

Negaunee Township Board Meeting - August 16, 2011

Call to Order

William Carlson, Township Supervisor, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.. Other Board members present included John Ennett, Carl Nurmi, Duane Soine.

Excused Absence: Rachel Sertich (Jackie Shier, Deputy Clerk, took the Board meeting minutes.)

Agenda

Board members reviewed the agenda. Upon motion of Carl Nurmi, seconded by Duane Soine, the agenda as presented was approved. Motion Carried.

Approval of Minutes

Board members reviewed draft minutes for the Regular Board Meeting, held on July 14, 2011. Duane Soine pointed out the misspelling of "Trail" on page 3. Upon motion of Carl Nurmi, seconded by John Ennett, the amended minutes as presented were approved. Motion Carried.

Public Comment

None

Reports

Community Center Board Duane Soine provided the update for the Community Center Board meeting held August 4, 2011. Items highlighted included: 1) Voters approved the renewal of a 20-year millage to fund the Recreation needs, 2)DNR grant coordinator Christie Bayus was here to look over the trail system on Tuesday July 26 and give us an appraisal of what she believes the land is valued at. She was very impressed with the system, 3)Merry-go-rounds are all installed and in working order, 4)Benches have arrived and will be put together by the Boy Scouts for our trails, 5)A new sign has been installed at the 510 Pocket Park by the County providing some history on the old and new bridge. Bob will be installing a grill and adding another picnic table. Patti will contact MSCC about getting some plants, 5) The C. C. Board approved J. Austin Fabricators to build two sets of bleachers for a total cost of \$2,250.00, 6)In the spring the Baseball/Softball fields will be looked at to determine the correct field names and they will be posted accordingly. Some repairs will be done to the fields before winter making it easier to prep them in the spring.7) The paperwork and money have been sent into the County for a Septic Tank permit. 8) Additional bids will be sought in regards to the patching of the Community Center Basketball Courts and using concrete at a lower cost. 9) Candy machine has been removed from the gym area. 9) Informational note from the MML listing Heartland Forest as an

additional insured and a reminder note MML does not include Environmental Pollution.

Fire Department Report The Fire Department report for August 2011 was provided by Assistant Fire Chief, Jim Elenbaas. Items highlighted included: 1)12 Fire/ EMS calls for the month, 2)Training for the month of August would be the third and final round of Apparatus Training and 3) A request for Board Approval to terminate a firefighter effective immediately. Upon motion of Duane Soine and seconded by Carl Nurmi, Dan MacDonald was terminated as Firefighter, due to the fact that said Firefighter had not met the time frame and conditions recommended to be retained. Motion carried

Water Report A written Water Report dated August 2011 for the Water Dept. Supervisor, Mike Adams, was reviewed. The report noted: 1) Board intervention was requested in regard to ditching done by the MCRC located by hydrant #107 at 227 Midway Dr. due to unsafe conditions 2) HD Supply still has not contacted us regarding the computer program(on Tuesday, August 16, 2011 Mr. Tim West came and loaded the program in the Water Dept. computer and will follow up with training on Sept. 20, 2011, 3) A new service will be installed at 97 State Highway M35, 4) A complaint had been made regarding a service at 6 Pine Run that they have low water bills despite the fact that they are using their sprinkler system often.

Michigan Rural Water Association Seminar Upon motion of John Ennett, seconded by Carl Nurmi approval was given for Mike Adams to attend the MRWA Water conference in Marquette on September 22-23, 2011 at a cost of \$95.00. The conference would go towards Mike's Continuing Education Credits. Motion Carried

Clerk Report(Bills, Claims)

Water fund checks #6310 through 6323 totaling \$9,253.38 were reviewed. Upon motion of Carl Nurmi, seconded by Duane Soine, the Water fund checks as presented were approved. Motion Carried.

General Fund checks #20015 through # 20110 totaling \$88,236.88 were reviewed. Upon motion of John Ennett, and seconded by Carl Nurmi, the General Fund checks #20015 through #20110, totaling \$88236.88 were approved. Motion Carried.

Note: Checks 20001 – 20014 totaling \$9,789.87 were missing from ck register and will be presented at next board meeting for approval.

Planning Report Carl Nurmi, Board Liaison to the Planning Commission, and Joe Scanlan, Zoning Administrator, provided an update for the Planning Commission-Public Hearing meeting held on August 2,, 2011. Items highlighted included: 1)A public hearing was held on in regards to the Stanaway Condo project. The hearing was attended by many concerned neighbors. By the end of the meeting the first 4 unit condos were approved and 2)Land splits were approved for Robert Bennett at 130 Maple Ridge Rd and Canal Crossing at 367 US 41.

Assessor's Report Kelly Laakso's written monthly Assessor's report for August 2011 was reviewed. Items highlighted included: 1) Miller Bradford Appeal Update, 2) Summer

Reappraisal along U.S. 41, 3) The July 19, 2011, Board of Review had five cases and the Warrants and Brownfield reports have been completed and 3) Kelly and Joe met with Bruce Pesola regarding his plans for the Superior Reclamation property.

Treasurer's Report John Ennett, Township Treasurer, provided updates to the Board. 1) John noted that, 1) A1 Hauling would be going to court in September regarding unpaid tip fees, 2) Attorney Kevin Koch drew up papers to be signed by Enright Construction regarding 2009 unpaid Personal Property taxes. Waiting for them to be signed and returned, 3) A judgment was awarded by the courts against Safeguard to collect 2010 back taxes and 4) In the process of purchasing the .net program from BSA to combine Water and Garbage bills.

