

Negaunee Township Regular Board Meeting – August 14, 2014

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, Duane Soine and Rachel Sertich.

Absent: Carl Nurmi

Agenda

The previously amended agenda was reviewed. Upon motion of Rachel Sertich, seconded by Duane Soine, the amended agenda as presented was approved. Motion Carried.

Approval of Minutes

Board members reviewed the revised minutes for the Regular Board Meeting held on July 17, 2014 along with minutes of the Special Meeting held on August 5, 2014. Upon motion of Duane Soine, seconded by William Carlson, the minutes as presented were approved. Motion Carried.

Public Comment

None

Old Business

Water Bond Publication – Water Main Extension Project Board members were informed information had been published in the Mining Journal noting the Township's intent to issue \$600,000 in bonds secured by the taxing power of the Township in order facilitate the construction of approximately 5,100 lineal feet of water main from M-35 west to Forge Road to provide an alternate water supply feed for the Township water system. The Bonds will be issued without a vote of the electors unless a petition requesting such a vote is received within 45 days after publication.

New Business

Request for Estimates – East End of Co.Rd. JG / East Jarvi Road Information was provided to Board members regarding a request for bids to upgrade the East End of County Road JG (.5 miles) to County specifications. To date the Township had only received one response and was awaiting information from other companies. The additional information would be provided to Board members when it was received.

Assessor's Plat Resolution Board members reviewed information from the Township Attorney pertaining to a consensual resolution to the roadway issue revising Assessor's Plat No. 4 of the Read River Basin. Upon motion of John Ennett, seconded by Duane Soine, the following Resolution was adopted:

TOWNSHIP OF NEGAUNEE, MICHIGAN BOARD RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Negaunee Township commenced a lawsuit to revise the Assessor's Plat No. 4 of the Dead River Basin, Negaunee Township, Marquette County, Michigan for the purpose of vacating a portion of a roadway within said Plat, establishing a new roadway in its place, and adjusting utility easements; and

WHEREAS, a consensual resolution has been proposed and appears to be acceptable to all parties involved in such lawsuit; and

WHEREAS, a necessary step to entering a Consent Judgment which will resolve all issues in such plat revision lawsuit, is to demonstrate the approval of this governing body to the proposed Consent Judgment; and

WHEREAS, the attached diagrams marked Exhibit B-1 and Exhibit B-2 show, respectively, that portion of Lots 2 through 8 and 10 through 132 of Assessor's Plat No. 4 of Dead River Basin as amended, and the routes of the former roadway and easement and the amended roadway and easements for Lots 2 through 8 and 10 through 13 of said Assessor's

Plat No. 4 of Dear River Basin as proposed and as to be shown in the proposed Consent Judgment; and

WHEREAS, the Negaunee Township Board desires to resolve this lawsuit by approving the amendments shown in the attached exhibits and as consented to by all of the parties to the lawsuit;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the proposed amendment to Assessor's Plat No. 4 of the Dead River Basin in Negaunee Township, Marquette County, State of Michigan as set forth in the proposed Consent Judgment is hereby approved by the Negaunee Township Board

Motion Carried

Aye: Carlson, Ennett, Sertich & Soine

Nay: None

Absent: Nurmi

Committee Appointments – Planning & ZBA Board members discussed openings on the Planning Commission and Zoning Board of Appeals due to the passing of Dennis Potila. Upon motion of John Ennett, seconded by Rachel Sertich, effective immediately Thyra Karlstrom was appointed as a member of the Planning Commission to serve the remainder of the term held by Mr. Potila and Gary Wommer was appointed as a member of the Zoning Board of Appeals to serve a term through March 31, 2015. Motion Carried.

Kivela Road – Equestrian Awareness Discussion was held regarding the possible need for signage near Kivela Road and Airport Circle where horses cross over to the old airport property. In addition, it was noted there are numerous children who live and play in the area. The Township Supervisor will review the area and work to have signage installed (including on Kivela Road itself), noting Children At Play and also possibly Horse Crossing.

Reports

Community Center Board Duane Soine, Board Liaison, provided a report on the Community Center Board meeting held on August 5, 2014. Items highlighted included: 1) work had been done on the Shelly Roberts ball field, 2) a new backboard would be ordered for the Kivela field at a price not to exceed \$500, 3) two new workers would be needed for the ice rink this coming winter, 4) all bids received for various work (pavilion roof, removing old dugouts, building new dugouts) were rejected with the items to be discussed further at the September meeting, and 5) the part-time employee received a \$.50 per hour wage increase retroactive to August 1, 2014.

Fire Department Report Jeff Konio, Fire Chief, was in attendance to review the written Fire Department / EMS report dated August 14, 2014: Items highlighted included: 1) 15 calls for the month of July (81 calls years to date), 2) training was apparatus and hose testing – with all hoses having now been tested, 3) National Night Out held by the Department on August 7th was successful, and 4) Life Flight had asked local Departments about conducting training for landing zones and securing the same during an incident.

