Meeting suspended for short break					

Motion made by Mr. Neumann to accept the completed 2012-2013 audit of the Watersmeet township Board, with a second by Ms. Mansfield. Motion carried.

Mr. Henriksen asked that the floor be opened to discussion on the Conflict of Interest issue. Mr. Neumann left the room due to his place on the Zoning Board of Appeals. The concerns of the residents present were again heard on the lack of policy for Conflict of Interest, the 5 year Master Plan has not been worked on, the make-up of the Planning Commission members, proper procedure not being followed for Special Use Permits. Supervisor Rogers will get in touch with the town's attorney and get a clear definition of "conflict of interest", "perceived conflict of interest", "potential conflict of interest" and have a policy drafted, taking into consideration comments by residents present at the board meeting.

There was a motion by Mr. Neumann, with a second by Mr. Kemppainen and carried to pay the bills presented. General Fund : \$24,340.32 check numbers 33680 thru 33703. Waste Water Fund: \$67.00 check number #3737. Water Fund: \$153.00 check number 2953.

Reports:

Supervisor: Rural Water Authority conducted a Confined Spaces class 9/18/13 so we are in compliance. M. Rogers, G. Mansfield and A. Hacker attended from the town.

We sold our Chipper that was no longer being used for the amount of \$3,750.00.

The Rural Water Authority (RWA) conducted a Sludge Test on our lagoons. There is a life expectancy of about 30 years and we are at about 25 years. The tests indicated due to the amount of sludge buildup present, we have an approximate 20 years of life left.

A petition from residents of Birch Lake Road was presented to Supervisor Rogers. It will be forwarded to the County Road Commission.

Treasurer: Report presented with no comments

Clerk: None

Cemetery: Mr. Neumann, cemetery Sexton, reported that all decoration must be removed from grave sites by the end of September. If they are not removed, they will be taken off by the town crew during final clean up. If anyone wishes to place winter decorations on graves, they may do so after November 15th.

Supervisor Rogers also made mention that Fred Reimer has passed away. Fred was the Planning Commission Liaison and Chairperson for the Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA).

A motion was made by Mr. Neumann with support by Mr. Kemppainen to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:30pm

Respectfully submitted,

**Sandy Mansfield, Clerk
Watersmeet Township**