Supervisor's Report William Carlson, Township Supervisor, provided an update on Township activities since the last Board meeting. He noted he had 1) a meeting with Brian Pesola, Ms. Cheylnn and Joe Scanlan to discuss the possible use for the trailer park located on County Rd 502. Mr Pesola would like to purchase the property and Ms. Cheylnn would represent a trailer sales co interested in providing trailers for the project. Potential use discussed was to establish a gated retirement community, 2) Met with MCRC to discuss road maintenance issues and discuss the interest and terms for construction projects, 3) Met with Mike Adams and Mr. Swenor (DEQ) to discuss reporting for the water department and discuss ongoing plans, 4) Worked on possible changes to the water ordinance, such as services, unapproved connection and main extension, 5) Reviewed MTA insurance proposal with Rita Laitinen, office manager. 6) Attended CUPPAD meeting in Escanaba and met with representatives from USDA to obtain current information regarding grants and loans for water projects, 7) Met with Township auditor to discuss issues from the recent audit, 8) Submitted an offer to the Ed Scott Trust for the 2 acres of land on US41. This offer was followed up with a meeting where Mr. Ross, spokesperson for the trust proposed a counter offer. The proposal would be for the township to purchase the entire property on the south side of the highway, funded through the trust. Negotiations are ongoing and will be submitted to the Board for final approval when a reasonable offer is received, 9) Dealt with complaints regarding use of outdoor fire pits and helped resolve an issue regarding water bill payments and 10) Received a call from Mr. Baker, attorney for the KBIC regarding notices being sent to surrounding township and cities, requesting support for the OLD AIRPORT property to be placed in trust. The letters are from the Department of Interior, and are intended to determine approval or whether there are issues. I have not had any conversations with surrounding jurisdictions that would indicate any issues.

Brownfield Authority Joe Scanlan provided the Board with an updated report on the Brownfield committee. 1) Tri Media will have the plans done for the Stanaway project on August 17, 2011 and Joe Scanlan and Jim Thams will go over the plans and then present them to the Negaunee Township Board for review, 2) Joe Scanlan and Bill Carlson met with Mr. Pesola regarding the old Trailer Park and 3) Mr Bill Romback has shown an interest in the old Trailer Park property to build a shelter for Women and Children.

Wellhead Protection Committee No meeting held

Heritage Trial Committee Alan Reynolds provided updates to the board. 1) The State has

approved the land swap with O'Dovero Property and 2) On October 1, 2011 bids will be opened for the continued work on Heritage trail from Negaunee to Marquette.

Personnel Committee Duane Soine, Board liaison to the Personnel committee gave an update on the meeting that was held on August 16, 2011. The committee reviewed job responsibilities and in reviewing the Personnel policy it was suggested that it be revised and made more user friendly.

Emergency Management Report Mr. Carlson noted updates that had been made to manuals.

Old Business

North Road Contract Board member John Ennett presented the Board with a 5 year billing summary for the North Road. Upon motion of Duane Soine and seconded by John Ennett it was suggested that the North Road project be funded in four years instead of five. After some discussion it was suggested by John Ennett, due to the availability of funds to include the two tenths of a mile on Heritage Dr. from Carp River Bridge to the intersection of Heritage Dr. and Airport Circle Dr. in the contract. The cost to Negaunee Township would be approximately \$27,500.00 paid out over four years would be approximately \$6,875.00 per year. John Ennett amended the motion, seconded by Carl Nurmi, to include the two tenths of Heritage Dr. in the North Road project. To be paid out over a four year period. Motion Carried.

CUPPAD Funding Board member Duane Soine asked the Board to reconsider the yearly payment of membership dues to CUPPAD. After some discussion regarding the benefits or usefulness of membership, a motion was made by Duane Soine and Seconded by Bill Carlson to pay yearly membership fees to CUPPAD in the amount of \$541.00, motion failed with negative votes by John Ennett and Carl Nurmi.

New Business

Zoning Map Proposal Joe Scanlan presented the Board with a proposal between Negaunee Township and Marquette County Planning to enter in to a "Zoning Map Partnership". It would consist of a "one year agreement and focuses mainly on the creation of the zoning data and map", with an estimated cost of \$500.00. The Zoning Map Proposal was tabled until the September 8, 2011 meeting when Thyra Karlstrom (Marquette County Planner) will be available to answer questions and concerns.

Water Clerk wage adjustment Bill Carlson brought up the wage adjustment for the Water Clerk while doing tax duties. After some discussion and lack of information the matter was tabled

until the September 8, 2011 meeting.

Correspondence

None

Additional Public Comment

None

Informational Items

- KBIC phone call
- Dunn's Ditch update
- Letters from attorney
- CUPPAD
- Letter – Heritage Bridge
- Letter M/M Burkross
- Heritage Trail update
- Asset Report

Board Member Comment

Duane Soine stated that the next board meeting would be on September 8, 2011.

John Ennett commented that he was not in favor of having the Casino if there wasn't a sewer system put in. Also it was brought to his attention that there were not any funds available in the Metro Fund.

Bill Carlson will meet with Gloria LaPointe(Township Auditor) in regards to the Metro Fund.

Carl Nurmi asked about Snowfield Road was finished?

Next Meeting

The next scheduled Township Board Meeting will be held on Thursday, September 8, 2011, at 7:00 p.m. at the Negaunee Township Hall.

Adjournment

No further business appearing, the meeting was duly adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jackie Shier
Deputy Clerk