



## **Grant Township Board**

Regular Board Meeting Minutes

September 13<sup>th</sup>, 2022, 6:00 pm

Lac La Belle Fire Hall & Community Center

11819 Superior St, Mohawk, MI 49950

Phone: (906) 289-4777

**Meeting called to order at 6:01 pm**

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Roll Call**

**Present** - Misty Filsinger, Ned Huwatschek, Art Davis, Scott Ochodnický

**Absent** - None

**Zoom** - None

**Agenda/Minutes Additions and Approvals**

1. **Motion to Approve September 13<sup>th</sup> 2022 Regular Board Meeting Agenda as amended to include two new items in New Business** – put forward by Misty F, seconded by Ned H, all in favor, Motion carries 4-0-0
2. **Motion to Approve August 9<sup>th</sup> 2022 Regular Board Meeting Minutes** – put forward by Ned H, seconded by Art D, all in favor, Motion carries 4-0-0

**Supervisor's Hours**

1. Scott Ochodnický has been appointed Supervisor at the previous August 9<sup>th</sup> Regular Board meeting, Supervisor Hours have been restarted
2. LLB: Saturday September 17<sup>th</sup> 2pm-4pm at Lac La Belle Fire Hall
3. CH: Saturday September 24<sup>th</sup> 2pm-4pm at Copper Harbor Community Center

**Election 2022 Update** – provided by Scott Ochodnický

1. Election Commission to hold its first 2022 General Election cycle meeting this Thursday September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2022 at 2pm to confirm/appoint Election Officials
2. The November 8<sup>th</sup> 2022 General Election ballot for Grant Township is:
  - a) Supervisor: Scott Ochodnický and Alex Protzel
  - b) Clerk: Gregory Paul Lis
  - c) School Board: Kirk Filsinger, Staci Gibson, and Miranda Kilpela Davis
3. Elections announcements summary page now online [here](#)

**Copper Harbor Wastewater/Water Treatment Plant (WWTP) - Transition Updates –**  
provided by Scott Ochodnicky

1. **Motion to Approve a 6 plus months extension of authorization of funds to continue to have Village of Baraga assist in meeting regulatory compliance during transition for Wastewater, beyond September 23<sup>rd</sup> 2022 through March 31<sup>st</sup> 2022** – put forward by Scott O, seconded by Ned H – **Roll Call Vote** – Ned H aye, Art D aye, Misty F aye, Scott O aye, Motion carries 4-0-0
2. Special thank you from Township Board to Kirk Filsinger for the extra time during the passed few months ensuring our transition is smooth
3. Upper Michigan Water Company is handling Water regulatory compliance – all is well
4. Grant Township continues to meet all regulatory compliance obligations without disruption for both wastewater and water operations at the WWTP in Copper Harbor
5. Supervisor has started weekly Township Maintenance Team meetings Mondays at 2pm, informal, internal only

**Township Job Position Vacancy Updates**

1. Wastewater/Water Operator - 10 applicants to date, interviews to continue
2. A couple of additional job postings are forthcoming – maintenance worker(s), office worker(s), Sexton plus Assistant Sexton, etc.

**Department Reports**

1. Treasurer Report – provided by Misty Filsinger
  - i. General fund balance is \$488,896.25
  - ii. Fire dept. fund balance is \$448,854.87
  - iii. Copper Harbor DDA fund balance is \$104,618.73
2. Clerk Report - None
3. Public Safety
  1. Copper Harbor Fire Department – Mike Musiel provides update, responded to 3 fire calls, thank you to LLB for assistance
  2. Lac La Belle Fire Department – Chief Rick Olson provides update, responded to 2 fire calls, 2 EMS calls, our area is in extreme drought, \$5470 raised at Annual Fish Fry event
  3. Keweenaw Sheriff - None
  4. First Responders – Mike Musiel provides update, 12 total 911 calls since last Township meeting

## Standing Board/Committee Reports

1. Copper Harbor Downtown Development Authority (CH DDA) – provided by Chair Scott Ochodnicky - \$5000 was approved for purchase of sound equipment for community use including the Performances in the Park event
2. Board of Review - None
3. South Shore Association – Jim Valsa provides update
4. Parks Committees
  - a. Lac La Belle – Jim Valsa provides update, would like to get new park bench for Haven Falls
  - b. Copper Harbor - None
5. Copper Harbor Improvement Association - None
6. Pedestrian & Bicycle Access Committee - None

## Old Business

1. Township storage container
  - a. Township had previously approved \$4500 for 20' storage container and would now like to have a 40' storage container instead
  - b. **Motion to Approve increase from \$4500 to \$6000 for one 40' Township storage container** – put forward by Misty F, seconded by Art D – **Roll Call Vote** – Ned H aye, Art D aye, Misty D aye, Scott O aye, Motion carries 4-0-0

