

APPROVED 5/15/2019
WATERSMEET TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES
SPECIAL MEETING
WEDNESDAY, MAY 8, 2019 12:30PM
CONFERENCE ROOM
WATERSMEET TOWNSHIP OFFICES
www.watersmeet.us

A special meeting of the Watersmeet Township Board of Trustees was called to order by Supervisor Rogers at 12:30pm.

Members Present: Mike Rogers, Alan Piel, Paul Kempainen, Sandy Mansfield

Members Absent: Bill Neumann

A motion to approve the agenda as presented was offered by Alan Piel with support from Paul Kempainen. Motion carried.

Special Business

School tax collection fees: The Township collects the taxes for the school system and it amounts to approximately \$12,000 per year. Due to the decline in enrollment, Superintendent Pease and School Board President Pete Peterson came before the board to ask if that amount can be reduced. In the past 6 years the enrollment has dropped by about 30 children amounting to a loss in revenue of approximately \$225,000. When the school office help changed, the bills for the 2017-18 tax collection became lost in the shuffle and were not paid therefore creating a debt of \$24,000+. Treasurer Paul Kempainen explained what all is involved with the tax collection, and stated that for the amount of extra work that is placed on the treasurer's office, it would be easy to reduce the amount collected each year by half. He offered that the Town has the option to change the amount collected to a reduced amount or consider instituting a flat fee each year. Some of the other towns and townships do a "per parcel" fee, ranging from \$.60/per parcel to \$3.08/per parcel. After discussion by the board, Paul Kempainen offered a motion to forgive the debt for the 2017-18 school year, but to keep the \$12,000+ amount for this year as the town's budget is already done. The collection fee would then be revisited for next year. Alan Piel supported the motion. Roll Call Vote.....Ayes: Mike Rogers, Paul Kempainen, Alan Piel, Sandy Mansfield. Motion carried.

Seasonal Hires

The board reviewed the applications received for the two open positions for summer help. After consideration and discussion, three top applicants were chosen. A motion was offered by Paul Kempainen with support from Alan Piel to choose the final two after the drug test results are in. Motion carried.

A motion to adjourn was offered by Paul Kempainen with support from Alan Piel. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 1:00pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sandy Mansfield, Clerk
Watersmeet Township