

Negaunee Township Regular Board Meeting – December 10, 2015

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 agenda. Upon motion of Carl Nurmi, seconded by Rachel Sertich, the agenda as presented was approved. Motion Carried.

Approval of Minutes

Board members reviewed the minutes for the Regular Board Meeting held on November 12, 2015. Upon motion of Carl Nurmi, seconded by Duane Soine, the minutes as presented were approved. Motion Carried.

Public Comment

None

Old Business

Assessor Opening – Position Candidate Susan Bovan Supervisor Carlson updated the Board on work performed by the Assessor Committee to fill the Assessor opening. The position opening had been published in various areas, and the group had recently conducted interviews with several qualified candidates. After further discussion and upon motion of Duane Soine, seconded by Carl Nurmi, approval was given to appoint Susan Bovan as the part-time Assessor for Negaunee Township with a starting salary of \$34,000 annually (no benefits) effective 12/14/2015. Motion Carried.

New Business

Resolution – Inspection of Assessment Records Board members discussed a requirement by the State of Michigan to have a separate resolution for the inspection of assessment records. Upon motion of Duane Soine, seconded by Rachel Sertich, the following Resolution was adopted:

Resolution for Inspection of Assessment Records

WHEREAS, the Michigan Department of Treasury requires providing public inspection of Property Assessment records;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED Negaunee Township will provide for inspection of the Property Assessment records by the public upon request effective immediately.

Aye: 5
Nay: 0
Absent: 0

Motion Carried

MBLP – Rate Meeting Board members reviewed information from the Board of Light and Power about holding public meetings to address concerns and answer questions with regards to the Marquette Energy Center recently approved by the MBLP and the Marquette City Commission. The Township Supervisor will contact the Chairperson of the Community Center Board and work to schedule an informational meeting at the Township Hall.

Resolution to Adopt 2015 Marquette County Hazard Mitigation Plan Upon motion of Rachel Sertich, seconded by Carl Nurmi, the following Resolution was adopted:

Resolution to Adopt the 2015 Marquette County Hazard Mitigation Plan

WHEREAS, the Township of Negaunee, Michigan is committed to the mitigation of potential hazards and the protection of the public health, and the reduction of property damages and loss of life that can result from hazardous events;

WHEREAS the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) requires that communities have an adopted Hazard Mitigation Plan as a requirement to receive funding under certain FEMA programs;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees of the Township of Negaunee hereby adopt the Marquette County Hazard Mitigation Plan, as updated in 2015.

Aye: 5
Nay: 0
Absent: 0

Motion Carried

Resolution to Support Iron Ore Heritage Recreation Authority Millage Renewal Upon motion of John Ennett, seconded by Rachel Sertich, the following Resolution was adopted:

Resolution to Continue Participation in the Iron Ore Heritage Recreation Authority (IOHRA)

WHEREAS, the Township of Negaunee endorses the Recreation Authority and its goal to develop, manage and maintain the Iron Ore Heritage Trail;

WHEREAS, the Township of Negaunee will work with its neighbors for the development of a connected trail system;

WHEREAS, the Township of Negaunee endorses the Iron Ore Heritage Trail as an interpretative trail with signage and interpretation of our region's mining heritage;

WHEREAS, the Township of Negaunee endorses the Iron Ore Heritage Trail as a tool for economic development through the preservation of our history and traditions;

WHEREAS, the Township of Negaunee endorses the Iron Ore Heritage Recreation Authority ballot request for renewal in the August 2016 election for 2/10th millage for 6 years (2017-2022);

WHEREAS, the Township of Negaunee understands the IOHRA will continue as a Recreation Authority for the duration of the approved millage or will dissolve within sixty (60) days from and after the election date in 2016 if any of the electors in any of the participating municipalities of the Authority fail to approve a public recreation tax on all of the taxable property within each of the participating municipalities of the Authority by November, 2016;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township of Negaunee supports the continuation of the Recreation Authority for the development, management, and maintenance of the Iron Ore Heritage Trail.

Aye: 5
Nay: 0
Absent: 0

Motion Carried

Reports

Community Center Board Duane Soine, Board Liaison, reviewed the minutes of the Community Center Board meeting held on December 3, 2015. Highlights included: 1) the new Department truck was delivered on December 7th, 2) when the ice rink opens, the workers will be trained on snow blower safety, 3) all 3 part-time employees were interested in returning to assist with ice rink maintenance, 4) Pat Johnson delivered her letter of resignation from the Committee, and 5) Mike Adams had assumed the position of Community Center Board Treasurer.

Pat Johnson Letter of Resignation Upon motion of Rachel Sertich, seconded by Duane Soine, Pat Johnson's letter of resignation was accepted with the Township Supervisor to forward to her a Letter of Appreciation from the Township for her years of service. Motion Carried

Budget Adjustments Upon motion of John Ennett, seconded by Carl Nurmi, the following Community Center Board budget adjustments for the 2015-2016 fiscal year were approved:

	Beginning Balance	Adjustment	Ending Balance
B265932 - Lawn Maintenance	3,000.00	9,000.00	12,000.00
B265933 - Truck Repair / Maintenance	7,000.00	-2,000.00	5,000.00
B265970 - Capital Outlay	22,426.73	-9,000.00	13,426.73
B751892 - Recreation Supplies	5,000.00	2,000.00	7,000.00

Motion Carried

Fire Department Report Jeff Kontio, Fire Chief, was on hand to review the written Fire Department report dated December 10 2015. Items highlighted included: 1) 17 calls for the month of November (139 calls year to date), and 2) training for the month was combined training for equipment location and inspection.