## New Business

1. EMS Training Conference for Mike Musiel
  - a. **Motion to Approve up to \$1400 including class, lodging, meals allowance** – put forward by Misty F, seconded by Scott O – **Roll Call Vote** – Ned H aye, Art D aye, Misty D aye, Scott O aye, Motion carries 4-0-0
2. Proposed LLB composting site – Bob Meyers would like us to begin considering authorizing usage of and any costs within 1 years' time to fund site location prep work
3. Appointment of Township Clerk
  - a. Greg Lis, currently our Deputy Treasurer, Copper Harbor DDA Board Member, and sole Utility Board Member introduces himself
  - b. Township Board needs a Clerk as soon as possible, seat became open when Scott Ochodnicky moved from Clerk to Supervisor on August 9<sup>th</sup>
  - c. **Motion to Appoint Greg Lis as Township Clerk** – put forward by Art D, seconded by Ned H, all in favor, Motion carries 4-0-0
  - d. Misty F administers the Oath of Office to Greg Lis

- e. Greg Lis joins the Township Board for the remainder of the meeting at 6:39pm**
4. Appointment of Township Deputy Clerk
    - a. Township also needs a Deputy Clerk as soon as possible; position became vacant when Amanda Wais resigned August 5<sup>th</sup>
    - b. Greg Lis appoints Cheryl Ochodnicki as his Deputy Clerk
    - c. Misty F administers the Oath of Office to Cheryl Ochodnicki
    - d. Cheryl Ochodnicki introduces herself to the Township Board
  5. Township will need a new Copper Harbor Cemetery Sexton and Assistant Sexton; long-time Sexton MaryJo Beveridge will be retiring; all New Business for the Sexton's office tabled until the next meeting
  6. MTA Classes in Marquette for Misty Filsinger
    - a. **Motion to Approve up to \$650 including class, lodging, meals allowance** – put forward by Scott O, seconded by Ned H – **Roll Call Vote** – Ned H aye, Greg L aye, Art D aye, Misty D aye, Scott O aye, Motion carries 5-0-0
  7. Risk Reduction Grant \$1400 already awarded
    - a. To be used for Township security cameras
    - b. Township to purchase equipment, complete paperwork within 6 months to get reimbursed
    - c. **Motion to Approve up to \$1400 for Risk Reduction Grant related purchases** – put forward by Scott O, seconded by Misty F - **Roll Call Vote** – Ned H aye, Greg L aye, Art D aye, Misty D aye, Scott O aye, Motion carries 5-0-0
  8. Union Park Land Prep Project
    - a. Jim Valsa from LLB Parks Committee describes scope of project whereas Rock Solid Contracting will prep portions of the Union Park to make it more suitable for amenities to be purchased separately in the future
    - b. Township Board requests feedback from public regarding this project: Questions and comments include decision making process for selecting contractor, Rick Olson supports project, limited contractors are available, Rock Solid Contracting has experience in parks design specifically
    - c. **Motion to Approve up to \$7500 for Union Park Land Prep Project to have Rock Solid Contracting perform work contingent on agreeable details of the scope of the work** – put forward by Art D, seconded by Greg L - **Roll Call Vote** – Ned H aye, Greg L aye, Art D aye, Misty D aye, Scott O aye, Motion carries 5-0-0
  9. Affordable Housing Needs within the Township Area
    - a. FYI - An informal meeting was held August 25<sup>th</sup> with Kelly Ryan who asked us about affordable housing needs within the general area, 2

Township Board members and 4 Copper Harbor DDA Board members attended, will provide further updates as we know more

### **Public Comment Period begins 7:00pm**

- Gina Nicholas discusses legally accessing the old Township LLB dump site and suggests the Township have an attorney review details, mentions two KORC promo events
- Jan Heikenen, MD expresses interest in the Assistant Sexton position; would like us to consider a Noise Ordinance
- Nathan Miller from CHTC talks with us about the success of the Trails Fest event and extends thanks to everyone who helped
- Mike Borlee would like to know if the tax payments drop box is a safe place to make tax payments, suggested specific website edits
- Cheryl Ochodnicky suggests fire warning notices/signs during times of extreme droughts

#### ❖ 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, address of residence.
- Each speaker will be given three (3) minutes to comment.
- Each speaker will be given six (6) minutes total for public comment over the course of the meeting.
- Comments are to be directed solely to the board not to audience members.
- No official Board action will take place on items presented in the public comment period. Matters addressed publicly will be taken under advisement, with the Board responding directly to the person at a later date or the Board will respond during a future public meeting as an agenda item
- Grant Township Board can be contacted throughout the month by phone, mail, and/or e-mail and complete contact information can be found here: <https://granttownshipmi.org/contact.php>

## Financial Wrap UP

The Clerk's Office reports this month's bills to be approved:

**Total: \$104,657.92 including payroll and \$33,552.90 for July payroll**

**Motion to Adjourn and Approve this month's expenditures** put forward by Scott O, seconded by Art D - **Roll Call Vote** – Ned H aye, Greg L aye, Art D aye, Misty F aye, Scott O aye, Motion carries 5-0-0

**Meeting adjourned at 7:15pm**

*Vote tallies recorded in Meeting Minutes as Aye/Yes - Nah/No - Abstain  
(Absent excluded from tally)*

APPROVED