

MINUTES OF THE ELM RIVER TOWNSHIP ASSESSOR SPECIAL SELECTION MEETING

JANUARY 23, 2012

The Elm River Township Assessor selection meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Supervisor Hagan. Members present were John Kelly, Jim Saur, Bob Sibilsky, and Shawn Hagan.

Board members were asked to comment on the assessor position reflecting on their impression of the direction the board needs to take in light of the dead lock from our last meeting. Clerk Sibilsky felt that we should go ahead with Mark Maki our preferred alternate choice from the initial interview balloting. The fact that Mr. Novascone had already taken another job at Keweenaw County without our knowledge was upsetting. His request for additional compensation to stay on was also very disconcerting.

Trustee Kelly related procedure for the Siller capping issue. Supervisor Hagan related that the oration of Mr. Novascone wasn't warranted, as the intent of the e-mail inquiry was to get Tom's rational for his disagreement with the opinion of the township attorney Mr. Fahay. The capping issue was initiated by former Assessor Deb Maki to ensure the proper decision was being made in Mr. Siller's case. With Mr. Novascone admittance to not being a "legal beagle", further clarification of the opinion by Mr. Fahey was pursued by Supervisor Hagan and passed along to Mr. Novascone, who continued to view it as B.S. with no reason why until the night of the meeting.

Jim Saur reflected on his concern about the state regulations, the 14 point review, the need for a signed tax roll and the impending Board of Review in March. Jim also reflected on his dislike for the manner in which Mr. Novascone handled the situation and the fact that he had already taken another job and probably needed out of our contract.

Supervisor Hagan reviewed for the board the reflections of his conversation with Mark Maki and what needed to transpire should he come on board for the township assessing. He also confirmed Mr. Maki's willingness to hold his rates as originally submitted. John Botto, Jim Fedie, and Ken Wedge said they were interested in the position. John Botto did speak to the Board about what is required. He is a Level II Assessor and would hold his original proposal rates and conditions.

Motion to accept Mr. Tom Novascone's resignation: Saur/ Kelly, all voted aye.

Motion to hire Mark Maki: Hagan/Sibilsky, all voted aye.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Rick Gemignani: Rick felt that Mr. Novascone handled the assessing function well and to lose him would be a loss to the community. He spoke highly of the services rendered by Mr. Novascone.

TREASURER: Kelly and Sibilsky indicated the willingness of County Treasurer to help with the functions of the treasurer to get us caught up, until we get a new one.
John Botto felt Mark Maki would do a good job for us.

BOARD COMMENTS: Shawn and Jim both spoke to the reasons for accepting Mr. Noiscone's resignation. It didn't relate to his assessor skills but to his handling of the communication issues and the fact that he took another job while under contract with Elm River Township and didn't tell us. He then wanted more money to stay on for February, March and April.

ADJOURN: Motion: Kelly/Saur, all voted aye.

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING: ELM RIVER TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING
February 15, 2012 7:00 p.m.

TREASURER SELECTION MEETING: January 30, 2012 6:00 p.m.

Robert L. Sibilsky, Clerk Shawn Hagan, Supervisor