

APPROVED 8/21/2019
WATERSMEET TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES
REGULAR MEETING
JULY 17, 2019 6:30PM
COMMUNITY CENTER
www.watersmeet.us

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

Members present: Mike Rogers, Paul Kempainen, Bill Neumann, Alan Piel, Sandy Mansfield
Residents: 45

A motion to approve the minutes of June 18th as changed (date omission) was offered by Alan Piel with support from Bill Neumann. Motion carried.

APPEARANCES:

Eric Smith and Don Salo from Northern Michigan University did a presentation on Broad Band in the area. A brief history of NMU EAN (Educational Access Network), how to sign up and determine if coverage is available in your area and how it all works. There was a lengthy discussion that followed with a question and answer period. Those who were present were able to see if their addresses are able to receive the coverage. The biggest issue is the terrain. The beautiful area we live in can be a problem with the hills and trees in getting an adequate signal to some residences. Some ideas to help in solving the issue were discussed. An invitation to attend the CCROA picnic Saturday, July 20, was issued to both Mr. Smith and Mr. Salo. They will try to attend and speak to more residents about the possibility of getting broad band to them.

Paul Anderson of Coleman Engineering presented a proposal for professional engineering services to address Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy (MDEGLE) requirements for water system reliability survey in Watersmeet Township. There is a "punch list" of items that must be addressed. One or two of these items will be addressed this fall and the remainder will be taken care of in the spring. The cost of these services is \$14,000. The DEQ also wants fencing around the well houses but that will have to wait until the next budget year

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Peggy Tuttle asked to be put on next month's agenda to talk about the art committee and some ideas they have for the community center's use in bringing some displays to the public. She also asked to be on the agenda to talk about the Gogebic County Road Commission gravel pit that could possibly be opening on old US 2 ~~west~~ east.

Richie Burke asked how a person could become a Reserve Police Officer. Interested parties must hold a concealed carry permit and have a background check. This is entirely volunteer. If interested one can contact Police Chief Paul Runcie at the office in the Community Center.

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

OLD BUSINESS:

Fire Department burn ordinance. A motion was offered by Paul Kemppainen and supported by Alan Piel to table this to the next meeting. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

The Fire Department asked the board to approve a new applicant for membership. A motion was offered by Sandy Mansfield with support from Alan Piel to accept Joshua Zelinski as a new Fire Department member. Motion carried.

A resolution to move \$200,000 from Huntington Bank to Miners State Bank was offered by Alan Piel with support from Bill Neumann. Ayes....Mike Rogers, Bill Neumann, Paul Kemppainen, Alan Piel, Sandy Mansfield. Resolution declared passed by Supervisor Rogers. This move will take our interest yield from .017% net yield to 2.8% net yield in a 4 year CD.

A motion to approve the bills as presented for payment was offered by Alan Piel and supported by Bill Neumann. Motion carried. GF checks #38934 – 38955, WWF checks #4171 and 4172.

REPORTS:

Supervisor.....Supervisor Rogers regretfully accepted Bill Neumann's resignation as Fire Commissioner. His volunteer time and work has been greatly appreciated.

Treasurer.....All accounts are balanced. The Whitefish lake Trail project is completed and the club was reimbursed their "seed" money.

Fire Department.....Chief Pittsley announced that the new Thermal Imager has arrived. Jim Lawrenson of the Ambulance Committee approached our FD and wants to know if we would run an ambulance if one was stationed here. At this time, we do not have the amount of people that it would take to staff one. We also have to place to keep an ambulance. We have tried in the past to recruit EMTs and have paid for the classes with only a couple of people ever finishing the course. Jim stated that we could possible hold a class here in town.

Police..... Police Chief Runcie presented his monthly report. Patrol miles: 2424, Hours worked: 217, Traffic citations issued: 24, Non-criminal complaints: 5, Misdemeanor Arrests: 1, Calls for Service: 9, Assists: 2.

A part time officer Ryan Leuzzo was hired.

A motion to adjourn was offered by Alan Piel with support from Bill Neumann. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 7:56pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Sandy Mansfield, Clerk
Watersmeet Township