

Negaunee Township Regular Board Meeting – July 14, 2016

Call to Order

William Carlson, Township Supervisor, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance. Other Board members present included John Ennett, Rachel Sertich, Duane Soine and Gary Wommer.

Absent: None

Agenda

Board members reviewed the “Revised” agenda for 7/14/16. Upon motion of Duane Soine, seconded by Rachel Sertich, the revised agenda as presented was approved. Motion Carried.

Approval of Minutes

Board members reviewed the minutes for the Regular Township Board Meeting held on June 9, 2016 along with minutes for Special Board Meetings held on June 16th and June 27th, 2016. Upon motion of Gary Wommer, seconded by Duane Soine, the minutes as presented were approved. Motion Carried.

Public Comment

Co.Rd. 510

Co. Bill Carlson, 60 Co.Rd. 510, requested the Township Board submit a letter to the Marquette County Road Commission asking them to do something with Co.Rd. 510. While they have tried to contact loggers and construction companies regarding reducing their speed in the area, his house still shakes every time a large vehicle passes by his residence.

Susie Saari, 60 Co.Rd. 510, she wanted to expand upon what Mr. Carlson said. She noted truck traffic often times start as early as 4:30 a.m. and continue until 11:30 p.m. While the signs and the no passing line have helped, more still needs to be done to alleviate the shaking of the residence.

Gary Wommer, 64 Co.Rd. 510 (in his capacity as a Township resident), indicated many of the logging trucks going by his residence are from Wisconsin. He is uncertain how to get a hold of these drivers. In addition, although the section of roadway from Hardwood Lane to Co.Rd. 502 is scheduled to be repaved in 2017, he is unsure if this will even solve the issues being experienced.

The Township Supervisor noted he would reach out to his contact at the Michigan Loggers Association to see if you could obtain some information on the companies which may be logging off of Co.Rd. 510 in order to get contact information.

Heritage Drive Water Drainage

Dean Ellis, 44 Heritage Drive, addressed the Board. He noted his residence is west of the Carp River on the south side of Heritage Drive. Water and sand heading east from River View crosses the roadway and ends up in his driveway. This spring he removed 15 wheelbarrow loads of sand from his driveway. Any assistance from the Township to alleviate the issue would be appreciated.

Old Business

Heritage Drive Board members discussed Heritage Drive and the recent cost estimate of \$200,000 received from the Marquette County Road Commission to wedge and pave the roadway. Because this figure was substantially higher than initially believed, the Board will not pursue this project at the present time. However, the scale of the project will be reviewed to see if a portion of the work may be practical.

Heritage Drive Drainage Issue The Board further discussed the water drainage issue on Heritage Drive. Upon motion of John Ennett, seconded by Gary Wommer, the Township Supervisor was authorized to obtain individual cost estimates for sand abatement, ditching and a culvert to address the water drainage issue on Heritage Drive. Motion Carried.

Mapping Conference Board members reviewed information on a mapping conference to be held in Boyne, MI September 7-9, 2016. Upon motion of John Ennett, seconded by Gary Wommer, approval was given for Zoning Administrator, Nick Leach, to attend the mapping conference September 7-9, 2016 in Boyne, MI at a cost not to exceed \$500. Motion Carried.

New Business

Road Millage Study Mark Daavettila from UP Engineers & Architects addressed the Board regarding a proposal from the firm to conduct a Road Millage Study for the Township. The firm would gather existing information on roads, perform a site visit and work to determine probably fixes and associates costs – including what millage amount and term would be necessary to fund the overall plan. The study would take several months to complete. Upon motion of John Ennett, seconded by Rachel Sertich, approval was given to accept the Road Millage Study proposal from UP Engineers and Architects to review Township road conditions and submit a millage plan to fund improvements at a total cost of \$2,600. Motion Carried.

CUPPAD Annual Dues Upon motion of Duane Soine, seconded by Gary Wommer, approval was given to pay CUPPAD Annual Dues in the amount of \$212. Motion Carried.

Water Clerk Job Posting With the Office Manager's anticipated retirement this Fall, Board members discussed the need to hire an additional staff member. It is expected the current Water Clerk will assume a majority of the duties of the current Office Manager, and a new individual will be needed to fill the Water Clerk vacancy. After further discussion and upon motion of Duane Soine, seconded by Gary Wommer, approval was given to advertise for the pending Water Clerk opening, with wages and hours (full-time / part-time) to be determined at a later date. Motion Carried *with John Ennett casting a negative vote due to lack of information.*

Reports

Community Center Board Duane Soine, Board Liaison to the Community Center Board, provided an update for the Community Center Board meeting held on July 12, 2016. Highlights included: 1) a Summer Recreation Program will be held in August from 10 am – 3 pm for children 10 and older, 2) new member Steve Olsen was welcomed and sworn in to the Board, 3) approval of 3 phase work proposal for work to be done on the soccer field, 4) work will be started on the project to illuminate the trail system, and 5) the CCB approved working to reduce the Custodian's unfunded liability resulting from 888 hours of earned sick time.

