



Grant Township Board

Regular Board Meeting Minutes

October 11th, 2022, 6:00 pm

Grant Township Community Center

220 Gratiot Street, Copper Harbor, MI 49918

Phone: (906) 289-4292

Meeting called to order at 6:00pm

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

Present - Misty Filsinger, Ned Huwatschek, Greg Lis, Scott Ochodnicki

Absent - None

Zoom - Art Davis

Agenda/Minutes Additions and Approvals

1. **Motion to Approve October 11th 2022 Regular Board Meeting Agenda** – put forward by Scott O, seconded by Misty F, all in favor, Motion carries 4-0-0
2. **Motion to Approve September 13th 2022 Regular Board Meeting Minutes** – put forward by Ned H, seconded by Greg L, all in favor, Motion carries 4-0-0
3. **Motion to Approve September 26th 2022 Special Board Meeting Minutes** – put forward by Greg L, seconded by Ned H, all in favor, Motion carries 4-0-0

Supervisor's Hours for October 2022 - Saturday October 15th 2pm-4pm in LLB and Saturday October 22nd 2pm-4pm in CH.

Election Update – Brief election update provided by Scott Ochodnicki

1. Election Commission met on October 7th to Appoint Election Officials
2. Election Commission will meet Wednesday October 19th, 2022 at 12:00pm Noon EST to perform Public Accuracy Test of the voter terminal
3. November 5th: Clerk's Office Weekend Hours for Election is Saturday November 5th at 9am-1pm Cheryl Ochodnicki (Deputy Clerk, Election Chairperson) and at 1pm-5pm Greg Lis (Clerk)
4. Website summary page updated with all Minutes and Notices [here](#).

New Staffing Update – Brief staffing update provided by Scott Ochodnicki

1. Township Special Board Meeting held on Sept. 26th to discuss employment

2. Full 7 person Board/Deputy for first time since June 14th – Appointment of Clerk, Deputy Clerk on Sept 13th and Deputy Treasurer on Sept. 22nd
3. New CH Cemetery Sexton Art Davis hired on Sept. 26th, following MaryJo Beveridge being released due to retirement
4. New WWTP Operator-in-Training Truman Jones accepted offer on Sept. 25th and anticipated to start as early as October 20th
5. Maintenance Team meetings continue and going well
6. The Copper Harbor WWTP transition solution continues to go well

Other Meetings Updates - Brief meetings update provided by Scott Ochodnicki

1. Township Budget Review Meeting scheduled for Tuesday Nov. 29th at 11am
2. Keweenaw County Road Commission meeting held on Oct. 4th
 - a. Copper Harbor North/South streets to be completed in 2023
 - b. Bete Gris Road to be completed in 2023-24
3. TNC Nature Conservancy meeting on Sept 28th
 - a. 25% Township match would be needed for any land acquired from TNC (if TNC were able to acquire land from TRG)
 - b. Scott O to call for 5-Year Recreational Plan Steering Committee to reorganize and reconvene; Scott O would like to see this Committee remain active throughout the 5 years cycle and would like to see listed projects come to fruition

Department Reports

1. Treasurer Report – to be provided by Misty Filsinger
 - i. General fund balance is \$438,328.82
 - ii. Fire dept. fund balance is \$448,171.82
 - iii. Copper Harbor DDA fund balance is \$98,711.24
2. Clerk Report - None
3. Public Safety
 1. Copper Harbor Fire Department – Update provided by Fire Chief Tom Boost, Silver River Bridge in Eagle Harbor to close for about 2 months in May-June 2023
 2. Lac La Belle Fire Department - Update provided by Fire Chief Rick Olson, staff training program attended, Adam Garvey rejoined, and Greg Shelonzek has joined
 3. Keweenaw Sheriff - None
 4. First Responders - None

Standing Board/Committee Reports

1. Copper Harbor Downtown Development Authority (CH DDA)

- a. First public outreach/invite meeting to be held Tuesday October 25th at 6pm, announcements to follow
2. Board of Review – December meeting date TBD
3. South Shore Association – Jim Valsa provided brief update, no meetings until Spring 2023
4. Parks Committees
 - a. Lac La Belle – Jim Valsa provided brief update, discusses ideas for Union Park concept
 - b. Copper Harbor – None
5. Copper Harbor Improvement Association – None
6. Pedestrian & Bicycle Access Committee – None

Old Business

1. Easement of road into old Township LLB dump site
 - a. Bobby Meyers provides brief update, site needs improvement
 - b. Gina Nicholas (public attendee interjection) discusses legally accessing the old Township LLB dump site and suggests the Township have an attorney review details, questions regarding access and use of the Township property; Bete Gris Preserve may landlock the Township property, the access drive may be a snowmobile/ATV trail, survey needed, research on easement needed
 - c. Scott O indicates it may be months before we have an update
 - d. Greg L asks Gina if she can offer anything to Township, she's willing to provide Chain of Title

New Business

1. **Motion to Approve up to \$1800 for 17" laptop for Clerk's Office** – put forward by Scott O, seconded by Ned H – **Roll Call Vote** – Ned H aye, Misty D aye, Greg L aye, Scott O aye, Art D absent/Zoom, Motion carries 4-0-0
2. **Motion to Approve \$870 for Sensus 3096 Touchreader water meter reader** – put forward by Scott O, seconded by Greg L – **Roll Call Vote** – Ned H aye, Misty D aye, Greg L aye, Scott O aye, Art D absent/Zoom, Motion carries 4-0-0
3. This item has been tabled - Approval up to \$7000 for prepping LLB dump site
4. **Motion to Approve Correction of Penalties in Water Billing Dept; one Board Member to sign it** (formerly handled by Copper Harbor Utilities Board) – put forward by Scott O, seconded by Greg L – **Roll Call Vote** – Ned H aye, Misty D aye, Greg L aye, Scott O aye, Art D absent/Zoom, Motion carries 4-0-0

Public Comment Period begins 6:37pm

- Jeff Ihde thanks the Board for funding the storage building painting/repair at the Donny Kilpela Memorial Park
 - Attendee suggests looking for any existing surveys for the old LLB dump site
 - Rick Olson requests status update for LLB fire truck loan refinancing options
 - Public Comment Period ends at 6:42pm
- ❖ 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: \$112,709.50 including payroll

Motion to Adjourn and Approve this month's expenditures put forward by Greg L, seconded by Scott O - **Roll Call Vote** – Ned H aye, Greg L aye, Misty F aye, Scott O aye, Art D absent/Zoom, Motion carries 4-0-0

Meeting adjourned at 6:43pm

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