



Grant Township Board

Regular Board Meeting Minutes
November 15th, 2022, 6:00 pm
Grant Township Community Center
220 Gratiot Street, Copper Harbor, MI 49918
Phone: (906) 289-4292

Meeting called to order at 6:03pm

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 November 15th 2022 Regular Board Meeting Agenda**
–put forward by Ned H, seconded by Misty F, all in favor, Motion carries 4-0-0
2. **Motion to Approve October 11th 2022 Regular Board Meeting Minutes** –
put forward by Misty F, seconded by Ned H, all in favor, Motion carries 4-0-0

Supervisor Hours for November 2022 - Saturday Nov. 19th 2pm-4pm in LLB and
Saturday Nov. 26th 2pm-4pm in CH

Township Budget Review Meeting moved to Friday December 2nd at 11am in CH –
Notices to be posted

All public notices get posted on the Township website, reshared to the Township Facebook page, as well as printed and posted in CH Community Center lobby and at LLB mailboxes.

Township New Staffing Update – provided by Scott O

- Significant progress made in bringing Township back to fully staffed
- Truman Jones started October 20th as new Township Maintenance Supervisor & WWTP Operator, contact (906) 289-4511 Truman.Jones@granttownshipmi.org
 - Truman provides first Township monthly maintenance department update and requests funding for welder

- **Motion to Approve up to \$1100 for welding machine and tank** – put forward by Misty F, seconded by Ned H – **Roll Call Vote** – Ned H aye, Misty D aye, Greg L aye, Scott O aye, Art D absent, Motion carries 4-0-0
- Copper Harbor Cemetery Assistant Sexton job posting now online, Scott O discusses importance of having multiple staff trained at each position
- 1-2 additional part time maintenance/office staff possibly added this year

Department Reports

1. Treasurer's Office Report
 - a) **General fund balance is \$410,337.70**
 - b) **Fire dept. fund balance is \$446,957.33**
 - c) **Copper Harbor DDA fund balance is \$87,338.52**
 - d) Misty F says new Deputy Treasurer Miranda Kilpela Davis has been great
2. Clerk's Office Report
 - Greg L says the new Deputy Clerk Cheryl Ochodnicki is working out great, significant progress has already been seen in the Clerk's office
 - Scott O discusses the staffing turnaround within the Township in the past 3 months as likely being one of the best improvements ever
3. Water & Sewer Billing Dept
 - Approval of Correction of Penalties in Water & Sewer Billing will be handled by Township Board directly as opposed to the Copper Harbor Utilities Board
 - Misty F suggests writing a Resolution to automatically approve penalties adjustments up to a certain amount, Scott O to write and offer the Resolution at the next Board meeting
 - **Motion to Approve \$30.74 of Adjustments to Penalties in Water & Sewer Billing** – put forward by Scott O, seconded by Greg L – **Roll Call Vote** – Ned H aye, Misty D aye, Scott O aye, Greg L aye, Art D absent, Motion carries 4-0-0
4. Maintenance Department Report – covered earlier in the meeting during the Truman Jones introduction
5. Public Safety Report
 - a) Copper Harbor Fire Department – Tom Boost provides brief update
 - b) Lac La Belle Fire Department - None
 - c) Keweenaw Sheriff - None
 - d) First Responders - None

Standing Board/Committee Reports

1. Copper Harbor Downtown Development Authority (CH DDA) – Scott O provides update, DDA to get a logo, October's meeting was first public outreach meeting
2. Board of Review – to meet in December, date TBD and posted, Scott Ochodnicky to begin role as BOR Secretary
3. School Board – New School Board Member Kirk Filsinger provides update, he's started working on safety and security protocols
4. 5-Year Recreation Plan Steering Committee - to meet late January
 - Scott O would like to reorganize, reconvene, hold public meetings with Minutes, and keep this Committee active throughout the 5-Year periods, moving projects forward, Scott O to step down from Committee but still attend the meetings as guest
5. Parks Committees
 - a) Lac La Belle - None
 - b) Copper Harbor - None
6. Pedestrian & Bicycle Access Committee - None
7. South Shore Association - None
8. Copper Harbor Improvement Association - None
9. Scott O provides vision for all Committees –
 - All Township Committees to have founding Resolutions established and adopted, or updated as needed, additional details to follow in January
 - The clarity that these Resolutions will provide will also help with accountability and the success of these Committees
 - The Township Board to provide checks and balances for the Committees

Old Business, Additional Brief Updates

- Election Summary page finalized; results posted [here](#)
- TNC Nature Conservancy purchased land from TRG
 - Rich Bowman had suggested during his last visit that the Township keep the Rec Plan Committee active and working on projects, and that if the Township wanted to try to acquire any land, it may have best luck by incorporating the Rec Plan into any land acquisition plans
 - Township Board to think about and discuss appointment of a Township representative for future meetings

New Business

1. Resolution #19-2022 to apply for the Michigan Township Participating Plan's (Par Plan) Risk Reduction Grant to be used for up to \$2500 in sewer cameras
 - Brief discussion regarding grant program, including explanations of the process
 - **Motion to Adopt Resolution #19-2022** – put forward by Scott O, seconded by Misty F – **Roll Call Vote** – Ned H aye, Misty D aye, Scott O aye, Greg L aye, Art D absent, Motion carries 4-0-0

Public Comment Period – begins at 6:43pm

- Adam Yeoman provides Copper Harbor Trails Club update – CHTC received a multi-million dollar sponsorship that will support substantial trails systems development in the area
- New resident intro, Greg Lis' father
- ❖ 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: \$62,687.31 including payroll

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

Meeting adjourned at 6:48pm

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

APPROVED