Water Report Board members reviewed the Water Department Report dated July, 2015 from Water Supervisor, Russ Williams who was in attendance. Items highlighted included: 1) the RFP for water tower inspection and engineering services has been sent out, 2) preliminary work on Cross Connection Policy revision, and 3) work was in process to re-organize the water garage.

Clerk Report(Bills, Claims)

Water fund checks #7685 through # 7698 totaling \$30,406.11 were reviewed. Upon motion of John Ennett, seconded by Carl Nurmi, the Water fund checks as presented were approved. Motion Carried.

General Fund checks #25069 through #25151 totaling \$108,104.51, and ACH information for the month of November, 2015 totaling \$9,405.43 were reviewed. Upon motion of John Ennett, seconded by Duane Soine, the General Fund checks and ACH with a grand total of \$117,545.94 as presented were approved. Motion Carried.

Planning Report Carl Nurmi, Board Liaison, and Nick Leach, Zoning Administrator, provided an update on the meeting held August 11, 2015 along with reviewing his written report. Highlights included: 1) Fee Schedule revisions, 2) Access Permit application updates (postponed to January, 2016 meeting), 3) Access Permit for Kona Ridge Mining, and 4) Sign Permit for Leutz Sign Company (postponed to January, 2016 meeting).

Fee Schedule An updated Township Fee schedule was reviewed. Upon motion of John Ennett, seconded by Rachel Sertich, the revised Negaunee Fee Schedule as presented was approved. Motion Carried.

Assessor's Report The Township Supervisor noted Carrie Heard, Assessor Assistant, had everything prepared for the December Board of Review

Treasurer's Report John Ennett, Treasurer, noted an invoice for \$144,633.34 from the Road Commission for roadwork had been received. In addition, he was working to update signers for the Brownfield bank account.

Supervisor's Report William Carlson, Township Supervisor, provided an update on Township activities since the last Board meeting including: 1) Superior Trade Zone, 2) work to fill the Assessor position, 3) County Brownfield Plan, 4) 911 Committee and possible move of Central Dispatch to KI Sawyer), and 5) RFP for water tower tank painting.

Brownfield Authority Brownfield Administrator, Nick Leach, noted additional testing was being conducted at the Sawmill Road property.

Wellhead Protection Committee The Township Supervisor had spoken with Dick Supina from Traverse Engineering about looking into the status of the Committee's grant application.

Advisory Trial Committee Al Reynolds was in attendance and noted a ribbon cutting ceremony had taken place at Winthrop Junction. In addition, the millage renewal for the trail will appear on the ballot at some point in 2016 (exact date to be determined).

Personnel Committee Rachel Sertich, Chairperson, highlighted the meeting held on December 9, 2015 which included discussion on the draft Personnel Policy, MERS Unfunded Liability, Recreation Committee stipend and Hiring of New Township Personnel.

Michigan Public Act 152 of 2011 – Publicly Funded Health Insurance Contribution Act Board members discussed Michigan Public Act 152 of 2011 and how it impacts the Township and the employees due to the costs the employees would be liable for and incur for insurance purposes. Upon motion of Carl Nurmi, seconded by Duane Soine, approval was given for Negaunee Township to exempt itself from the requirements of Michigan Public Act 152 of 2011 (Publicly Funded Health Insurance Contribution Act) for the next succeeding year (2016) as allowed in Section 8 (1) of the Act. Motion Carried

Health Insurance Upon motion of Duane Soine, seconded by Carl Nurmi, making a decision on the health insurance change for the employee whose Township health insurance is complementary insurance was postponed until a meeting could be held with agents from City Insurance so the Township Board and Personnel Committee members had a better understanding of what the employee's coverage entailed. Motion Carried.

Comp & PTO Time Payout Board members discussed the accumulation of comp time, and the inability to use PTO time prior to the end of the year, due to the absence of a Township Assessor. Upon motion of Duane Soine, seconded by Rachel Sertich, approval was given to payout 66 hours of comp time and 40 hours to PTO time to Carrie Heard with the next Township payroll. Motion Carried.

Emergency Management Report Mr. Carlson noted address changes had been updated.

Correspondence

- None

Additional Public Comment

None

Informational Items

- None

Board Member Comments

Duane Soine welcomed back Nick Leach, and thanked Rachel Sertich for her work on updating the Personnel Policy.

Rachel Sertich thanked John Ennett for always working to make certain the Township is fiscally responsible.

Next Meetings

The next regularly scheduled Township Board Meeting was moved to be held on Thursday, January 14, 2016.

Adjournment

No further business appearing and upon motion of Rachel Sertich, seconded by John Ennett, the meeting was duly adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rachel Sertich
Negaunee Township Clerk