

Approved 1/21/2015  
WATERSMEET TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
REGULAR MEETING AND PUBLIC HEARING  
DECEMBER 17, 2014 6:30 pm  
WATERSMEET SCHOOL LIBRARY

The meeting was called to order at 6:30pm. Member present: M. Rogers, R. Henriksen, P. Kempainen, B. Neumann, S. Mansfield. 8 citizens were also present.

A motion was made to B. Neumann with support from R. Henriksen to accept the minutes of the Special meeting held on 12/15/2014 and the regular meeting held on November 19, 2014. Motion carried.

Kathy Thrall made an appearance asking for help with the Little Blue Bus that is supposed to provide transportation for citizens of Watersmeet, Marenisco, Wakefield, Bessemer and Ironwood. It appears that Watersmeet has not been getting the services needed in order for some of our residents to get to and from medical appointments, etc. With the amount of money that our township provides through our taxes, we need to take a closer look at what can be done to get our fair share of the services. David Sherrill, co-chair of the Planning Commission suggested that Kathy Thrall bring the subject to the Planning Commission for their help in this matter. The Planning Commission meets next on January 14, 2015.

At 6:51pm a motion was made by P. Kempainen to leave the regular meeting and enter into the Public Hearing. Support was offered from B. Neumann. Motion carried. The purpose of the Public Hearing was to inform the public of the intention to demolish the old Town Hall and begin the construction of a new Town Hall Community Center. The present building would require more investment to try to repair than a new facility. The wiring all needs to be redone, asbestos needs to be removed, the foundation is leaking, the roof needs repair, the chimney is falling down, it needs handicapped accessibility, the plumbing all needs replacing, new windows, buckled floors, etc. At this time the Legion is the only group that uses the building for a once a month meeting. Jeff Zelinski reported that he is with the board on this. Peggy Tuttle would like to see some of the items repurposed or reused. Kathy Thrall would like to see some of the bricks sold so people could have a piece of the old Town Hall if they so desired.

At 7:11pm B. Neumann offered a motion supported by R. Henriksen to leave the Public Hearing and re-enter the regular meeting. Motion carried.

A motion to accept the Agenda as presented was offered by B. Neumann and supported by R. Henriksen. Motion carried.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. M. Rogers presented some preliminary numbers for the demolition of the Town Hall and asbestos removal. It will run about \$35,000 - \$40,000. A motion was made by S. Mansfield with support from B. Neumann to follow through with the demolition of the Town Hall and construction of a new Town Hall Community Center. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Unanimous. Motion carried.
2. Reappointment of Planning Commission Members: David Sherrill offered that he feels that there needs to be female representation on the Commission. One female for sure if not two. David and Julie Mathiesen also feel that people with more free time need to be on the board so there is more time available for research on items that arise. There was a motion by P. Kempainen and support from S. Mansfield to re-appoint Roy D'Antonio to the Planning commission. Roll Call Vote: Ayes...Unanimous. Motion carried.  
There was a motion by P. Kempainen with a second from B. Neumann to reappoint Jeff Zelinski to the Planning Commission. Roll Call Vote: Ayes...Unanimous. Motion carried.

A motion was made by P. Kempainen and supported by M. Rogers to reappoint Jeff Wasson to the Planning Commission. Roll Call Vote: Ayes...M. Rogers, P.Kempainen, B. Neumann, S. Mansfield. Nays: R. Henriksen. Motion carried.

All three of the reappointed Planning Commission Members' terms will expire on 12/31/2017.

3. Reappointment of Zoning Board of Appeals member: There was a motion offered by R. Henriksen with support from B. Neumann to reappoint Ed Casey to the ZBA with the new term expiring 12/31/2017. Roll Call Vote: Unanimous. Motion carried.
4. Chamber of Commerce Request: Jeff Zelinski brought the Board a request for \$1900 for the printing of Brochure inserts that are mailed out and handed out at Sport shows throughout the year in order to boost our township economy. There was a motion by B. Neumann with a second by P. Kempainen to pay for these items. Roll Call Vote: Ayes...Unanimous.
5. Proposed changes to the square footage of homes in L1, L2 and R&F areas: The following changes to Section 5.01 and Section 6.01B were approved with a motion from P. Kempainen and support from B. Neumann. Motion was carried.

Section 5.01

- a.1 Regular designed Dwellings (square or rectangle), not including caretaker or guest house, shall have a footprint of no less than 750 (seven hundred fifty) square feet with a minimum dimension of 20 (twenty) feet on all sides as measured from corner to corner of the main structure. Irregular designed structures, such as an octagon would not need to meet the 20 (twenty) foot sides but must meet the 750 (seven hundred fifty) square foot footprint.

Section 6.01B

- a.1 Those one family residential structure of regular design (square or rectangle) located within 1,000 feet from the OHWM of any lake in the L1 or L2 Lake areas shall have a minimum footprint of 750 square feet with all sides having a minimum of 20 feet measured from corner to corner of the main structure. Irregular designed residential structures, such as an octagon, would not have to meet the 20 foot sides, but would have to meet the 750 square foot footprint.
- a.2 Those one family residential structures located beyond 1,000 feet of the OHWM of any lake in the L-1 or L-2 Lake areas shall have a minimum footprint of 201 square feet.

**APPROVAL OF BILLS:** A motion was made by B. Neumann with a second from R. Henriksen to approve the bills presented for payment. Motion carried.

The Treasurer's report was accepted as presented. The Supervisor's report was an "End of the calendar year" report. The following was done in 2014:

**BASS LAKE PARK:** A retaining wall has been constructed, a pavilion has been constructed. Picnic tables were purchased and available at the park. Three flag poles were installed and new park sign erected.

**AROUND TOWN:** 590' of new sidewalks have been laid down. 3 of the town's parking lots have been cracked sealed and seal coated. The old church next to the town offices has been demolished. The old Minnie's property has been removed. Both the old church site and Minnie's site are available for possible new businesses in town. The property on the corner of US2 and Cisco Lake Road had 2 houses and a garage demolished. A Family Dollar is now under construction. A section of Bass lake Road has been paved with BIA money and Tribal approval. Beaver Station Road has also been paved with BIA money and Tribal approval. Water has been hooked up at the Transfer station, and natural gas has been hooked to the transfer station eliminating the propane. 60% of the sewer lines in town have been cleaned with the jetter that was repaired last year. Eleven culverts were replaced on Thousand Island lake Road with Tax money. Fire engine #1 was refurbished and repainted.

A motion was made by B. Neumann and supported by R. Henriksen to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:43pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sandy Mansfield, Clerk

Watersmeet Township