

**MINUTES OF THE ELM RIVER TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING
May 19, 2014**

The regular Elm River Township monthly board meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Supervisor Hagan. Members present were Treasurer Lisa Saatio, Trustee John Kelly, Trustee Richard Trudgeon, Supervisor Shawn Hagan, Clerk Robert Sibilsky. Also present Assessor John Botto.

AGENDA: Motion to approve the agenda as presented: Saatio/ Kelly, all voted aye.

MINUTES OF APRIL 28, 2014 MEETING: The minutes of the April 28, 2014 meeting were read and approved with correction to the bank MBIA rather than MDIA as was written. Motion to approve with correction: Trudgeon/Kelly, all voted aye.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Treasurer Saatio gave the report with the bank balances as follows: River Valley Bank \$31,061.02, MBIA \$23,385.25, Superior National Bank Tax \$69,908.18, Superior National Bank General \$51,409.01. We will be paying bills in the amount \$16,109.62 and payroll \$3427.13. Motion to approve: Sibilsky/Trudgeon, all voted aye.

BUDGET TO ACTUAL: Supervisor Hagan presented the nine page report detailing by department the year to date activities, all accounts are in order as projected. Motion to approve: Saatio/Sibilsky, all voted aye.

ASSESSOR'S REPORT: Assessor indicated he would be re- doing 20% of the township as required by state law. All values were increased by 1.6%. The status of the assessor's plot was asked but no answer was available.

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. MTA spring regional meeting is scheduled for June 25th at the Magnuson Franklin Square Inn.
2. Houghton County Road Commission road work update from Local meeting at Franklin Township.
3. Houghton County Sheriff Blotter for Elm River provided at MTA meeting.
4. UPSET substance enforcement team fund request letter received.

OLD BUSINESS: The state audit document was received last week. Areas of non-compliance were discussed. No material deficiencies reported.

Procedural compliance was in question. Areas questioned and being dealt with included: Payroll Reports, Tax Collections and Distributions, Federal and State Income Tax Withholding, Township Budget for 2012-2013. Budget Variances, Clerk Duties, Use of Independent Contractors.

A minor balance of collection money was remaining after taxes were distributed to the agencies. A motion was made for a one time adjustment to the General fund to clear up the fund balance. Motion: Kelly/Saatio, all voted aye.

NEW BUSINESS: Board to continue search for audit firms to solicit for the Township's next audit.

PLANNING COMMISSION: No action.

FIRE DEPT UPDATE: No action.

ROADS COMMITTEE: No action.

PAY BILLS: Motion to pay bills totaling \$16,109.62 and Payroll \$4097.04: Saatio/Kelly, all voted aye.

NEXT MEETING: June 23, 2014.

CITIZEN'S COMMENTS:

1. Rick Baumler thanked the Board for reviewing of the audit with the residents who were present at the meeting. He was also concerned about involvement of the clerk in the accounting process.
2. Mike Sabo was concerned with cost of flags for the cemetery. Motion by board to pay excess cost if there is one: Saatio/Kelly, all voted aye.
3. Mary Kieranen was concerned with the ravine near Clear Lake and felt it needed a guard rail.
4. Sherri Brandt requested BOR schedule.
5. Richard Pirhonen indicated Twin Lakes State Park is open.

ADJOURN: Saatio/ Kelly, all voted aye.

Robert L. Sibilsky, Clerk

Shawn Hagan, Supervisor