



Grant Township
Budget Review Meeting Minutes
September 20, 2023 at 6:00pm
Grant Township Community Center
220 Gratiot Street, Copper Harbor, MI 49918
Phone: (906) 289-4292

Call to Order

Supervisor Scott Ochodnicky called the meeting to order at 6:04pm and led the assembly in the pledge of allegiance.

Roll Call

Present

- Supervisor - Scott Ochodnicky
- Treasurer - Misty Filsinger
- Clerk - Greg Lis
- Trustee - Ned Huwatschek

Absent

- Trustee - Art Davis

Agenda Approvals

1. **Motion to approve Budget Review (Special) Meeting Agenda** put forward by Ochodnicky, seconded by Filsinger, all in favor. **Motion Carries 4-0**

L-4029 2023 Tax Rate Request Form - Review & signatures due September 30th

Keweenaw Point Trail Phase III Project Update & Discussion

Bill pay process

1. Clerk vets all incoming bills, Deputy Clerk enters them
2. Treasurer's Office needs sufficient time to review bills
3. Trustees need sufficient time to review bills

Compensation Structure for Supervisor, Treasurer, and Clerk

1. Scott Ochodnicky proposes replacing salaries with an hourly wage model with a time sheet requirement to ensure fair pay and accountability
2. Scott Ochodnicky proposes that the Supervisor, Treasurer and Clerk positions are no less than (32) hours weekly to perform the essential tasks

Economic Data – The Living Wage for an individual in the State of Michigan is \$50,049 salary / \$24.06 hourly. Definition: A living wage is defined as the minimum income necessary for a worker to meet their basic needs.

Initial Payroll Budget Review Discussion

1. Review year-to-date payroll reports from Deputy Clerk
2. Little-to-no hours recorded year-to-date for 3 Township positions (Deputy Supervisor, Deputy Treasurer, and Water & Sewer Billing Assistant)
3. Are we over budget on anything (i.e. seasonal worker considerations)?
4. Are any budget amendments needed related to payroll?
5. Do we need to enter payroll early this month, estimating hours where needed?

Employee Raises & Compensation Considerations

6. Truman Jones anniversary is October 20th, 2023 (currently \$22.00/hour established at February 14th 2023 Regular Board Meeting)
7. Forrest Fill's last raise was September 26th, 2022 (currently \$19.50/hour)
 - A pay increase of up to \$20.50 will be voted on at the October 10th Regular Township Board meeting.
8. Both have since earned Water Operator Certification
9. Both have applied for the Wastewater Operator Certification test
10. Both Truman and Forrest are eligible for Grant Township Pension program, and per Township Ordinance 96-02, we're required to offer it to them
11. Both Truman and Forrest are eligible for Grant Township Group Insurance Plan program, and per Township Ordinance 97-01, we're required to offer it to them; we don't have one, so we're required to provide monetary reimbursement; research will need to be done
12. The Township is still currently paying Village of Baraga for wastewater compliance
13. Scott Ochodnicki proposes that we get Truman Jones and Forrest Fill closer to a living wage as soon as reasonably possible (by end of 2024)

Public Comment Period 7:19

- No public comment

Motion to adjourn put forward by Ochodnicki, seconded by Filsinger. All in favor
Motion carries 4-0

Meeting adjourned at 7:20pm