Discussion was also held regarding the status of the windows in the Board Room. It was noted quotes for replacement windows had been received, but were cost prohibitive. It was recommend the CCB seek costs for "thermos pane replacement" which would just involve the glass and not the entire window structure.

Fire Department Report Jeff Kontio, Fire Chief, was on hand to review the written Fire Department report dated July 14 2016. Items highlighted included: 1) 10 calls for the month of June (66 calls year to date), 2) training for the month was apparatus operation and hose testing, and 3) National Night Out is coming up on August 4th and Department anticipates the Valley Med helicopter will land at the Township as long as they are available.

Water Report Water Supervisor, Russ Williams, reviewed the Water Department report for June, 2016. He noted: 1) transducers have been installed in both wells, 2) barricades had been made to isolate the water tank during painting, 3) the back up generator is on site at the well field, 4) work is being done with Traverse Engineering looking into adding another well to the system for reliability purposes, including looking into a permanent stand-by generator, and 5) work being performed to find some lost water stacks.

Clerk Report(Bills, Claims)

Water fund checks #7770 through #7786 totaling \$31,703.12 were reviewed. Upon motion of John Ennett, seconded by Duane Soine, the Water fund checks as presented were approved. Motion Carried.

General Fund checks #25690 through #25787 totaling \$107,675.44, ACH information for the month of May, 2016 totaling \$10,811.98 and June, 2016 totaling \$10,819.99 were reviewed. Upon motion of John Ennett, seconded by Gary Wommer, the General Fund checks and ACH with a grand total of \$129,307.41 as presented were approved. Motion Carried.

Planning Report Gary Wommer, Board Liaison, and Nick Leach, Zoning Administrator, provided an update on the Planning meeting held July 12, 2016, along with reviewing the written report. Highlights included: 1) Public Hearing for Class A Nonconforming Status for property located at 6 Horseshoe Lake Circle, 2) the Commission will be reviewing two Land Use Permits for new buildings in the PUD, and 3) a Special Planning Commission meeting is scheduled for July 27th at 5:30 pm as Smith Construction is requesting a Conditional Use Permit for Natural Resource Extraction on their property off of Kalkaska Drive.

Assessor's Report Susan Bovan reviewed her Assessor Report for the month of June, 2016. Items highlighted included: 1) Yearly Operations, 2) July Board of Review, 3) Split Information and 4) Midway Industrial Michigan Tax Tribunal Appeal. She also noted the AMAR Review is schedule for July 29, 2016.

Treasurer's Report John Ennett, Treasurer, addressed items in the Treasurer's Department. He noted: 1) tax bills have been mailed out, 2) all personal property taxes have been paid, and 3) the annual Metro Fund payment has been received.

Supervisor's Report William Carlson, Township Supervisor, provided an update on Township activities since the last Board meeting.

Brownfield Authority Brownfield Administrator, Nick Leach, noted TriMedia is currently working on writing the Brownfield Plan for the Sawmill Road property. When the Plan is finalized a meeting will be held to adopt the Plan along with working to obtain bids for demolition.

Wellhead Protection Committee The next Wellhead Protection Committee meeting is scheduled for July 26, 2016 at 5:30 p.m. to discuss potential development within the Wellhead tiers. It is anticipated representatives from the DEQ and Traverse Engineering will be in attendance.

Advisory Trial Committee No updated provided.

Personnel Committee Rachel Sertich, Chairperson, noted the next meeting of the Committee would be held in August. In the meantime, Board members would be provided copies of the draft Personnel Policy for review. The Policy will be brought before the Board at the August, 2016 meeting.

Emergency Management Report Mr. Carlson noted address changes were being updated.

Correspondence

- None

Public Comment

Dean Ellis, Heritage Drive, asked about safety and aesthetics of the storage buildings being constructed behind his residence and off of US 41. Nick Leach, Zoning Administrator, indicated conditions for construction of the buildings had been set previously, and all had been met. However, he did not lighting had been installed on the highway side of the structures in order to have less impact on the residences. In addition, fixes would be made to the planting screen currently in place.

Carrie Heard, 431 M-35, noted with the pending changes to front office personnel, the BS&A program .NET does allow for the multiple utility bills to appear on one statement. In addition, bank card payments can also be accepted.

Informational Items

- Smith Filing
- Industrial Park Roadway
- O'Dovero Property
- Central Dispatch
- Community Center Bill
- Negaunee Senior Center
- DEQ Letter regarding Heritage Apartments
- Video Cable Franchise

Board Member Comments

John Ennett noted it was bothersome the Marquette County Road Commission no longer assists with the cost of maintaining Township roadways.

Gary Wommer indicated he agrees with Mr. Ennett about the MCRC no longer covering any percentage of the construction costs for Township roads.

Next Meetings

The next regularly scheduled Township Board Meeting will be held on Thursday, August 11, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.

Adjournment

No further business appearing and upon motion of Rachel Sertich, seconded by Gary Wommer, the meeting was duly adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rachel Sertich
Negaunee Township Clerk