

## **MINUTES OF THE ELM RIVER TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING OCTOBER 17, 2011**

The regular Elm River Township monthly meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. Members present were John Kelly, Cheryl Reynolds, Jim Saur, Shawn Hagan, and Bob Sibilsky.

**MINUTES OF MEETING:** The minutes of the September 21, 2011 meeting were read and approved. Motion to approve: Kelly/ Saur, all voted aye.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** The Treasurer's report was given by Treasurer Reynolds. Fund balances are as follows: SNB General Acc't \$43,827.96, MBIA Fire Fund \$40,456.33, MBIA General Fund \$56,816.62, MBIA Tax Fund \$1,619.13, SNB Tax Account \$6,591.42. All bank accounts total \$149,311.46. Motion to approve: Saur/ Sibilsky, all voted aye.

### **CORRESPONDENCE:**

Supervisor Hagan was in contact with Drain Commissioner John Pekkala regarding water flow on the Misery River. Spring use of the prison crews could be considered for maintenance. Contact Pekkala or Hagan if interested in helping.

A letter of resignation was received from Assessor Maki effective 10-19-2011. Motion to accept: Saur/Sibilsky, all voted aye.

Three past due notices of General Fund taxes from past years were discussed. Since the current Treasurer wasn't involved with these charges, the Board recommended that Treasurer Reynolds contact the Brenda Gartland the State Auditor or the IRS for explanation and direction.

The Accident Fund, our insurance carrier, acknowledged our compliance with their recommendations regarding the Fire Dept and the Township cemetery ordinance.

DEQ sent copy of permit application by Upper Peninsula Power Company for access road to the substation on the Wyandotte Hills Golf course.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

Johnson vs. Houghton County Road Commission lawsuit action was postponed until June of 2012.

Lake Water Testing: On September 27, 2011 twenty plus residents attended the presentation on several of our lakes conditions. Summary of the presentation will be uploaded to the Township website with the assistance of Mike Hubert as soon as possible, forwarded to Baraga Fisheries Division Supervisor George Madison for review. One thought to assist with funding the efforts of water quality monitoring within the Township is through a fund raiser under taken by the community or Fire Dept. The thought would be to create a fish crib for habitat improvement, place it on the ice, and through raffle license or donations, have folks guess as to when the fish crib will go through the ice in the spring. We could come up with a prize for the person who picks the closest day and time and maybe the web cam at Krupp's Resort could be used to monitor the sinking.

Website/Webmaster: A sample website presentation was shown to the audience by Mike Hubert. He along with Supervisor Hagan was in the early stages of developing this site. This was done after the recent "Hacking" of our current website.

Mike Hubert can be contacted with suggestions at [elmrivertownship@gmail.com](mailto:elmrivertownship@gmail.com) or [hubert.up@gmail.com](mailto:hubert.up@gmail.com).

Financial Audit: Reynolds briefed the Board on status of the audit. Reynolds indicated the comments were similar to other years and have been mostly corrected or in the process. An unidentified sum of money \$1,619.13 from MBIA Tax Account needed to be deposited in the General Fund. Motion to deposit: Sibilsky/Saur, all voted aye.

An audit response letter to the State is to be prepared by Treasurer Reynolds and Supervisor Hagan.

B S & A support is needed for our accounting system. Apparently the only training that is offered currently is downstate. Upgrading of the system is necessary. John Kelly and Cheryl Reynolds are to review possibilities for training.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

Assessor Contract: The format that was circulated earlier would be used in our selection of a new assessor.

MTA's Document: The township board's role in assessment administration document was made available to the public.

Supervisor Hagan and Clerk Sibilsky were to prepare advertising for new assessor.

Board of Review needs candidates: Interested parties to serve on the board should contact Supervisor Hagan.

Liquor license transfer for Parkview LLC: The transfer of ownership from Kurt O'Clair (25%), Holly O'Clair (25%), Greg Kaarto (25%) and Heidi Kaarto (25%) to William and Dorothy Johnson was approved. Motion to approve: Kelly/Saur, all voted aye.

Cemetery Ordinance: A cemetery ordinance for the operation and management of the Woodland Cemetery was approved: Motion Saur/Kelly, all voted aye.

Snowplowing Bids: Two bids as per specifications were received: 1. Parkview LLC@ \$50.00 per hr to plow and \$60.00 for equipment to move accumulation. 2. DMC Inc. bid \$58.00 per hr to plow and \$75.00 per hr. for equipment to move accumulation.

**PLANNING COMMISSION:** No action, additional members needed.

**CITIZEN'S COMMENTS:**

Mike Hubert spoke about access to other assessors as he was familiar with the L'Anse situation.

Rick Gemignani suggested Assessors Fedie and Slocomb be contacted for assessor proposals.

Joan Boyer and Tom Ward had Board of Review issues. Dec 17, 2011 is the next scheduled BOR.

**PAYMENT OF BILLS:** Motion to pay bills amounting to \$22,336.62, Saur/Kelly, all voted aye.

**Future Event: Fire Dept Holiday Celebration is set for December 10, 2011.**

**NEXT MEETING:** November 10, 2011

**ADJOURN:** Motion: Kelly/Sibilsky, all voted aye.

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Robert L. Sibilsky, Clerk Shawn Hagan, Supervisor