

**WATERSMEET TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES
PUBLIC HEARING AND REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25, 2015
WATERSMEET SCHOOL LIBRARY
N4720 US Hwy 45, Watersmeet, Michigan
6:30 PM**

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

Members present: Mike Rogers, Paul Kempainen, Rich Henriksen, Bill Neumann, Sandy Mansfield.
Others in attendance: 7

The minutes for the Regular meeting of February 18, 2015 were approved as amended with a motion from Paul Kempainen and support from Rich Henriksen. Motion carried.

The Minutes from the special meeting of March 18th, 2015 were approved with a motion from Rich Henriksen and support from Bill Neumann. Motion carried.

The Public Hearing was entered into at 6:37 pm after a motion by Rich Henriksen and support from Bill Neumann. Motion carried. First item of the Public Hearing was a presentation by Alan Piel for the support of the Whitefish Trail restoration project. The Lac Vieux Desert Tribe has committed to providing the match required for the project. The township will again handle the finances of the project such as paying of the bills and receiving the monies from the grant. No objections or negative comments were made.

Second item of the hearing was to ratify the budget for the 2015 – 2016 fiscal year beginning on April 1, 2015. The budget was made available to the people present for review and the the General Appropriations Act Resolution was read. The only question raised was if the ISCCW was earmarked for money during this period. The answer is yes, \$15,000. Many special meetings were held and a great deal of work goes into the preparing of this budget each year and Frank Kuchevar, Deputy Supervisor has been the force behind the majority of the work. Many thanks to him for his help.

A motion was offered by Rich Henriksen with support from Bill Neumann to return to the regular meeting. Motion carried. Regular meeting re-entered at 6:55 pm.

New Business: A resolution was offered by Bill Neumann with support from Rich Henriksen to ratify the 2015 – 2016 budget presented in the Public Hearing. Resolution Roll Call Vote: Yeas, Unanimous. Resolution declared passed by Township Supervisor

After the reading of the General Appropriations Act Resolution for fiscal year 2015 – 2016, a resolution was offered by Bill Neumann with support from Rich Henriksen to accept the General Appropriations Act Resolution act as read. Roll Call Vote: Yeas, Unanimous. Resolution declared passed by Township Supervisor.

A resolution was called for to amend the budget to reflect the \$71,273.32 received as 2% from the LVD Tribe for Police and other 2% unallocated funds. This resolution was offered by Paul Kempainen with support from Bill Neumann. Roll Call Vote: Yeas, Unanimous. Resolution declared passed by Township Supervisor.

A resolution was called for to balance the cost centers for Police Protection (\$51,088.87), ISCCW (\$10,000), Chamber of Commerce (\$4184.45) and UP Thunder Riders (\$5,000) by increasing these accounts with the received 2% money. There were transfers also needed to increase #101247 (BOR) by \$208.93 and decrease #101266702 (Attorney Fees) by \$208.93 and lastly to increase #101262727 (Election Supplies) by \$71.40 and decrease #101266702 (Attorney Fees). This resolution was offered by

Bill Neumann with support from Rich Henriksen. Roll Call Vote: Yeas, Unanimous. Resolution declared passed by Township Supervisor.

REPORTS: Supervisor – The old Town Hall is scheduled for demolition to begin on or about the 1st of April, 2015. Saturday, March 28th it has been posted that residents may enter the building to take any items moved to a designated area. The boring samples of the soil on the Town Hall property have been completed by Coleman Engineering. The offices will be closed on Monday, April 6th in observance of Easter. Sherry Zoars has the results of the email survey conducted for internet coverage for outlying areas. 213 surveys were returned and 201 indicated that they wanted better internet. These results will be forwarded on to potential providers. The state is going to be requiring each township to have an Asset Management Plan in the future. Last year we applied for a SAW Grant, but we are near the end of the list for funding. The plan is for storm water and wastewater system maintenance. We have been working to stay ahead of the game by fixing our jetter in order to clean out pipes without having to call in outside contractors, we have purchased a camera for detecting our own problems, time spent cleaning the system, etc. All of this can be charged against the amount of money required for the local match required by the DEQ. There had been an issue with a Planning Commission member as to the proper order in which the Township Board addressed the construction of the new community center. Our attorney was contacted and submitted a letter to Mike Rogers stating that the steps he took to correct this matter were sufficient and the plans can proceed.

Treasurer – report submitted to public and the board.

Clerk – Beginning the 1st of April, Purchase Orders will be required for all items purchased in order to maintain better records for inventory and spending.

Other – Bill Neumann announced that former teacher/coach JJ Tizianni passed away. He also brought up a notice printed 3/14/15 in the Legals Section in the Ironwood Daily Globe regarding the use of ORVs on side streets of town. He was stopped while going to the gas station via side streets. According to the notice, he was following the rules adopted by the County in order to use a side street. Watersmeet Township does not have an ordinance banning this use.

Dave Neumann announced that on April 8th at 2:00pm at the Township Offices, N4660 US Hwy 45, Watersmeet, there will be a meeting to begin the planning of the upcoming 4th of July activities.

A motion was offered by Bill Neumann with support from Rich Henriksen to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 7:23pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sandy Mansfield, Clerk
Watersmeet Township