

Supervisor Bill Haggard called the regular meeting of the St. James Township Board to order at 7pm on February 5, 2014. Also present were Jim Wojan, Rick Speck, Don Tritsch, and Jean Wierenga.

Haggard welcomed Don Tritsch as new Township Trustee.

Motion by Wojan and seconded by Haggard to approve the minutes of the January 2, 2014 meeting as written. Motion carried.

Motion by Haggard and seconded by Tritsch to approve the schedule of payments. Motion carried.

Reports:

Wierenga reported Transfer Station running smoothly. Waste Management Committee in the process of selecting the 7th committee member. Wierenga suggested the board consider benefits for the part time employees. No decision made at this time.

Marie Shimenetto reported on the grant writing seminar she attended recently.

Jim Wojan reported on the Township Airport project. Bids to be in by end of February for removal of old terminal building.

New Business:

Northwest Design/Lucas Porath:

Lucas Porath from Northwest Design presented to the board the updates to the Fishing Pier/Boat Launch project and to review the plans from last year. At this time since the first grant application for the fishing pier was denied, the focus will be on the boat launch. Porath stated the choices must be made on what is priority. The board felt #1, the boat launch; #2, the toilet building; and #3 the parking; and #4, the fishing pier. If the toilet building cannot be included at this time, porta units could be used. The wish list for grants was discussed, which Porath had a complete printout and when grant applications must be in. The first application must be in by 4/01/14, which he felt was possible. A public hearing for this project will be held before next board meeting on March 5, 2014. Motion made by Speck and seconded by Tritsch to accept Northwest Design proposal and to apply for funding. Motion carried.

ZBA Appointment:

Motion by Wierenga and seconded by Haggard to appoint Don Tritsch to the Zoning Board of Appeals as Township Board representative. Motion carried.

Planning Commission Vacancy:

Beaver Island District Library Board Vacancy:

Motion by Haggard and seconded by Wierenga to post both vacancies. Motion carried. Letters of interest to be in before March meeting.

Salary Resolution:

A resolution to establish township officers salary must be adopted by the board at least 30 days prior to holding an annual meeting. The following resolutions were passed:

Motion by Wojan and seconded by Wierenga to set Supervisor salary at \$14,267. Motion carried.

Haggard abstained.

Motion by Wierenga and seconded by Haggard to set Treasurer salary at \$14,267. Motion carried. Wojan abstained.

Motion by Speck and seconded by Haggard to set Clerk salary at \$15,534. Motion carried. Wierenga abstained.

Motion by Haggard and seconded by Wojan to set salary for Trustees at \$4,421 each. Motion carried. Speck and Tritsch abstain.

Budget:

Haggard asked board for their input of the township projects to be considered in the 2014-2015 budget. Wojan stated the township campground outhouse should be #1 due to its deplorable condition. He recommended Haggard get some prices on getting rid of the old structure and building a new outhouse. Also suggested were repairs to the interior of the township hall, the township public restrooms downtown and also the parking area and steps at the Governmental building. Haggard also stated he was looking into paving a portion of Donegal Bay Road. He also handed out a proposed budget and ask board members to review.

Ed Wojan/Harbor Property Purchase:

Wojan stated to the board the plans taking place by The Woollam Foundation to purchase the two lots next to the Am Vets Park. This is being done with the Little Traverse Conservancy. Wojan stated John Woollam will allow use of the property as an access site to get on the ice during the winter time. Otherwise the area will remain open to view and kept in its natural state. The property will eventually be turned over to St. James Township. Motion made by Haggard and seconded by Wojan to accept the property with conservation easement and willing to accept whatever restrictions are placed on it. Motion carried. A letter will be sent by the Clerk to Little Traverse Conservancy stating the above agreement.

Emergency Services Authority: After considerable discussion it is recommended the Townships start over with the joint authority.

Motion by Tritsch and seconded by Haggard to adjourn meeting at 9:05pm. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Jean Wierenga, Clerk
St. James Township