

Approved with correction 2/21/2018
WATERSMEET TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES
REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 17, 2018
6:30PM
WATERSMEET COMMUNITY CENTER
www.watersmeet.us

The regular monthly meeting of the Watersmeet Township Board of Trustees was called to order at 6:30 PM by Supervisor Rogers. Members present: Paul Kempainen, Alan Piel, Mike Rogers, Bill Neumann. Absent: Sandy Mansfield
Citizens: 13

A motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of December 20, 2017 and Special Meeting of ~~December~~(January)8, 2017 was offered by Bill Neumann and supported by Paul Kempainen. Motion carried.

APPEARANCES:

Paul Anderson of Coleman Engineering presented an overview of the SAW Grant – Sewer Asset Management Plan to the township board. This entails smoke testing and televised photos of the lines to assess the condition and establish the location of any problems in the sewer system. He also informed the board as to some ways to mitigate the township portion of the cost for this process. Mr. Anderson stated that the township is in a good place with the established fund for repairs and maintenance of the system and that the rates for our system are comparable to other townships. He could not foresee the township needing to raise rates.

Bob McGuffin, CCROA President, made a request for assistance from the township with regards to the formation of a Special Tax District to combat the invasive species on the Cisco Chain. He presented a letter from Attorney Cliff Bloom outlining the request. Mr. Rogers confirmed that the township attorney has spoken with Mr. Bloom. Mr. McGuffin will be sending letters to all affected by this and will await replies and comments. The board was assured there would be no cost to anyone other than the Special Tax District. There will be further discussion as more information is acquired.

Dave Neumann also gave the board an overview of the Brown Field tax rebate, and suggested a full time person to be assisting with this program as it is difficult and time consuming to get through. If qualified, it may assist with tax relief after improvements are made to a property after a major clean up. Dave will be bringing further information in the near future.

Public Comments:

Dave Sherrill commented on the Special Tax District discussion. He felt that seeing as most of the people affected by the request are summer residents and it would be improper to act without giving them the opportunity to comment or to be informed. Mr. McGuffin stated that he would be sending all that would be affected a letter to inform them and there would be time allowed for comments. Mr. Sherrill requested to see the letter for review. Mr. Rogers also assured Mr. Sherrill there would be an opportunity for all to reply.

Old Business:

Building Inspector Proposal: A motion was made by Bill Neumann, supported by Alan Piel that this be tabled for a later date. Motion approved

New Business:

1. A motion was made by Bill Neumann with support from Alan Piel to approve the Contract for SAW Grant. Roll call: Ayes...Paul Kemppainen, Alan Piel, Mike Rogers, Bill Neumann. Nays...None Motion Carried.

2. A motion was made by Paul Kemppainen with support from Alan Piel to approve the contract for the Special Tax District. Roll call: Ayes...Paul Kemppainen, Alan Piel, Mike Rogers, Bill Neumann. Nays...None Motion Carried.

3. A motion was made by Bill Neumann with support from Alan Piel to opt out of PA 152 for 2018-2019. Motion carried.

4. A motion was made by Alan Piel with support from Bill Neumann to approve the Kolehmainen Agency as the township auditor. Motion carried.

Supervisors Report: Mr. Rogers informed the board that there were two application made for approval to be appointed to the fire department. A motion was made by Bill Neumann with support from Paul Kemppainen to approve the applications of Carly Caudill and Marcus Bain to the fire department. Motion carried.

Treasurers Report: The fund balance has been increasing with the tax season in progress. The accounts are all in balance with about ½ of the taxes processed.

Correspondence: The township has received a thank you letter from the Land O' Lakes Library for the support given by the township. They also stated they would appreciate support from the township in the future.

Jim Pittsley gave an overview of the progress he has been making with the inventory, training needs, and computer issues with the fire department. He has been able to gain access to the computer files, and has set up monthly training sessions. He is working with the Land O'Lakes department to acquire training with their department.

A motion was made by Bill Neumann with support from Alan Piel to Adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 7:38.

Respectfully Submitted,

Theresa Mansfield, Deputy Clerk
Watersmeet Township