

**MINUTES OF THE ELM RIVER TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING
SEPTEMBER 17, 2015**

The regular Elm River Township monthly meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm by Supervisor Reynolds. Members present: Trustee Trudgeon, Treasurer Reynolds, Supervisor Reynolds, Trustee Kelly, and absent Clerk Sibilsky. Minutes taken by Supervisor Reynolds.

AGENDA: Approval of the agenda. Motion to approve C. Reynolds/ Trudgeon, all voted aye.

MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 17, 2015 REGULAR MEETING: Motion to approve: J. Reynolds/Trudgeon all voted aye.

TREASURER'S REPORT: C. Reynolds: Balances are from statements 8-31-2015 only. Superior National Tax account \$168,425.08. Superior National General account \$99,371.84. River Valley account \$30,915.65. Cheryl spoke to Debbie Bradford and none of the months have been reconciled into our system. Debbie Bradford will be coming to the office this Sunday, to return our documents along with any work she has done. We will no longer be using her services. She is not doing anything to help us. Rukkila's office will not be doing anything with the audit. The state will be doing it. Motion to approve: Trudgeon/Reynolds.

BUGET TO ACTUAL REPORT: Nothing to report pending State Audit.

ASSESSOR REPORT: None.

CORRESPONDENCE: Received a letter about an upcoming MTA Houghton County Chapter Meeting. The Houghton County sent a letter about the lake level hearing October 2nd. Mike Sabo researched and read findings of old meeting minutes discussing the lake level which will be usefull for the upcoming hearing. Received a letter of resignation from Clerk Sibilsky. Motion to approve J. Reynolds/ Trudgeon all voted aye. Received a letter of resignation from Sherri Brandt from the Board of Review. Motion to approve J. Reynolds/Trudgeon all voted aye.

OLD BUSINESS: Berm- Carl Domitrovich reported nothing new, the grant programs do not help out on private property, but still looking. Carl had no report of what was done at Horner flooring, but will continue research. Supervisor Reynolds will be talking to Al, and see what his feelings are about the noise and maybe get some ideas. Dust control: Rich Pirhonen talked about moving the trail away from the road, we are not sure of the specs. Old Twin Lakes Rd @ M-26: Trudgeon contacted Erin Johnson from MDOT, his feelings were we need a new berm and possibly a guard rail. Trudgeon stressed that more people call him with there concerns. Johnson stated that something could still be done this year before winter. The problem with the incorrect billing of Michigan Broadband to the fire department has been corrected. The board is setting up a time for a meeting with Rukkila's office to find out what's been going on, we paid a lot of money for work that has not been done.

NEW BUSINESS: The board felt we should appoint a new Clerk ASAP. Supervisor Reynolds made a motion to appoint Sherri Brandt/ Trudgeon all voted aye. Sherri accepted the position. Supervisor Reynolds asked the audience if anyone would like to be on the BOR. Jack Reiss raised his hand. Supervisor Reynolds made a motion to appoint Jack Reiss to the BOR/Trudgeon all voted aye.

PLANNING COMMISSION: The board and the audience decided that we do not need to address this

at this time, and to remove it from any future agenda until more interest is shown.

FIRE DEPARTMENT: Mike Sabo asked the board to accept two new fire department members: Moria Doverspike, and Jerimiah Pantti. Motion to accept Supervisor Reynolds/ Trudgeon all voted aye. Mike also asked if the Department could use the pole building for storage again this year, board said it was OK. Supervisor Reynolds announced Santa will be at the Hall December 12. Kids games are at 4, pot luck dinner at 5, and Santa comes at 6.

ROADS AND LIGHTS COMMITTEE UPDATE: NONE

PAYMENT OF BILLS: Payment of bills \$7031.49 and payroll \$1843.17. Motion Trudgeon/C.Reynolds all voted aye.

CITIZENS COMMENTS: Rich Pirhonen asked the board if next year we would be doing dust control again in the township. Supervisor Reynolds said yes providing we have the finances. Then maybe doing 2 coats was discussed. Carl Dimitrovich asked for the audit findings, and the board told him once we get it finalized it will be public information once approved by the state. Carl also asked how long it would take us to understand our finances. The board told Carl again, this was not caused by the new people on this current board. This has been a mess for several years now. The whole system has to be recreated before any TRUE numbers could be given. Supervisor Reynolds reminded Carl that the bank statements from previous years mean nothing, the money was not being dispersed to the County and the School on time, leaving large false bank balances. Joe Siller stated that this meeting and the last meeting has been the best meeting this township had in over ten years. Rick agreed and said thank you to Sherri Brandt for taking the Clerk position, and for the detailed meeting minutes. Sherri Brandt hopes the residents understand that this repair of our finances is not going to be over night.

BOARD COMMENTS: The board discussed the fact that the whole system has to be built from scratch, the previous officials and CPA were not doing things correctly. Once we get the information back from the CPA and the audit findings reconciled in the system, we can repair the system. This repair of the finances will take many hours, and please be patient.

NEXT MEETING: October 15, 2015 @ 6:30

ADJOURN: 7:31 Motion to adjourn Trudgeon/Kelly all voted aye.

_____Supervisor