Water Report Board members reviewed the written July, 2014 report from Water Supervisor, Russ Williams, who was in attendance. Items highlighted included: 1) July month end a sizeable water loss still existed and another water leak had been detected and repaired on August 8th, 2) all residential meters have now been replaced, 3) water meters were read in a 3 hour period with the new radio reader, and 4) testing showed lead, copper, partial chemistry and volatile organic chemical results were all good.

Clerk Report(Bills, Claims)

Water fund checks #6843 through #6862 totaling \$16,783.68 were reviewed. Upon motion of John Ennett, seconded by Duane Soine, the Water fund checks as presented were approved. Motion Carried.

General Fund checks #23421 through #23534 (total \$71,814.53) and ACH items for July, 2014 (total \$15,284.88) with a grand total of \$87,099.41 were reviewed. Upon motion of John Ennett, seconded by Duane Soine, the General fund items presented were approved. Motion Carried.

The Clerk noted: 1) the August 5, 2014 Primary Election had run smoothly thanks once again to the

dedicated work of the Election Chairperson and Inspectors – with turnout of around 11% , and 2) the annual audit work was mostly complete showing strong fiscal year results, and a meeting held been held with the Auditor to discuss the “Draft” copy.

U.P. Clerks Training – September 5, 2014 Board members reviewed a request from the Clerk to attend a training workshop in Marquette on September 5, 2014. Upon motion of John Ennett, seconded by Duane Soine, approval was given for Rachel Sertich to attend the UP Clerk’s Training workshop in Marquette on September 5, 2014 at a cost of \$125. Motion Carried.

Planning Report Board members reviewed a written report by Lauren Nenadovich, Zoning Administrator, dated August 11, 2014 (Ms. Nenadovich was in attendance). Highlights included: 1) August 12th meeting had been canceled, 2) ZBA meeting had been held on 7/16/14 denying a request for a Class A Nonconforming Structure on 17 Horseshoe Lake Circle, and 3) a Wellhead Protection Committee meeting had been held on 8/5/14.

Assessor’s Report John Gehres, Assessor, provided a written monthly report dated August 11, 2014. Items highlighted included: 1) Inspections, 2) GIS, 3) July Board of Review and 4) Tax Tribunal.

Treasurer’s Report John Ennett, Treasurer, noted 1) he had attended a Utility Review Committee at the end of July, at which time Negaunee Township had received a check for \$748.03 – our portion of the funds which the Committee has received in excess of \$144,000, 2) the Charter computer modem had been replaced, and 3) he was working with a telephone contractor out of Escanaba to see if the current system can be modified to meet the Township’s expanding needs or if a new system would be in order.

Payroll Breakdown Amendment Upon motion of John Ennett, approval was given to reclassify the Deputy Treasurer / Assessor Assistant’s wage breakdown to 60% Treasurer / 40% Assessor. Motion Carried.

Supervisor’s Report William Carlson, Township Supervisor, provided an update on Township activities since the last Board meeting including a meeting regarding gravel removal behind the Longyear subdivision, sending out letters requesting cost figures for the possible upgrade of East Jarvi Road, working on the Forge Road water project, a meeting with the Auditor to discuss results of the recent audit.

Wellhead Protection Committee A meeting was held August 5, 2014, with few members in attendance. Another meeting will be scheduled.

Brownfield Authority No report, however, a Brownfield meeting is tentatively scheduled for September 3, 2014 to get the Committee re-organized.

Advisory Trial Committee Al Reynolds provided an update on projects currently underway on the Iron Ore Heritage Trail including kiosks and signage.

Personnel Committee Rachel Sertich, Chairperson, noted a meeting was scheduled for August 20, 2014 at 3:00 p.m.

Emergency Management Report Mr. Carlson noted manuals and maps were up-to-date.

Correspondence

- Attorney Letter dtd 6/19/14 – Dead River Campers

Additional Public Comment

None

Informational Items

- Peter White Public Library Newsletter

Board Member Comment

John Ennett noted trees on were blocking road visibility at the corner of Cedar Lane and Airport Circle. The Township Supervisor noted he would contact the Marquette County Road Commission to advise them of the issue.

Mr. Ennett also encourage the Township to become more stringent with regards to enforcing the Miscellaneous Debris Ordinance for those properties needing cleanup. The Township had done considerable work towards clean up in several years back, and he would not want to Township to move backwards.

Next Meetings

The next scheduled Township Board Meeting will be held on Thursday, September 11, 2014, to be held at 7 p.m. at the Negaunee Township Hall.

Adjournment

No further business appearing and upon motion of John Ennett, seconded by Rachel Sertich, the meeting was duly adjourned at 8:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rachel Sertich
Negaunee Township Clerk