



## Grant Township Board

Regular Board Meeting

June 11, 2024, 6:00pm

**Lac La Belle Fire Hall & Community Center**

11819 Superior St, Mohawk, MI 49950

Phone: (906) 289-4777

### Call To Order

Supervisor Meg Vivian North led the assembly in the pledge of allegiance and called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

### Roll Call

**Present** - Supervisor Meg Vivian North, Trustee Ned Huwatschek, Trustee Art Davis

**Absent** - Treasurer Misty Filsinger, Clerk Scott Ochodnicky

### Agenda & Minutes Approvals

- **Motion** to approve June 11, 2024, Regular Board Meeting Agenda put forward by Meg N, second by Ned H. All in favor, **motion carries 3-0.**
- **Motion** to approve May 14, 2024, Regular Board Meeting Minutes put forward by Ned H, second by Art D. All in favor, **motion carries 3-0.**

### Addressing Clerk Vacancy

- Clerk Scott Ochodnicky has resigned his position as he has moved out of the township. As Scott has now has no intentions of moving back into the township, he is ineligible to hold the office.
  - Roll Call Vote Resignation Letter – **Motion** to accept Clerk Scott Ochodnicky's letter of resignation with regret put forward by Ned H, second by Art D. Roll call Vote: Art – yes, Ned – yes, Meg – yes, Misty absent. **Motion carries 3-0.**
- Appointment of new Township Clerk –
  - **Motion** to appoint Cheryl Ochodnicky as Grant Township Clerk put forward by Meg N, second by Ned H. Roll Call Vote Meg – yes, Ned – yes, Art – yes, Misty absent. **Motion carries 3-0.**
  - Oath of Office – Cheryl Ochodnicky sworn in by Meg North. Chris Musiel has agreed to be deputy Clerk.

**Summer Supervisor Hours** ~ Wednesdays 2pm-4pm and by appointment

### Supervisor's Remarks ~

- **Millage Renewals on August 6, 2024, Ballot**
  - Township Operating Millage Renewal
  - Fire Protection Millage Renewal
  - Grant Township School District 2 Operating Millage
  - 2024 Countywide Road Millage

- **The EGLE Site Lead** conducted routine PFOS tests at our Landfill Site in Copper Harbor and will return Mid-July to discuss results and next steps for managing these sites. Whereas we have surpassed the 30-years of post-closure status, we still have a 50-year Deed Restriction for both Landfill Sites. All uses and management decisions need to be approved by EGLE and the Township Board.
- It has been brought to my attention that the Mendota Channel is only 3 feet deep in places. We will work in conjunction with Fort Wilkins/DNR to notify the **US Army Corps of Engineers in Duluth** of this concern.
- **Copper Harbor Volunteer Fire Department 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Spaghetti Dinner** is scheduled for Friday at the Mariner North from 5:00-8:00pm, Tickets are \$12.00. There will also be a Bake Sale and 50/50 Raffle.

### **Waste Materials Management (Recycling/Garbage) Attendant Information –**

In Copper Harbor: Mondays and Friday from 3:00pm-5:00pm

Wednesday 4:00-6:00 pm

In Lac La Belle: Thursdays and Sundays 3:00-5:00 pm

“Dumpster Days”: Copper Harbor June 15 & 16 8:00am-4:00pm

Lac La Belle July 13&14 8:00am-4:00 pm

### **Department Reports**

1. Township Fund Balances Report
  - a) General fund balance is \$693,197.49
  - b) Fire dept. fund balance is \$457,559.23
  - c) Water fund balance is \$238,827.25
  - d) Sewer fund balance is \$155,945.29
  - e) Downtown Development Authority fund balance is \$135,759.16
2. Maintenance Department Report
  - a) Operator’s Report – Truman Jones
    1. there will be no metal dumpster for Copper Harbor Dumpster days. Hopefully for Lac La Belle.
    2. 5 grinder calls this month, changed to “low bug” LED lights in pavilion & dock.
    3. Treatment plant will start discharging soon.
    4. Bog mats project is moving forward, Truman had some extra native plants for people to take
3. Public Safety Reports
  - a) Copper Harbor Fire Department – no report
  - b) Lac La Belle Fire Department – see Chief Richard Olson’s report
4. Cemetery Report – Art Davis
  1. No updates on GPS mapping project

2. Kae and Truman helped set up a local arborist / forester, who came to the cemetery and identified some problem trees and limbs. Some have been tagged. He will give us a quote for the work to be done in the fall.

## Board/Committee Reports

1. Copper Harbor Downtown Development Authority (DDA) – See Supervisor Meg’s report
2. Recreation Plan Committee - Next meeting Tuesday Oct 8 in Copper Harbor. See Deputy Supervisor Sam’s report.
3. Parks Committees
  - a) Lac La Belle – Jim Valsa
    - i. Working on getting input for Union Park – what residents want.
    - ii. Researching grants for \$ to develop park.
    - iii. Requesting the board approve funding to move forward with the next step in getting the grounds ready.  
**Motion** to approve the purchase of fill, topsoil, grading, and grass seed for Union Park, for up to \$6,000 put forward by Ned H, second by Art D. Roll call vote: Meg-yes, Art-yes, Ned-yes, Cheryl-yes, Misty Absent. **Motion carries 4-0.**
  - b) Copper Harbor
4. Pedestrian & Bicycle Access Committee – met for the first time in 2 years. See Deputy Supervisor Sam’s report.
5. Wellhead Protection Plan Committee – initial meeting scheduled for Thursday June 13 at 6:00 pm.
6. Housing Committee - See Deputy Supervisor Sam’s report
7. TNC Heartlands – See Deputy Supervisor Sam’s report.

