

MINUTES OF THE ELM RIVER TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING

JANUARY 21, 2016

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

AGENDA: Approval of the agenda with the correction of River Valley from Piver Valley R Reynolds/C Reynolds, all vote aye.

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

TREASURERS REPORT: Balances are off the statements dated December 31st, 2015, Superior National Bank General Account \$89,619.17, Superior National Tax Account \$149,427.43 and River Valley Bank \$0 funds were moved to the Superior National General Account. Motion to approve Brandt/J Reynolds, all voted aye.

CORRESPONDENCE: Received a letter from the Department of Treasury asking for some more corrective action regarding the audit. *BOR Training-there is another training John Botto said this is a good one to attend. John B: it is the Upper Peninsula Assessors Association; if you are only going to one I would say go to the MTA. Here is the information for anyone on the BOR interested in going. Jack Reiss sent a e-mail and he would like to go, it is \$60 for the whole board. John Botto said put my name down.

ASSESSOR REPORT: John B, did we get a response from the state? John R I haven't heard anything. No news is good news, I had talking to quite few different areas, most of areas in the UP had this happen to them (AMAR) two (2) in the whole UP passed. *Have you been in contact with Coleman Engineering out of Iron Mountain, he stated he sent a letter to all Supervisors throughout the UP? Land Use Maps, they are looking for business and they believe they can provide these Land Use Maps that the state is requiring. That was one of our big ones on our list, if you are available, he is more than willing to come up and meet with us to discuss our needs and cost, they are in favor of doing this electronically instead of printed maps being once you print them you are done. If electronically you can update them as many times as you want and going forward, I am not sure how much they will charge up front but we have to have these. Cheryl: If it is something electronic do we always have it? John B: Yes, we would have it. Cheryl: is that something that goes into BS&A, John B: yes, they take all the BS&A data and put out on a map. If you change the land value you can update it. Cheryl: so they are just setting it up for us? John B: I really don't know all the details, I want to sit down with these people and say here is what we need, and can we afford them. Is it a one shot expense or are they into every

year? John R: I will call him. *Was in Equalization today and turned in the form for our BOR meetings, and they are going to print our roll and notices. The Personal Property statements I mailed out almost two weeks ago, I got two back out of 38. We got all the deeds in, and I am shooting for February 20th to print and mail the tax increase notices, it has to be ten (10) days before the BOR. Cheryl: do we have a BOR date set up for March already? John R: yes it is under new business. John B: we tentatively set those dates and I turned them in to Equalization, if they aren't approved tonight then we will have to tell them because they will be printed in the Gazette along with all the other townships.

OLD BUSINESS: *Garbage: It went pretty well. He will generate a report of how many bags picked up and we will have a better understanding on going forward with billing. We will know what it is going to cost us and we can budget better for it. I didn't hear anything bad so I think everybody was happy. (Especially with having the garbage lids put back on)

NEW BUSINESS: *We need to approve the 2016 Twin Lakes Fire Department members, everybody was given a list, the only changes is two new members from Winona, Moria Doverspike and Jerimiah Pantti. John R makes a motion to approve the 2016 roster for the Fire Department, seconded by Richard T, all in favor aye. *BOR dates and times-Organization meeting Tuesday, March 8th, 2016 at 6:00pm, Sherri stated that there is an election on the same day. John R: we can do it in the fire hall if we have too. Tuesday, March 15th 2016 from 3:00 pm to 9:00 pm and Friday March 18th, 2016 from 9:00am to 3:00 pm. Motion to approve BOR dates J Reynolds/Brandt all in favor aye.* Reminder of BOR training February 9th, 2016 at the Magnuson in Houghton. *River Valley Bank-Cheryl: I went to RVB on December 28th and closed the account. No information of where the money came from and I couldn't track it, what I did find out was the account was opened in 2013 with \$65,000 that was wired from MBIA savings. The account was opened \$65,000 and a matter of 4 months down the road there was check cut to the township out of the account for \$35,000 for the fire truck payment. Dropping the balance below \$50,000 in the Money Market Account, and we have been charged a minimum of \$10 a month on the account for the past 2 years, all the account had to be changed to a different type of account. I closed the account at \$30,893.38; I did talk to Brenda because I wasn't sure where to put it, so it went into the Superior National General Account. Brenda did tell me that it is fire money and general money, so you see an increase in the general fund from last month. Joe S: Is the balance separated any where? Cheryl: In our system it is separated, and it was actually separated because River Valley has a general ledger number in the system. It was moved from the River Valley and put in the General Fund. Joe S. Is fire truck money in there? Cheryl: It is fire truck, fire operating, and general. This is what Brenda was telling me so I moved it and I will know more when we have numbers from the last audit. Joe S: Wouldn't it pay to pay money on the truck? John R: All the payments are up to date. Cheryl: All the payments are up to date but I don't know what is there, we are still waiting for that. John R: It is my understanding, talking to the state we are suppose to have it by the end of this month (audit).

FIRE DEPARTMENT: The auxiliary purchased a 2002 snowmobile to be used to pull our rescue sled. It will be nice because it is hooked up to it and we don't have to search for a snowmobile, and hopefully we don't have to use it.

PAYMENT OF BILLS: Paying bills in the amount of \$5,709.07 and the electronics payments \$1,210.10 which is UPPCO and Michigan Broadband, so we are paying bills in total of \$6,919.70. I gave everybody a register from the Tax Account, showing the disbursements are being made. Payroll is in the amount of \$2,456.42. John R/Trudgeon motion to pay the bills, all in favor aye.

CITIZENS COMMENTS: *Rich P: We are grooming the ski trail by the field office; we're not grooming the back trails as we can't keep the snowmobiles off it they are tearing it up so we are only doing the first loop. If people want to ski it where the snowmobiles have been but we aren't going to groom it. I am keeping the boat launch open as far as I can down in the park for ice fishing. I might try to open up a snowshoe trail in the campground again. *Joe S: can we get a copy of the payroll? Cheryl: yes. Rich P: Is the website being updated? John R: Yes I sent a bunch to Mike Hubert. Ok can we put the snowmobile on there? No I haven't added that yet, minutes and special meetings only. Mike is the web master and he is usually pretty quick when I send it to him, sorry I was a bit behind. *Cheryl R: I did forget to say we are running payroll out of our own system. John R: we have no ties with Rukkila's office; we are all on our own now. *Joe S: Did they ever reconcile the money they overcharged us for work that was never done? *John R: I am still working on that, we got a larger bill that I don't feel we should pay, \$2100.00.

BOARD COMMENTS: *Cheryl R: Can we make sure the link for the audit is on the website. *Sherri B: We need everybody to fill out a new W-4 for 2016 just so we are current. *Joe S: On the garbage are they charging by the person they are picking up from now? John R: Yes if they stop at my house and pick up my garbage we get a bill for \$6.00. Joe S: per person or per can? John R: It is per person. Joe S: So when summer comes and we have more people that bill will be going up? John R: Yes. John R: That is why in the common areas, like your road and the end down by Johnson, we would like to have numbers on the cans so he knows if he is picking up ten peoples garbage or just one. When summer comes with more people, yes the garbage costs will go up. Nowhere near what Waste Management's bill was, once the summer months are observed. Rich P: I put my 911 number on the can. Joe S: does he know about Cottage Road is open in the summer? John R: he did ask if he is allowed to go all the way threw and come out on Penegors road, and I told him I never heard that was a problem. I wasn't sure if that was a common area too, where it goes off to the others Ward's etc.

Next meeting is February 18th, 2016 at 6:30 pm, motion to adjourn Trudgeon/Brandt at 7:02 pm all in favor aye.