

**MINUTES OF THE ELM RIVER TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING
NOVEMBER 12, 2012**

The regular Elm River Township monthly meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Supervisor Hagan. Members present were Lisa Saatio, John Kelly, Jim Saur, Shawn Hagan and Robert Sibilsky.

AGENDA: Motion to approve: Saatio/Sibilsky, all voted aye.

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OCTOBER 25, 2012: The October 25, 2012 minutes were read and approved. Motion: Kelly/ Saatio, all voted aye.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Treasurer Saatio indicated we were paying bills this month in the amount of \$10,704.03. Bank balances were as follow: SNB General \$36,423.34, SNB Tax \$31,718.29, River Valley General \$65,837.71, MBIA \$23,356.53.

Motion to approve Treasurer's report: Kelly/Sibilsky, all voted aye.

BUDGET TO ACTUAL: Supervisor Hagan and Treasurer Saatio have been spending time coordinating the transfer of old system data to the BS&A system but are not quite complete. Hopefully the last quarter data will be processed to finalize the report for our next meeting. A draft of the purposed budget document was provided the Board Members.

ASSESSOR REPORT: Weather conditions prevented John Botto's attendance at this meeting but he was able to relay his progress to Supervisor Hagan. He is 95% complete with 1 more business to go through to complete the reassessment. He will have an open house for Property Tax Cards , Nov. 14th and Nov 20th from 3p.m.to 8p.m. each day. The Board of Review will be held on December 11, 2012 at 6 p.m.

CORRESPONDENCE:

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT (FOIA): A FOIA request was e-mailed to Clerk Sibilsky from Rick Baumler requesting copies of bills, invoices, checks, payments, expenses and bills for Fire Truck purchase and operation of the Fire Department from 2004 and 2005 to the present. These items, as well General Ledger reports Journal detail and fire truck USDA loan documents were included in the request.

Calculation of the cost to produce these documents under the Elm River Township FOIA policy resolution approved November 12, 2009 was in excess of \$300.00.

Mr. Baumler wanted to look at documents but didn't want to pay for any copies. Clerk Sibilsky was asked to gather what I could find of what is requested and call Rick to review.

GARBAGE SERVICE OFFER: A letter from Michigan Structural Insulated Panel Homes, Inc. was received offering garbage pickup. Rates are \$5.50 per stop, once a week or once every other week or once a month. Eighty gallons of garbage and recyclables are able to handled. They are expanding to Mass, Greenland, and Ontonagon areas. The

Board is under contract to Waste Management until 2015. We will watch experience with these other areas.

OLD BUSINESS:

GENERAL ELECTION RESULTS: The individual Elm River Township voting was printed on the Township website, but for information purposes we had 148 votes cast of our potential 190 registered voters. Presidential vote: 92 Republican and 55 Democrat.

RECEIVING BOARD: An Election Process Follow-up Team was used for the first time in the Township with Donna Meier and Mary Anne Jarvi as a committee to review the paperwork process of the voting. All went correctly.

ICE RINK: The ice rink area was discussed related to use. With the lack of use in previous years, it was suggested that we put it on hold for this year. We recommended that it be temporarily used by the Fire Dept for storage this year. Motion: Hagan/Saur, all voted aye.

TAX BILLS: The mailing of December Tax Bills to be handled by the county.

TREE REMOVAL LAUNCH SITE: Waiting for DNR contractor to remove tree, if not, DMC Contracting will handle.

PLANNING COMMISSION: No Action.

NEW BUSINESS: None

FIRE DEPARTMENT UPDATE: Mike Sabo reported they had their regular meeting and a practice. The Fire Department was also planning the annual Christmas Party, which is scheduled for Dec 15, 2012.

PAYMENT OF BILLS: Motion to pay bills totaling \$10,704.03: Saatio/Sibilsky, all voted aye.

CITIZEN'S COMMENT'S:

Mike Sabo was concerned that the past auditors during his time as clerk at one point kept their book for 3 months and made operating difficult.

Ray Tencza expressed his as heartfelt appreciation for the years of service Jim Saur provided the Township. This was Jim's last official Board meeting. The Board echoed his comments.

Rick Baumler suggested selecting a local attorney. If one is needed the Board will review our need and select accordingly.

Rich Pirhonen indicated their new water system was nearing completion in the State Park.

BOARD COMMENTS:

Supervisor Hagan spoke on behalf of the Board in congratulating Jim Saur on his years of service to the Board and Elm River Township.

OATH OF OFFICE: All new and renewing Board /Deputy Members present took the oath of office including: Shawn Hagan, Robert Sibilsky, Lisa Saatio, John Kelly, Richard Trudgeon, and Mike Sabo.

NEXT BOARD MEETING: December 17, 2012 at 7:00 p.m.

ADJOURN: Motion Saur/ Sibilsky, all voted aye.

Robert L. Sibilsky, Clerk

Shawn Hagan, Supervisor