

Charter Township of Portage
Regular Board Meeting
August 8, 2016
Township Hall
47240 Green Acres Road
Houghton, MI 49931
(906) 482-4310

The meeting was called to Order at 7:00 p.m. Those in attendance were Supervisor Bruce Petersen, Clerk Heidi Paoli Riutta, Treasurer Carol Little, Trustees Peggy Anderson, Bill Bingham, and John Ollila, Andrew Kemper absent.

The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Motion Made by John Ollila to accept the agenda with additions. Peggy Anderson seconded, all voted in favor, motion carried.

Motion made by John Ollila, supported by Peggy Anderson to approve the July 11th Board meeting minutes with corrections made, all voted in favor, motion carried.

Motion made by Peggy Anderson, seconded by Carol Little, to approve the bills as audited prior to the meeting, all voted in favor, motion carried.

Clerk's Report: Elections – voting stats of August Election – Absentee voters – 79 sent, 71 returned. Voters that voted is 575. 1 military ballot emailed out. Budget to be review at next meeting.

Treasurer's Report: Computer locked up. \$100,000.00 To Edward Jones to invest. Otter Lake \$230,000.00 into Superior National account.

Zoning Administrator's Report: John & Bill discussed zoning report and will create a new zoning application. Building under 200 square feet, free standing storage building charging only a \$20.00 Zoning application fee instead of a \$50.00 zoning application fee. John Ollila made motion to implement new fee schedule starting August 9, 2016 seconded by Bill Bingham, all in favor, motion carried.

Fire Departments Report: HTFD - 1 Jaws and 2 Fires, OLFD - 5 EMS runs and 2 Fire calls during high winds. Ted Soldan asked the board for approval to build new fire hall on the 2 acres they have on North Lake Road with money they have saved/raised, and possible Rural Development or a loan from the bank. Approximately \$330,000.00 is what the project is estimated out at so far.
Motion made by Bill Bingham to support OLFD to look at what fire department is looking at for cost wise, seconded by John Ollila, all in favor, motion carried.

Assessor's Report: Laura gave a report to all trustees.

Correspondence:

Supervisor Bruce Petersen discussed correspondence. DEQ – Landfill review – passed.

Old Business:

- A) Green Acres Road sewer and Dodgeville/Hurontown Sewer Infiltration Correction progress – Joint Application to USDA – RD.

(Second readings for Portage Sewer \$4.50/\$2.50 & \$1.75 water base fee increases.) Marty Raffaelli voiced his concerns.

- B) Flood Easements for new Range Bank – three days of equipment time to dig and vegetate – bank will not assist – meet with County Road Commission – met with them on 7/18/2016
- C) ISO – 7/12/2016 – should have a joint meeting.
- D) Mid year budget review – to be discussed in September meeting – Meeting will start early for September at 6:30pm
- E) Civil Infractions – Ordinance #134

New Business:

- A) New Township sign in front of office – Motion made by Bill Bingham in favor of sign with Elite Company for outside of township hall, seconded by John Ollila, all in favor, motion passed.
- B) LEP – Limited English Proficiency Plan, review for acceptance for USDA
- C) Supervisor – needed new computer – Summit computer completed.
- D) Office Voicemail – needs to be fixed – quote from Baraga Telephone for all new phones – Motion by Bill Bingham and seconded by John Ollila for \$2400.00-\$2700.00 for phones, all in favor, motion passed.
- E) Water Clerk, Receptionist – Going good, doing a great job.

Committee Meetings and Updates:

- A) DPW – Chief – 7/25/2016
- B) MDOT US 41 Corridor Meeting – 7/14/2016
- C) WUUPPDR – Regional Prosperity Initiative – 7/20/2016
- D) B.O.R. – 7/18/2016
- E) Houghton County Road Commission – 7/18/2016
- F) MTA – On road meeting October 5, 2016

Other Business:

Public Comments:

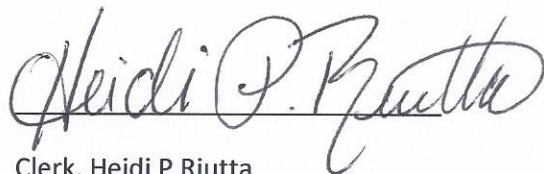
George Rajjala – Running for County Commissioner – introduced himself, spoke and commented that he was asked to run by the Democratic party, spoke about his background, and issues at the county commissioners, six townships that he will represent, feel free to call him if you have questions.

Al Kommes – Wanted to know why water clerk's position was cut in the first place and now rehired? John Ollila elaborated how it was a bad decision made in the first place, Carol Little elaborated a little more.

The meeting adjourned at 8:33 p.m. on a motion by John Ollila, seconded by Bill Bingham.



Supervisor, Bruce Petersen



Clerk, Heidi P Riutta