## Old Business

1. **Keweenaw Point Trail – Phase 3 – Section 2**
  - a. May 22 Meeting Report - See Deputy Supervisor Sam’s report
  - b. **Motion** to approve Professional Service Fees to OHM Advisors for services rendered through May 25, 2024, in the amount of \$9,337.32 put forth by Meg, second Ned. Roll call vote: Meg-yes, Art-yes, Ned-yes, Cheryl-yes, Misty absent. **Motion carries 4-0.**
2. **Hunter’s Point Trails**
  - a. The **Berry Picker**, formally known as the “Floverlook” or the “Flow Climb” is complete and properly permitted with the Keweenaw Road Commission.
  - b. The Licensing Agreement, with Copper Harbor Trails Club is in process, still awaiting word from the DNR on their classifications and allowances of e-bikes. We are also working out the details of

maintaining the hiking trails of Phase 1 and Phase 2 per the Hunter's Point Committee to be sure compliance with the Hunter's Point Ordinance.

### 3. **Materials Management Committee**

a) Explore options for identifying and funding waste management needs, i.e. solid waste, recycled waste, compostable waste, metals and yard waste.

b) Sunset date of three-four months

c) **Motion** to Approve Committee Members put forth by Meg, second by Art. Roll call vote: Meg-yes, Art-yes, Ned-yes, Cheryl-abstain, Misty-absent. **Motion carries 3-0.**

- i. Cheryl Ochodnicki, Chair
- ii. Jason Meneguzzo
- iii. Kirk Filsinger
- iv. George Twardzik
- v. Dan Wiersgalla
- vi. Peg Kauppi

### **New Business**

#### 1. **LLBVFD request for Aggressive Off-Road Pumper-Tanker Fire Apparatus**

- a) Discussion for truck started in 2018, price continues to increase and has increase 2% since January.
- b) It will take 2 – 2 ½ years to completed with partial payment required when chassis is completed.
- c) Township board needs a few more details on funding, financing, and timing of payments for the purchase, but will have a special meeting in June to approve this purchase once the details are clarified.
- d) **Motion** put forward by Meg to approve the purchase in June once we have the complete financials determined, second by Ned. All in favor, **motion carries 4-0.**

2. **July Work Session Meeting Date change** – July work session falls on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July. **Motion** to move the July work session to Tuesday July 2<sup>nd</sup> at 6:00 pm in Copper Harbor put forth by Meg, second by Cheryl, Roll call vote: Meg-yes, Art-yes, Ned-yes, Cheryl-yes, Misty-absent. **Motion carries 4-0.**

3. **REMC-1 Proposals** – proposal for REMC-1 to provide tech services, network monitoring, remote maintenance and patching, etc. Meg has worked experience with them from work with New Horizons School and Mike Musiel sat in on presentation/discussion of services and feels they offer very reasonable prices for their services. **Motion** to bring REMC-1 on to manage our computing needs for a cost of 1,622.30 per year, plus a one time onboarding fee of 545.00 for a total of

2,167.30 put forth by Meg. Second by Art. Roll Call vote: Meg-yes, Art-yes, Ned-yes, Cheryl-yes, Misty-Absent. **Motion carries 4-0.**

Note: we will revisit the phone hosting options offered by REMC-1 at a future meeting.

- 4. MTA Annual Dues/Premium Pass** – In addition to regular membership in Michigan Townships Association, there is an option to have a premium pass level, which includes access to Township Governance Academy and monthly webinars. **Motion** to pay MTA Dues and include the Premium Pass level in the amount of \$2,902.35 put forth by Meg, second by Art. Roll Call vote: Meg-yes, Art-yes, Ned-yes, Cheryl-yes, Misty-Absent. **Motion carries 4-0.**
- 5. Rock Solid-East Bluff Water Request** – East bluff campgrounds working to get their well water certified, and in the interim requesting water from Grant Township. Grant Township is not set up to honor requests to provide water at this time. Truman is getting more info from EGLE.

### Public Comment Period

❖ Policy/Rules for Public Comment

- Any Resident/taxpayer wishing to address the Board, must be first recognized by the Chair, then identify themselves by name
- Each speaker will be given three (3) minutes to comment.
- Comments are to be directed solely to the board, not to audience
- No official Board action will take place on items presented in the public comment period. The Board will respond during a future public meeting as an agenda item
- Grant Township Board contact info: <https://granttownshipmi.org/contact.php>

### A.J. Kearn, Keweenaw County Planning Board, South Shore Resident

- Please attend the **June 20** Keweenaw County Regular Board Meeting to show support/voice concern over redline changes. Specifically, to the definition of "Family" in the Master Plan as well as allowing accessory buildings to be built without a primary structure.

### Debbie Talvensaari, South Shore Resident

-Please consider offering **recycling twice a month** in the winter months. Given that there are so few winter residents and acknowledging the personnel shortages within the Township Maintenance Team during this time, can someone be designated on the South Shore to help facilitate the extra day.

**Financial Wrap-up/ Adjournment.** **Motion** to pay the bills in the amount of \$138,921.02 and adjourn the meeting put forth by Art, second by Meg. Roll call vote: Meg-yes, Art-yes, Ned-yes, Cheryl-yes, Misty-Absent. **Motion Carries 4-0.**

**Meeting adjourned at \_\_\_7:30\_\_\_**