

Charter Township of Portage
Regular Board Meeting
February 13, 2017
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, Trustees Peggy Anderson, Bill Bingham, William Fink, John Ollila.

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 January 9th, 2016 Board meeting minutes with corrections, all voted in favor, motion carried.

Motion made by Peggy Anderson to approve this month's bills audited prior to the board meeting, seconded by William Fink, all voted in favor, motion passed.

Clerk's Report: Clerk was absent from the meeting.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer was absent from the meeting.

Zoning Administrator's Report: John spoke a conversation he had with MTA. Bill had a handout.

Fire Departments Report: HTFD - Marty Raffaelli - 3 Jaws; OLFD - Ted Soldan here - 3 EMS and 1 Fire

Assessor's Report: Laura submitted a report.

Public Comments:

Correspondence: Rob Olson wrote a letter and is interested in burning some brush at the OLFD to prepare a new site for starting the parade there for 2017. DPW might be able to help.

Road Commission – culvert replacement, commitment from Houghton County Road Commission, Ray Satio to redo the culvert.

Old Business:

- A) Green Acres Road sewer and Dodgeville/Hurontown Sewer Infiltration Correction progress – Joint Application to USDA – RD. on hold.
- B) Civil Infractions & Rental Ordinance – PC meeting in April
- C) Capital improvements – recreation plan acceptance for a passport grant. Applying for 2017 grant. Motion made by Bruce Petersen to accept the capital improvement portion of the rec plan so we can move forward 2017-2021, seconded by John Ollila, all in favor, motion passed.
- D) New copy machine – delivery/setup Chris Sayen Tuesday, February 14th. Summit computers has closed its doors, no longer in service but will continue to work with the township.
- E) Ordinance 134 – Dangerous buildings – ordinance accepted

Motion made by John Ollila to accept Ordinance 134, seconded by Bill Bingham, all voted in favor, motion passed.

- F) MIOSHA Inspection #1160236 – completion report
- G) 2017-2021 Recreation Plan Update – public hearing scheduled for February 27, 2017 at 3:00 p.m.

New Business:

- A) DNR 2017 Passport Grant Info. – grant for Hurontown Soccer field remediation.
- B) 2016 Audit – Debbie Bradford – Rukkila/Nego
- C) Sick Leave – DPW – meet with personnel committee, Aflac, will meet February 21, 2017 3:00 p.m.

Committee Meetings and Updates:


- A) Planning Commission – January 19, 2017 – township office
- B) Zoning Board of Appeals – January 24, 2017 – Kirkish Variance
- C) Rec. Comm. – January 12, 2017 – Soccer Field & Rec Plan
- D) MDOT US-41 Corridor meeting – January 12, 2017
- E) Houghton County Road Commission – January 16, 2017 – 5-year plan

Other Business: Medical Marijuana – township has to have a statement or ordinance for a dispensary or anything. Need to determine if residents are ok with this too. Ask Planning Commission to have a meeting to see if there is an interest, currently it is illegal to own a business like this right now in the State of Michigan.

March 6th in Marquette for Marijuana – Bruce P., Bill F., Ted S.

Public Comments:

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m. on a motion by John Ollila, seconded by Bruce Petersen.



Supervisor, Bruce Petersen



Clerk, Heidi P Riutta