

## Negaunee Township Board Meeting – January 13, 2011

### **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, Carl Nurmi, Rachel Sertich and Duane Soine.

Absent: None

### **Agenda**

Board members reviewed the “revised” agenda which had been distributed prior to the Board meeting. Upon motion of John Ennett, seconded by Duane Soine, the revised agenda as presented was approved. Motion Carried.

### **Approval of Minutes**

Board members reviewed draft minutes for the Regular Board Meeting held on December 16, 2010. Upon motion of John Ennett, seconded by Duane Soine, the minutes as presented were approved. Motion Carried.

### **Public Comment**

None

### **Reports**

**Community Center Board** Duane Soine provided an updated for the Community Center Board meeting held on January 6, 2011. Items highlighted included: 1) Bill Sanders from UP Engineers & Architects had attended the meeting to discuss possible DNRE grants, 2) an update on the ice rink and the request by the rink attendants for First Aid equipment (which will be obtained), 3) the furnace had been inspected and was in good working order, 4) a check for \$7,898 had been received from the KBIC for new playground equipment, 5) Dave Rice will prepare the proposed 2011-2012 Community Center Board budget, and 6) the Community Center Board millage will be renewed in 2011.

**Fire Department Report** Jeff Kontio, Fire Chief, presented the Fire Department report for the month of December, 2010. Items highlighted included: 1) 8 Fire / EMS calls for the month, with a year-end total of 139 calls, 2) training for the month had consisted of combined CPR/AED refresher, and 3) the Fire Department had been awarded a DNR matching grant in the amount of \$3,425 for miscellaneous forest fire equipment including fire shelters.

**Water Report** A written Water Report dated January, 2011 from the Water Department Supervisor, Mike Adams, was reviewed. The report noted: 1) Bill from Carlon Meter had indicated the meter at the Marquette County Health Department should be in good condition until it pumps at least 20 million gallons (currently at 9 million), 2) a broken water line had occurred at 367 U.S. 41 (behind Tractor Supply) resulting in a total use of 252,600 gallons and a bill for \$2,016.80, 3) Mike Adams water license with the DEQ was renewed effective December 1, 2010, 4) the water leak detector had been ordered, and 5) residential water meter reads will be suspended January through March, with residents to forward their water meter reads to the Water Clerk.

**Clerk Report (Bills, Claims, Budget Adjustments)** The Clerk’s report was presented by Rachel Sertich.

Water Fund checks #6215 through #6224 totaling \$6,432.61 were reviewed. Upon motion of John Ennett, seconded by Carl Nurmi, the General Fund checks as presented were approved. Motion Carried.

General Fund checks #19332 through #19455 totaling \$89,958.71 were reviewed. Upon motion of John Ennett, seconded by Duane Soine, the General Fund checks as presented were approved. Motion Carried.

**Planning Report** Carl Nurmi, Board Liaison to the Planning Commission, and Joe Scanlan, Zoning Administrator, provided an update for the Planning Commission meeting held on January 11, 2011. Items

highlighted included: 1) an update on the Master Plan revision, and 2) the revised US41 / M28 Comprehensive Corridor & Access Management Plan had been received by the Township. The new Access Management Plan was more condensed than the one published in 2004 and contained 14 issues for Negaunee Township compared to the 23 which had been in the previous Plan.

**Assessor's Report** Kelly Laakso's written monthly Assessor's report for January, 2011 was reviewed. Items highlighted included: 1) Utility and Assessment Records, 2) New Construction & Splits, 3) Warrants and Brownfield, 4) Personal Property Statements, 5) Assessment Deadline Change and 6) Steel Technologies IFT.

**Treasurer's Report** John Ennett, Township Treasurer, noted there were no items to update the Board members on.

**Supervisor's Report** William Carlson, Township Supervisor, provided an update on Township activities since the last Board meeting. He noted he had: 1) scheduled a meeting with officials from Sensus Meter Corporation, 2) conducted interviews for the part-time fill-in employee, 3) discussions with the KBIC attorney regarding placing properties within the Township into trust, 4) meeting with Brian Savolainen, James O'Dovero and Pete Duex regarding waste water treatment for the proposed Casino Site, and 5) a meeting with James Thomas regarding the proposed sale of properties on which the ski and walking trails are currently situated.

**Brownfield Authority** No meeting held.

**Wellhead Protection Committee** No meeting held.

**Advisory Trail Committee** Al Reynolds provided a brief update on the Heritage Trail. He noted grants had been received and the Committee was waiting for the snow to melt prior to beginning work on the section of the trail from Negaunee to Marquette. Almost all of the required land is available. Pete O'Dovero is trading some land to assist the Trail process, but if the transfer is not complete in time he will grant an easement to allow work to begin.

**Personnel Committee** Rachel Sertich, Chairperson of the Personnel Committee, noted a meeting had been held on January 13, 2011 to continue discussion on proposed revisions to the Township's vacation / sick / personal day benefits and combining days off into a Paid Time Off (PTO) balance. The Committee also discussed carrying out employee balances for sick time, with the possibility of paying out unused sick time. The next meeting is scheduled for February 10, 2011 at 3 p.m.

**Emergency Management Report** Mr. Carlson noted the no updates to the manuals or maps had been necessary.

## **Old Business**

**U.S. 41 – Water Reservoir** The Township Supervisor noted he will address the sale of land to assist with a possible future water tank site with the current property owner.

## **New Business**

**Request for Street Light** Upon motion of John Ennett, seconded by Carl Nurmi, approval was given to authorize the installation of a street light at 179 North Road in the Township. Motion Carried.

**Designate Depository** Board members discussed adding MBank has a depository for Township funds. Upon motion of John Ennett, seconded by Rachel Sertich, approval was given to appoint MBank as a depository for Negaunee Township Funds. Aye: 5 Nay: 0 Absent: 0 Motion Carried.

**Correspondence**

- Pool Fill Letter – from Township Treasurer
- Dust Control Letter – from Marquette County Road Commission
- Website Update Letter – from Dale Rogers

**Informational Items (for future Board meeting)**

- Water / Sewer / Garbage Rates – Marquette Township
- MTA Notice – Annual Educational Conference
- City of Marquette Notice – Meet & Greet January 25, 2011 at 10 am

**Additional Public Comment**

None

**Board Member Comment**

John Ennett noted the Township’s computer company, ISEC, was going through ownership changes, and he is not certain what company / personnel will be serving the Township in the future.

Rachel Sertich inquired as to the possibility of having a password protected wireless connection at the Township Hall. John Ennett indicated he would look into it as he determines what company will be assisting the Township with its computer needs.

**Next Meeting**

The next regularly scheduled Township Board Meeting will be held on Thursday, February 10, 2011, at 7 p.m. at the Negaunee Township Hall.

**Adjournment**

No further business appearing, the meeting was duly adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rachel Sertich  
Clerk