

Charter Township of Portage
Regular Board of Trustees Meeting
January 8, 2018
Township Hall
47240 Green Acres Road
Houghton, MI 49931
(906) 482-4310

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 PM. Those in attendance were Supervisor Bruce Petersen, Clerk Tressa Alvarado, Treasurer Christine Abramson, and Trustees Peggy Anderson, Bill Bingham, John Ollila, and Bill Fink.

Pledge Allegiance was said.

Additions or Changes to the Meeting Agenda: Add December 11th, 2017 board minutes to approve, communication from Tyler Ross regarding medical marijuana dispensary, move introduction of the new Treasurer to Treasurer's Report, New Business: Office closures in regard to holidays, Bill B. has comments to add under public comment. John motioned to accept agenda with changes, Bruce seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

Approval of the Bd. of Trustees Previous Minutes: Special Meetings: 8/14/17, 9/22/17, 10/2/17, 11/28/17 (did not meet quorum), 12/06/17, 12/14/17, 12/15/17, & 01/02/18 and Regular Mtgs: 08/14/17, 10/09/17, 11/13/17, & 12/11/17 John offered suggestions for changes. John moved to accept minutes with changes and Bill B seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

Approval of the Bills: All receipts present and matching invoices. Bill B. moved to approve \$3000 to Bay Ambulance and to begin a contract for 2018 Bill F. seconded. All in favor, motion carried. Peggy motioned to approve, John seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

Clerk's Report: Advised of a number of upcoming training sessions. Payroll Law in Marquette on January 16th, Accreditation for Elections February 2-3 in Lansing, QVF Refresh March 16th in Houghton

Treasurer's Report: Christine Abramson was sworn in on January 4th, 2017 as the new Treasurer. She has appointed Judy Hliss as the Deputy Treasurer. Presented Treasurer's Report, attached. Check from State of Michigan for \$45,708 that was not deposited and needs to be deposited for 2017 fiscal year. Christine spoke with Mark at Hannula Insurance regarding name change for the bond, recommended bond insurance be increased due to an embezzlement case in another township.

Zoning Adm. Report: Dec. 2017 Zoning Report distributed, attached.

Fire Department's Report: Otter Lake: One EMS run. UP Engineers came out to the new building being considered for purchase and took structural measurements and photos. No offers have been made for the building. Discussed compensating Steve for storage of trucks to cover heat and electric expenses starting in December. John moved to affirm Otter Lake decision to pay \$200/month to Steve, Peggy seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

Assessor's Report: Distributed, attached.

Public Comments: None

Correspondence: Miss-Dig Workshop, DNR Buffalo Reef Meeting, MRWA – Cross Connection Training, Michigan Assoc. of Planning – Planning and Zoning Workshops.

Old Business: A. Green Acres Road Sewer and Dodgeville/Hurontown Sewer Infiltration - Joint Application Posting & USDA – RD Grant and Executive Summary Mailed to DEQ for the Water Asset Management.

B. Medical Marijuana Ordinance 145 – Statement Inclusion - First Reading. Additions were made to paragraph 5. John motioned that the board recognize that the amended Medical Marijuana Facilities Ordinance submitted on January 8, 2018 is the first reading, Bill B seconded. All in favor, motion carried. Second reading of the ordinance was scheduled for February 12th, 2018 at 6:45pm.

C. Treasurer Vacancy - Filled – Bill Fink moved that the board affirm Tressa Alvarado as Township Clerk and Christine Abramson as Township Treasurer, John seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

D. Twp. Per Diem, Lodging and Travel Form. Attached. Bill B. motioned to approve Per Diem and Lodging Worksheet, John seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

E. Hannula Insurance – PAAR Plan – 3rd Year Guaranteed Price, no increases. Bill F. made a motion to continue with Hannula for the PAAR Plan, John seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

F. Brian Miller BCBS Health Ins. Quote – Liberty Union Quotes for DPW and Assessor Came Back Very High. Bill B motion that we opt out of the 80/20 rule and go with BCBS proposal, John seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

New Business:

A. 2017 Audit – Tressa met with Debbie Bradford and is waiting for a list of what is needed to prepare the audit.

B. Holiday Closure: Personnel committee will meet to create a schedule for holiday closures.

Committee/Meetings and Updates:

A. DEQ Water System/Tank – 12/13/17 – Water tank has a trapdoor on the top of the hydrosphere which never had any sealing done, needs to be done in the spring.

B. MiSAL – GPS Individual Projects – CCISD – 12/12/17

C. 2018 TWP Budget Hearing – TWP Offices – 12/15/17

D. Treasurer Interviews – TWP Office – 01/02/17

E. MIOSHA Training – Houghton – Cemetery Staff – 12/06/17

Other Business: None

Public Comment: Mike Bach, Charter Township of Portage Resident, was concerned about the number of Medical Marijuana dispensaries approved in the ordinance. Mr. suggested that maybe we only need one dispensary in the township and particularly concerned about if Michigan votes to allow recreational marijuana and how that may affect the township.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:15pm

Public Attendance

Chris Holmes, UPEA

Linda Rulison, Charter Township of Portage Resident

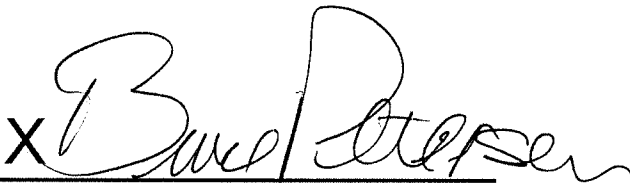
Dave Rulison, Charter Township of Portage Resident

Ted Soldan, Fire Chief, Otter Lake Fire Department

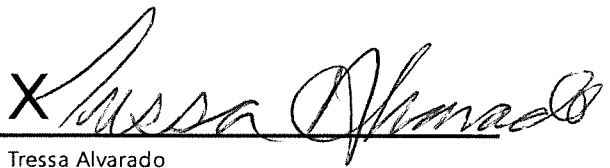
Mike Bach, Charter Township of Portage Resident

Attached

- A. Treasurer's Report
- B. Zoning Report December 2017
- C. January 2018 Assessor's Report
- D. Medical Marihuana Facilities Ordinance
- E. 2017/2018 Per Diem and Lodging Worksheet

 X Bruce Petersen

Bruce Petersen
Township Supervisor

 X Tressa Alvarado

Tressa Alvarado
Township Clerk

