

APPROVED 6.20.18
WATERSMEET TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Regular Meeting of May 16, 2018
Watersmeet Community Center
6:30 pm
www.watersmeet.us

The May meeting of the Watersmeet Township Board of Trustees was called to order at 6:30 pm by Supervisor Rogers. Members Present: Mike Rogers, Paul Kempainen, Alan Piel, Bill Neumann, Sandy Mansfield
Others present: Greg and Yvonne Clark, Jeff Pytlarz, John Neumann, Paul, Tracy and Gabby Runcie, Peggy Tuttle, Dan Kline, Jim Pittsley and Dan Straszewski

A motion to approve the minutes of the April 18th meeting was offered by Bill Neumann with support from Alan Piel. Motion carried.

SPECIAL APPEARANCES:

Robert Dorgan: Mr. Dorgan is a representative of the Red Cross and spoke to the attendees about the Watersmeet Community Center being named an emergency shelter. If the need would arise, the Red Cross would come in with cots, blankets, food, People etc. to help get residents through the emergency.

The Red Cross has its own group of people to handle medical, dispatch, etc. but are willing to talk to the local clinic about help if needed. He will also be meeting with Chairman Williams of LVD as the motel is also set up as a shelter.

Jeff Pytlarz: Mr. Pitlarz spoke on behalf of the ISCCW (Invasive Species Control Coalition of Watersmeet, Inc.). Bass Lake was treated a few years ago for invasive species and there are signs of it returning. Last year people hand pulled the milfoil, but it has multiplied to where more drastic measures are needed such as suctioning. Chemicals are not planned at this time. The Bass Lake Riparians will all receive forms to fill out to prove that they have been contacted about this issue. John Neumann and Dan Straszewski both noted that the majority of residents are "on board" with doing whatever needs to be done in order to control this nuisance. They asked the board to entertain a motion in order to allow them to begin treatment and to extend the time of this resolution to include 2018 – 2023.

OLD BUSINESS:

Fire Department Bylaws:

A revised version of the Fire Department Bylaws was presented for approval from the Board. Bill Neumann had a couple of questions he asked to have clarified. One of which was the number of successive meetings that could be missed before being removed from the roster. The other comment was to ask the Fire Dept. to have some sort of audit or checks and balances procedure for their department checkbook. This would protect them from anyone coming in and questioning the handling of the funds. The Township has a yearly audit and this does not include the Fire Department. A motion to accept the Fire Department Bylaws as written was offered by Paul Kempainen with support from Bill Neumann. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

Proposed Resolution to treat Bass Lake:

A resolution to allow the ISCCW to treat Bass Lake for invasive species for a term of five (5) years was offered by Alan Piel with support by Bill Neumann. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Mike Rogers, Bill Neumann, Alan Piel, Paul Kempainen, Sandy Mansfield. Nays: None. Resolution declared "passed" by Supervisor Rogers.

Proposed Grass Ordinance:

A proposed ordinance to enforce the cutting of tall grass and weeds which can have a blighting effect on neighborhoods was offered by Alan Piel with support from Sandy Mansfield. Motion carried. The ordinance will be published on the website and will take effect 30 days after publication. A summary of the ordinance will be published in the Globe.

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

A motion was offered by Bill Neumann with support from Alan Piel to pay the bills presented to the board. General Fund checks #37876 – 37892. Waste Water checks #4078 & 4079. Water checks #3271 – 3273. Motion carried.

REPORTS:

SUPERVISOR: We have checked into the emergency generator for the Community Center and the quote from Ruotsala for a 70k generator and hook up was approximately \$40,000. UP Engineering Systems quoted us a 100k generator for \$26,800. We will also look into getting a quote from Bruce Caudill for hookup. The Transfer Station will begin Sunday hours on June 10, 2018. They will be the same as last year, 8:00 am to Noon.

TREASURER: The books are balanced. We haven't received the county settlement check for taxes yet from the County, but when we do it should be around \$35,000 which will help to give us a bit of a boost. We are still planning to make a move from Huntington Bank as we are getting only about ¼% interest. We are checking into Miner's State Bank.

CLERK: There will be meeting of the County Commission on Wednesday, May 24th at 5:00pm. We are trying to get more people to go and attend and help us with our quest for our fair share of the PILT money that is now given only to the County and not redistributed to the townships. A group of women have banded together and started a "Senior Coffee" on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month. We have had 2 gatherings so far and it seems to be off to a good start. There are baked snacks and coffee and tea. A card game or board game may interest you and you can just enjoy the company of those attending. We are hoping to get to the point where we can have a sign up list for people who would be so kind as to contribute baked goods on an appointed date. The Daily Globe charges are becoming more and more out of reach and we are looking into another paper to publish legal notices, etc. The increase \$864.00 to publish the Water Quality Report compared to last year's cost of \$594 was the "alarm" that has triggered this search.

BILL NEUMANN: He will be attending another pipeline meeting in Bessemer on Tuesday, May 22nd. He has put together a sound system review for the hall in the community center. As Fire Commissioner he is asking the Chief and Assistant Chief to research Burn Ordinances. There is a "high" alert right now due to the dry weather. Fire Chief Pittsley also is asking for the ordinance to include a way for the Department to recoup some of its losses when the trucks and manpower are called out on calls for things such as unattended fires and burnings. At this time, the DNR is not giving out any burn permits. As chief, he can ask LVD officers to write and issue tickets for unauthorized burning, but that fine money does not come back to the department.

A motion to adjourn was offered by Bill Neumann with support from Paul Kempainen. The meeting was adjourned at 7:08pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Sandy Mansfield, Clerk
Watersmeet Township