

## Negaunee Township Board Meeting – September 7, 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, Rachel Sertich & Duane Soine

Absent: None

### Agenda

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

### Approval of Minutes

Board members reviewed draft minutes for the Regular Board Meeting held on August 16, 2011. A few minor typographical on Page 2 were noted. Upon motion of John Ennett, seconded by Carl Nurmi, the corrected minutes as presented were approved. Motion Carried.

### Public Comment

Richard / Susan Burkross, 14 Longyear Drive, addressed the Board regarding fires in the subdivision which have created a nuisance. The item will be discussed further under the New Business section of the agenda.

### Reports

**Community Center Board** Duane Soine and Dave Rice provided an update for the Community Center Board meeting held on September 1, 2011. Items highlighted included: 1) an appraisal will take place on the Heartland property at a cost of \$2,500, 2) the septic tank by the garage is in need of replacement, and 3) the Committee is reviewing ways to repair the current basketball court, including only using ½ of the current court.

**Fire Department Report** The Fire Department report for August 2011 was provided by Fire Chief, Jeff Kontio. Items highlighted included: 1) 16 Fire/ EMS calls for the month, and 2) training for the month was the annual driving course, 3) the benefit for Jodi Ball was a huge success, and 4) the pagers have been replaced, however, they are still using some of the old ones until they no longer work.

**Water Report** A written Water Report dated September, 2011 for the Water Dept. Supervisor, Mike Adams, was reviewed. The report noted: 1) a new pilot valve for the large pressure valve on Midway Drive has been purchased and will be installed once received, 2) a new water service was connected at 97 M-35, and 3) current and proposed residential water hook-up rates were provided to the Board members, with the request the proposed rates be adopted in October, 2011 if no changes are recommended.

### **Clerk Report(Bills, Claims)**

Water fund checks #6324 through 6338 totaling \$21,774.89 were reviewed. Upon motion of Carl Nurmi, seconded by Duane Soine, the Water fund checks as presented were approved. Motion Carried.

General Fund checks #20001 through #20014 (total \$9,789.87) , checks #20111 through 20181 (total \$51,868.94) and ACH items from April 1 through July 31, 2011 (total \$63,586.15) with a grand total of \$125,244.96 were reviewed. Upon motion of Duane Soine, seconded by Carl Nurmi, the General fund items presented were approved. Motion Carried.

**Planning Report** Al Reynolds, Planning Chairperson, provided an update for the Planning Commission meeting held on September 6, 2011. It was noted interest was being shown in development of the former trailer park property on Midway Drive, however, issues had arisen regarding structure size. The party had sought the scheduling of a Public Hearing, which had since been cancelled.

**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 project, and 3) L-4029 Due (determines Headlee rollback).

**Treasurer's Report** John Ennett, Township Treasurer, indicated he had no items to report on for the past month.

**Supervisor's Report** William Carlson, Township Supervisor, provided an update on Township activities since the last Board meeting. He noted he had 1) continued work with the KBIC to have the former airport land placed into Trust, 2) worked on the Miller Bradford case with the Township Assessor and Township Attorney, 3) reviewed the Brownfield Plan for the Stanaway property on Midway Drive, 4) followed up on the Heritage Drive ditching project, 5) attended a meeting of local managers to discuss economic development issues and 6) attended a meeting regarding the permit application for CR 595.

**Brownfield Authority** No report was provided.

**Wellhead Protection Committee** No update.

**Heritage Trial Committee** Al Reynolds provided updates to the Board. He noted the MDNR is working hard to come up with an acceptable solution to the land trade issue, as they would like to obtain bids yet this Fall for work which still needs to be completed.

**Personnel Committee** No meeting was held, however, one will be scheduled prior to the end of September.

**Emergency Management Report** Mr. Carlson noted any required updates had been made to both the manuals and maps.

## **Old Business**

**Metro Funds** Board members discussed the annual receipt of Metro Funds (approximately \$5,000). While the funds had been earmarked for specific projects, the remaining balance was not deemed as "Committed" by the Township Auditors. Upon motion of Rachel Sertich, seconded by Carl Nurmi, the Township Auditor was authorized in future annual audits to record any funds received as Metro Funds as Committed, with expenditures against such funds only to be made by action of the Board. Motion Carried.

**Utility Billing** Upon motion of John Ennett, seconded by Rachel Sertich, the discussion of merging the utility billing system was tabled until the October, 2011 meeting. Motion Carried.

**Zoning Map Proposal** With the Zoning Administrator not in attendance to answer questions, upon

motion of Carl Nurmi, seconded by John Ennett, the proposal from the County of Marquette for a Zoning Map Partnership was tabled until the October, 2011 meeting. Motion Carried.

Wage Adjustment – Treasurer Aide The Treasurer noted his Department would be fully responsible for work performed in their area. As such, neither the hiring of additional staff or the assistance of other office personnel was requested at this time.

### **New Business**

Open Burning Issues Board members discussed the open burning issues taking place on Longyear Drive. It was noted the Outdoor Burning Ordinance clearly states any fire cannot create a nuisance. Per the Ordinance, correspondence was sent to the Glomp's (12 Longyear Drive) noting the fires they were burning were creating a nuisance to adjoining homeowners. Should fires persist, the homeowners were requested to contact the Township Supervisor so he could observe the issue in person.

Glen Nease – Letter of Resignation Upon motion of Rachel Sertich, seconded by Carl Nurmi, the Board accepted Glen Nease's letter of resignation from the Zoning Board of Appeals effective immediately and requested the Township Supervisor forward to him a letter of appreciation for the work performed on behalf of the Township. Motion Carried.

ZBA Appointment With the resignation from the ZBA, applications were being sought to fill the opening. An ad was published, indicating applications would be received through September 19, 2011.

Work - West Jarvi Road Board members discussed the residents seeking to perform work along the right-of-way on West Jarvi Road in order to improve the condition of the road. For the MCRC to assist with the project (marking trees), they requested the Township note the road is on the long-term road improvement plan. Upon motion of Duane Soine, seconded by Carl Nurmi, approval was given for Negaunee Township to provide correspondence to the Marquette County Road Commission noting West Jarvi Road is included in the Township's long-term road improvement plans. Motion Carried *with John Ennett casting a negative vote.*

### **Correspondence**

- None

### **Additional Public Comment**

### **Informational Items**

- None

### **Board Member Comment**

Duane Soine noted the next board meeting would be on Wednesday, October 12, 2011.

### **Next Meeting**

The next scheduled Township Board Meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 12, 2011, at 7:00 p.m. at the Negaunee Township Hall. \*\*\* NOTE DATE CHANGE \*\*\*

**Adjournment**

No further business appearing, the meeting was duly adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rachel Sertich  
Clerk