

APPROVED MAY 16, 2018
WATERSMEET TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES
REGULAR MEETING
APRIL 18, 2018
6:30PM
WATERSMEET COMMUNITY CENTER
www.watersmeet.us

The meeting was called to order at 6:30pm by Supervisor Rogers. Members present: Mike Rogers, Alan Piel, Bill Neumann, Paul Kempainen, Sandy Mansfield.

Others present: Paul Runcie, Tracey Runcie, Frank Kuchevar, Dan Kline, Jim Pittsley

A motion to approve the minutes of regular meeting 3/21/2018 and special meeting of 4/06/2018 was offered by Alan Piel with support from Paul Kempainen. Motion carried.

Supervisor Rogers asked that a #3 (Generator), be added under NEW BUSINESS on the agenda. A motion to approve the agenda with this change was offered by Bill Neumann with support from Alan Piel. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. New by-laws for the Fire Department were presented to the board for approval. Bill Neumann had several changes that he would like made. A motion to table the approval of the by-laws was offered by Bill Neumann with support from Alan Piel. Motion carried. The changes will be taken into consideration and then presented to the board at the next meeting.
2. Proposed fee schedule for the Community Center. Supervisor Rogers wanted to revisit the portion of the deposit returned when the Community Center is rented. Currently, \$100 is kept from the \$250 deposit required to rent the center, if all is cleaned and in good condition. He has proposed that we still charge a \$250 deposit but that will also include a key for the front door. If the key is left in the building and the hall is cleaned well, we will return \$200 of the deposit instead of \$150. If the key is NOT left in the building, there will be NO portion of the deposit returned. There was a problem with too many keys out at the old Town Hall. If the key is not returned, we will have to rekey the locks and the party renting the hall will be responsible the cost. A motion to this effect was offered by Paul Kempainen with support from Alan Piel. Motion carried.
3. Generator. There is still \$22,000 left from the Rural Development loan on the Community Center. The Center is wired for the generator already. The purpose in have this is for emergency purposes in case of some disaster that would require people to be without heat etc. for an extended period of time. The Red Cross will be coming around to find places to designate as shelters and we would like to ready to be included on this list. The hotel at the casino is also designated as such. The cost of purchasing and installing the generator is approximately \$25,000. Motion to go ahead with this project was offered by Alan Piel with support from Bill Neumann. Roll Call Vote: Ayes...Mike Rogers, Paul Kempainen, Bill Neumann, Alan Piel, Sandy Mansfield. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF BILLS: A motion was offered by Bill Neumann with support from Paul Kempainen to approve the payment of the bills as presented and there was support from Paul Kempainen. Motion passed. General fund check numbers 37816 – 37832, Water Company #3267, Waste Water Company #4073.

REPORTS:

Supervisor....Mike and Sandy attended a meeting regarding the ambulance service for the west end of the county with all of the cities and townships in attendance. Beacon ambulance is considering closing it's doors and the service to the west end of the county would be lost. There has been talk of adding 1 mil to the taxes of the Gogebic County residents, which would mean around \$167,000 from Watersmeet alone. We already pay for our own ambulance as well as our first responders and EMTs. If this would pass, it would be absolutely necessary for an ambulance to be based in Watersmeet at all times. There will be another meeting on 4/25/18 and we will keep everyone informed. Mike will also be meeting with Chairman Jim Williams of LVD next week regarding the police department. An email was received from NMU Broadband letting us know that they are still working on expanding the coverage of their Wi-Fi to the outer areas.

Treasurer...All accounts are balanced at this time. We are at our year high and things will go down from here out until next tax time.

Bill Neumann...With the weather being uncooperative, they cemetery may not make it open by the 1st of May, but we will try.

Alan Piel....He is applying for an extension for the Whitefish Lake Trail project due to the weather. They should have been able to be working on finishing the project, but things have been delayed.

Fire Chief Jim Pittsley....It has been a rather quiet month. He and his assistant chief have been busy working on the By-laws and inventory. The Turn Out Gear that LVD provided 2% money toward, has been ordered and it will take approximately 2 months to receive everything.

Paul Runcie...He will be attending MITN training on Tuesday, April 24. This is necessary in order to go ahead with establishing our own department.

A motion to adjourn was offered by Paul Kemppainen with support from Bill Neumann. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 7:20pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sandy Mansfield, Clerk
Watersmeet Township