

Charter Township of Portage  
Special Board Meeting  
June 15, 2016  
47420 Green Acres Road  
Houghton, MI 49931  
(906) 482-4310

The meeting was called to Order at 2:00 p.m. Those in attendance were Supervisor Bruce Petersen, Clerk Heidi Paoli Riutta, Trustees Peggy Anderson, Bill Bingham, and John Ollila. The Treasurer Carol Little and trustee Andrew Kemper were absent from the special meeting.

The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Chris Holmes – review USDA – Green Acres Rd. Project, concerning rates needed to fund the Joint project.

Motion Made by Bruce Peterson to accept the rate increase on the Sewer base rate by \$4.50 to help get rid of the due to's and due from's and start the sewer project starting August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016. John Ollila seconded, Peggy Anderson and Bill Bingham voted in favor, Heidi Riutta did not vote in favor, and the motion carried.

**Public Comments:**

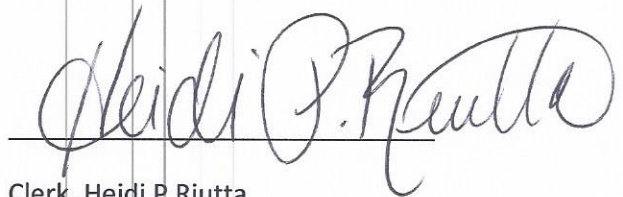
Dave Johnson from Copper Country Ford – demanded an answer from the Clerk Heidi Riutta, “Why would you vote no?” Heidi responded with “I think it’s too soon for an increase again for the people.” Dave, “I said it last fall, I’m going to remind the board again, I don’t recall you being on the board so you may have missed it” “I was not on the board then responded Clerk Heidi Riutta, “this board has a responsibility to do what’s best for the majority of the people in this township and not cater to the small percentage of the people that are worried about 6.00 bucks a month. And believe me I have talked to plenty of people in the township and they know there’s a new sewer and an increase coming. Narhi’s – We have been waiting for this for years and years. Whatever it’s going to take now. We would be happy to pay an extra \$6.00 a month.

Heidi’s vote was not against the project, it was against the rate increase.

Hanner’s – There are some people that are probably satisfied with the septic systems.



Supervisor, Bruce Petersen



Clerk, Heidi P Riutta