

WATERSMEET TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES
REGULAR MEETING AND PUBLIC HEARING
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2018
6:30PM
WATERSMEET COMMUNITY CENTER
www.watersmeet.us

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

Members present: Mike Rogers, Bill Neumann Alan Piel, Sandy Mansfield and Paul Kempainen.
Citizens: 10

The minutes of the regular meeting held January 17, 2018 had an error on the date for the approval of the special meeting held December 8, 2018. The correction should have stated the date of that meeting as January 8, 2018. A motion was made by Alan Piel with support from Bill Neumann to approve the minutes as corrected for January 17, 2018 and the special meeting February 9, 2018. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Bill Neumann with support from Alan Piel to enter into a Public Hearing. Motion carried. Paul Kempainen asked that the board approve the Master Plan for 2018 – 2022 and also the Recreation Plan for 2018-2022. The changes for fines and penalties in the construction code need adjustment.

A motion to reenter the regular meeting was offered by Paul Kempainen with support from Bill Neumann. Motion carried.

There was a motion offered by Bill Neumann with support from Alan Piel to approval the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

New Business:

- 1 Board of Review dates.
A motion was offered by Alan Piel to approve the dates of March 12, 2018 from 9am to 3pm and march 13th, 2018 from 3pm to 9pm.Support by Bill Neumann. Motion carried.
- 2 New fees for fines and penalties in the Construction Ordinance will be increased from the existing 2 times the original cost of a permit to 5 times the original cost bringing these fees in line with zoning fees. A motion to accept this increase was offered by Paul Kempainen with support from Alan Piel. Motion carried.
- 3 Approval of Master Plan and Rec Plan. The Master Plan and Rec Plan for the years 2018 – 2022 was completed and signed by the secretary of the Planning Commission and submitted to the Board for approval. A motion was offered by Alan Piel with support from Paul Kempainen to approve the completed Master and Rec Plans for Watersmeet Township 2018 – 2022. Motion carried.
- 4 Veteran's Council yearly fees. The Gogebic County Veterans fees for the 2018 year have increased to \$6267. A motion to approve this amount was offered by Bill Neumann and supported by Paul Kempainen. Roll Call Vote: Ayes...Mike Rogers, Bill Neumann, Alan Piel, Paul Kempainen, Sandy Mansfield. Motion carried.
- 5 U.P.S.E.T.
A motion was offered by Bill Neumann with support from Alan Piel to support the Upper Peninsula Substance Enforcement Team with \$500. Roll Call Vote....Ayes...Mike Roger, Alan Piel, Bill Neumann, Paul Kempainen, Sandy Mansfield. Motion carried.

Bill Approval.

A motion to approve the payment of the bills presented was offered by Bill Neumann with a second from Alan Piel. Motion carried. Checks to be paid out of the General Fund #37666 thru 376866, Waste Water Fund #4065 and Water Fund #3254 thru 3256.

Reports:

Supervisor: The request that was agreed to at the last meeting from the Cisco Chain Riparian Owners Association for a special assessment in order to combat weed control on the chain has proven to be more involved than originally thought. There is a rigid schedule to be adhered to for public hearings, mailings, etc. This will take more time than originally planned.

Dean Hand, the Marenisco water/sewer operator will be helping out with the monthly water sample gathering and reporting until our new foreman can test and become fully certified. We will pay him an amount of \$625/month plus mileage for all of his work.

Dave Neumann will be phasing out as the Zoning Administrator and Dan Kline will be assuming that role along with his current Building Inspector duties. Dave will continue to serve on the Brownfield committee and also continue doing Land Divisions until Dan can get up to speed on the process. The board wants to thank Dave for all his years of service for the township. Many thanks and much praise for a job well done. Julie Mathiesen had a comment to make as to the possible conflict of interest that could arise from Dan Kline possibly bidding on any construction projects where a permit is issued (either zoning or construction). Dan stated that there would be no conflict of interest as he will no longer be taking on any construction jobs. He has "retired" from that line of work.

We are still working with the LVD tribe and our attorney on getting set up in order to have our own Police Department. We will probably be taking one of the officers that now work for LVD due to the fact that they are able to make calls on the reservation property.

Treasurer: Paul reported that he will be returning to the school as a math teacher for the remainder of the school year due to the current teacher leaving for other employment. His deputy, Maureen Kersten will be in the office on Monday and Fridays for 3-4 hours a day and he will be here on Wednesday afternoons. He wants the public to know that he will pay Maureen out of Pocket for the hours she is here beginning after taxes are complete so there is no appearance of impropriety while he is working elsewhere. Bill Neumann asked about the checkbook and Paul stated that it is in balance.

Fire Chief: Jim Pittsley reported that there have been 2 fire calls recently. He has all of his officers in line and feels the department is moving forward.

Correspondence: There was a letter from the Land O'Lakes Library thanking the township for its continued support.

Supervisors from Watersmeet Township, Marenisco Township and Wakefield Township sent letter to the Gogebic County Board of Commissioners regarding the PILT (payment in lieu of taxes). We are still trying to receive our share of the money that is collected in these areas, but goes to Gogebic County's budget. A letter was received stating that we are welcome to attend a meeting of the Board of Commissioners to give our side of the argument. We are asking that once it is decided on the time of the meeting, as many residents as possible get together to show support by attending the meeting. There are other counties in the state that do give back to the townships.

A motion was offered by Bill Neumann with support from Alan Piel to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:15pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sandy Mansfield, Clerk