

Charter Township of Portage  
Regular Board Meeting  
July 10, 2017  
Portage Township Office  
42740 Green Acres Rd  
Houghton MI 49931  
(906)-482-4310

DRAFT

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm. Those in attendance were Supervisor Bruce Petersen, Treasurer Carol Little, Trustees Peggy Anderson, John Ollila, Bill Fink and Bill Bingham. Absent: Clerk Heidi Riutta.

The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Motion to accept the agenda with additions made by John Ollila, seconded by Bill Bingham, all voting in favor, motion passed.

Motion to approve the minutes from the June 12, 2017 regular meeting and the special meeting held on June 26, 2017. Discussion was made in regards to the situation on White Pine Lane. John wanted clarification as far as what we were going to be doing for Mr. Bustos, needed to make sure that we decided that he would be responsible for putting in his own line and then would pay the \$1200.00 hook-up fee. Carol also had a correction in these minutes to state that Debbie Francis was hired to be the Accounts payable clerk, not the deputy clerk. After this correction was made, Peggy Anderson made a motion to approve the minutes for the June 12 and June 26 meetings, seconded by John Ollila, all in favor, motion passed.

Recommendation by Bill Bingham that the item on the agenda in regards to employee benefits be discussed in a close session and that Sherry Faull (retiring deputy clerk) be included in this meeting. Peggy Anderson asked that we include the upcoming election at the same time.

John Ollila requested that we hold a special meeting in regards to making budget adjustments due to the fact that we do not have the Audit yet.

Motion made by Peggy Anderson to approve the bills that were audited prior to the meeting, seconded by Bill Fink all in favor, motion passed.

**Clerk's Report:** Nothing to report

**Treasurer's Report:** No report this month. Treasurer reported that the Summer 2017 tax bills were printed in error and were reprinted with the statement "Corrected Tax Bill" written on it.

**Zoning Administrator's Report:** John Ollila and Bill Bingham presented the zoning report, stating that Ed's Used Parts and the Feedmill signs have been removed. They had lots of inquiries but not too many applications. They sent a letter to a property owner in Hurontown in regards to building of deck and sauna without a permit and they also found a cement slab out in the Tapiola area with no permit.

Bill talked about Sears sign at Mall, making sure that it is compatible with other signs.

**Fire Department reports:** HTFD- 1 Jaws call

OLFD- 2 Fire calls, one EMS call, Ted commented on the Tapiola 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade and the picnic that followed at the Pavillion and the good turn out for both. Ted also discussed getting a used pumper truck from the DNR, motion made by Bill Bingham and seconded by Peggy Anderson for the Board to send a letter in favor of this transaction, all in favor.

**Public Comments:**

Gentleman had questions and concerns in regards to the Tiny House in Hurontown. He is concerned about the fact that there is no water and sewer connected. The Health Department has been contacted and is supposed to be contacting the homeowner. The township has attempted to contact her but she has not responded to us. He also had questions as far as if this house is taxable as real property, answer was no, because it is licensed by the state. He also spoke about the trailer owned by Mr. Koski being demolished but seems to be taking a long time. It is a big mess.

**Old Business:**

**Green Acres Project:** Bruce received a call from Chris Holmes in regards to the new sewer project. Everything was submitted to Duane Reid at Rural Development and there were things that Duane wanted tweaked so Chris is working on that.

**Bill Leder-** President of Trouts Unlimited presented information to the board in regards to the project taking place on the Pilgrim River. It will contain trails for walking, biking, and skiing, non-motorized vehicles and will always be a working Forest. Motion was made by Bill Bingham to send a letter in support of this project and seconded by Bill Fink. Letter should be sent to Carrie Weaver and Bill Leder.

**Automated water meters:** Discussion about automated water meters and suggested that we contact the company and see if they would let us have 10-20 meters to do a trial run. We still want to check with Chris to see if these can be bundled in with the new sewer project.

**White Pine Lane:** In regards to White Pine Lane, Chris suggested that we put a Metering Pit on Green Acres Road and let them connect from there.

**New Business**

**L-4029:** Bruce presented the L-4029 Millage request to the board, Bill Bingham made a motion to accept this report and seconded by Peggy Anderson, all in favor, motion passed.

**Voting Machines:** Resolution was signed by Bruce to apply to the State for grant money for new voting machines.

**Hearing Officer:** Mike Manderfield was contacted and is interested in being our Hearing Officer. Carol Little suggested that any fees that are to be paid to him be collected from the property owner that is requesting the hearing.

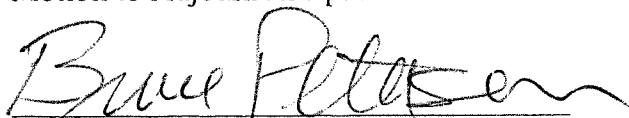
Carol Little made a motion to not accept the property that was up for Foreclosure through the County Treasurer seconded by Bill Bingham, all in favor, motion passed.

Regular meeting moved into closed session at 8:26

Adjourned Closed session at 9:30 and reopened regular meeting.

Motion was made by John Ollila to appoint Amber as Deputy Clerk to handle ballots and enter into QVF. Bill Fink seconded all in favor, motion passed.

Motion to Adjourn 9:37 pm



Bruce Petersen, Supervisor

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Heidi P Riutta, Clerk