

MINUTES OF THE ELM RIVER TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING  
July 21, 2016

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

AGENDA: Approval of the agenda by C Reynolds/R Trudgeon, all vote aye

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE June 16, 2016 REGULAR MEETING: Motion to approve D Saari/R Trudgeon, all vote aye.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE May 19, 2016 REGULAR MEETING: Motion to approve R Trudgeon/C Reynolds, all vote aye.

TREASURERS REPORT: Balances are off the statements dated June 30, 2016, Superior National Bank General Account \$201,982.59, Superior National Bank Tax Account \$99,877.29. Motion to approve J Reynolds/D Saari, all voted aye.

ASSESSOR REPORT: John Botto absent.

CORRESPONDENCE: \*USDA wanting us to get in compliance with Limited English Proficiency requirements of 2016, a four question survey we completed and sending proof it was completed.

OLD BUSINESS: \*Audit C Reynolds-Brenda has received our items via UPS due to her getting into an accident; she is ok and very lucky to be alive. She did have to have surgery so it did set us back a few days. She is still working on the audit and her goal is still the end of July. I did not forget about the questions that Joan Boyer had at the last meeting I am waiting to talk to her about that. (The questions with your graph). Brenda also wants to know once the audit is complete if we want her to come here again? \*J Reynolds- Does anybody think we are going to have questions for her; it does cost money to send her here. \*C Reynolds- she would come and explain the audit findings. \*Audience how much does it cost? \*J Reynolds-we never had a separate bill so we will find out and report back at next meeting. \*C Reynolds- she charges to pick up our paperwork, so we shipped it to her this year to save money. \*C Reynolds I will ask her some details on billing. We e-mailed the contract and sent a copy of the check that was sent in June after the last meeting because Cary Vaughn did not get either of them. They are looking for it at the State of Michigan office and we might have to issue a new check. She is working on the audit but needed the contract before she could start. We have been going back and forth with getting the info she needs.

NEW BUSINESS: J Reynolds-People have asked in the last few meetings what I have been doing to save money. I called our insurance agent Hannula Agency and asked if there would be any cost involved in turning the ice rink into winter storage. He did say there is no cost involved, it is the same contract to rent the hall out for a wedding reception, etc but if you wanted to store your boat here you would have to prove you had storage insurance on it. If you

don't have proof we won't rent to you. I did talk to other communities that do it by the size of the building it could generate close to \$3,000. Tonight I would like to make a motion to utilize the ice rink for winter storage, at no cost to us; we would use the contract for renting out the building. \*C Reynolds-What are we going to charge per foot? \*J Reynolds-I will check some local prices; we want to make sure it is fair. \*Audience-So people have showed interest? \*J Reynolds-yes. \*D Saari-it would be nice if township residents had prescient or firs come first serve. \*J Reynolds-It would be our residents first. Motion seconded by S Brandt, all in favor aye.

FIRE DEPARTMENT: \*J Reynolds-We received our pump from the 50/50 grant thru the DNR, it came in on Tuesday. We received the hard suction line and the four radios. \*C Reynolds- we got the money for the radios, the check for half. \*Mike S- how about you discuss what we did today, what the equipment did. \*J Reynolds-Due to today's storm, the fire department was out since 7am. They opened all the roads, made them passable if anybody needed medical assistance or fire protection. They were working to get main roads open, doing the best they could around the power lines we knew were dead. The road behind the building they couldn't clean up because of unknown downed power lines, everything north of us and south of us had no power except the fire hall. It was kind of scary as we didn't know what was live or what wasn't so we didn't cut anything until we knew.

PAYMENT OF BILLS: \*Bill total is \$6,712.44 and payroll is \$2,389.15, the sheets given out are the check registers and descriptions from July. Included also is June because of the \$7,500 check that went for the audit. The July register has a total of \$9,101.59 goes with the invoice sheet that is attached. Motion to pay the bills J Reynolds/R Trudgeon, all in favor aye.

CITIZENS COMMENT: \*Joanne Maki-if you are going to use the building for storage it should be for all taxpayers not just residents. \*J Reynolds-residents/taxpayers is what we meant. \*D Saari- yes that is what we mean. \*Rick Baumler-do you have the fund balances for the four accounts? \*C Reynolds- our audit is not complete; we do not have balances yet. \*Rick Baumler- I was almost afraid you were going to do that so I have a FOIA request for the balances on the four accounts for the board. This township needs a new board and we need to know what is in those accounts. \*C Reynolds-I understand where you are coming from Rick we don't have the audit complete to even give those figures, but we can give you what we have. \*Rick- that is fine just give me what you have. that is all we have asked for. \*C Reynolds- I know you have talked to Brenda also. What we are going to give you is not accurate. \*Rick- that is fine we just have to know, we have to have some idea we have to start somewhere. \*\*J Reynolds- does anybody else have anything? \*Mike Hubert- I would like to thank the township on behalf of the fire department for your support of the wood raffle and pancake breakfast.

BOARD COMMENTS: \*J Reynolds- today I was shocked at the amount of support along with the fire dept. People and their wives and children pulling tree branches out of the way, cutting, hauling stuff and getting water or supplies. We even had people delivering us bakery. That is what this area is all about. It took me to see that again to remember how it used to be up here and I thought that was awesome. So thank you to the community for working together. \*Peg-Debbie and I fixed the slow down sign going into the cut there a couple of times, we follow the rules of the lake but a lot of people don't. That sign was put up by Doc Sloan, we need another sign there we don't want any accidents there and maybe put up one of those big mirrors that you can see

every which way for traffic at the bridge. There is a point where you go thru that cut and you can't see either way and that is asking for trouble especially around the 4<sup>th</sup> of July. I am making those two suggestions, they can't be that expensive and I don't know if the DNR is responsible for that or not. I don't want any problems and I am sure no one else in this room does either. \*J Reynolds- thank you that has always been a problem I have witnessed boat accidents there for years. \*Audience- we have straightened the sign out twice and also people have thrown beer cans, stop and pick them up. Pick rock around the bridge, just pick them out. \*Mike- I think the sign needs a new post because the ice tears it up, I tried to straighten it, it is just so bent it won't stand up any more. \*Peg- the mirror I thought could be on the power line but I am not sure they would allow that, but it is an ideal spot for it. You could put it up in the spring and take it down in the fall. If no one else wants to take care of it you can put it in our garage for the winter. \*Mary- if you put up a mirror you have to make sure people doesn't mess with it. \*Peg-if it is high enough they won't. \*J Reynolds-I will get some prices. Thank you for your concern, we did have some of the metal posts here, it would be easier to stake a metal one.

\*\*Next meeting is August 18, 2016 at 6:30 pm, motion to adjourn J Reynolds/D Saari at 7:53 pm all in favor aye.