

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BESSEMER TOWNSHIP BOARD: Monday, April 23, 2007, 5:00 p.m. Meeting was called to order by the Supervisor and began with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

ROLL CALL: John McLean-Trustee, Hope Tarnaski-Trustee, Jerry Grenfell-Treasurer, Jeff Randall-Supervisor, and Debbie Janczak-Clerk. In addition there were two electors present and two guests.

PRESENTATION OF THE MINUTES: A correction was made to page two of the minutes under "Old Business" to remove the word *of*. **MOTION by Grenfell, supported by Tarnaski to accept the minutes as amended from March 26, 2007. AYES: 5/NAYES: none. Motion carried.**

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS: An addition was made under "New Business" to ad 10.D *Spring Clean-up*.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: **MOTION by Randall supported by Tarnaski to accept the agenda as amended. AYES: 5/NAYES: none. Motion carried.**

PETITIONS: The Supervisor received one letter. A request for ads to be placed in the upcoming printing of the Western UP Heritage Trail Network's magazine. The board discussed the cost and the placement of an ad. **MOTION by Grenfell supported by Tarnaski not to place any ad. ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Randall, Janczak, McLean, Tarnaski, Grenfell. NAYES: none. Motion carried.**

COMMUNICATIONS:

Supervisor:

- MTA flyer for the spring district meeting for May 15, 2007 in Houghton.
- March 20, 2007 minutes from the Gogebic County Road Commission.
- Notice on frost depths in the county.
- Daily pumpage report from Gogebic Range Water Authority for March 2007.
- Agenda for April 12, 2007 and minutes of March 8, 2007 from Gogebic Range Water Authority.
- Agenda for April 11, 2007 and minutes from March 28, 2007 from the Gogebic County Board of Commissioners.
- Agenda for April 19, 2007 and minutes from March 19, 2007 from the Gogebic Range Solid Waste Management Authority.

Clerk:

- Minutes from March 7, 2007 from the Bessemer Area Sewer Authority.

Treasurer:

- USDA end of the year reporting letter.
- Gogebic County Forestry Service press release regarding their soil survey.

McLean: None.

Tarnaski: None.

**MOTION by Grenfell supported by Tarnaski to place all correspondence on file. AYES: 5/NAYES: none. Motion carried.**

REPORTS – BOARDS & COMMITTEES

GOGEBIC RANGE WATER AUTHORITY (GRWA) – The Treasurer reported on the April 12 meeting. There was approval for signatures to the water purchase agreement with Wakefield Township with a rate increase from \$1.34 to \$1.37 per gallon. There was a meeting with Wakefield Township on April 14 to clarify language changes in the franchise agreement. Wal-Mart will be a part of Phase II. They discussed how to get water to Ironwood Township for the "missing mile" and decided that Wakefield water will be used. They also approved water replacement meters for the condos at Black Jack ski hill.

POWDERHORN AREA UTILITY DISTRICT (PAUD) – Supervisor Randall reported that they are still trying to work out the claims on the damaged wells. Homeowners are using their homeowner's insurance. The rate is still and issue being discussed. There are still approximately 200 customers yet to be hooked up.

BESSEMER AREA SEWER AUTHORITY (BASA) – Trustee McLean gave an update on the outstanding amount owed by Bessemer City. There was a claim that they did not receive the first letter sent to them by Bessemer Township. Trustee McLean provided a draft of a letter he felt should be sent to the Bessemer Area Sewer Authority. The board discussed the situation.

**MOTION by Tarnaski supported by Grenfell to have the supervisor draft a letter and send it certified mail to BASA outlining our discussion along with the agreement protocol that was violated. ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Grenfell, Randall, Janczak, McLean, Tarnaski. NAYES: none. Motion carried.**

GOGEBIC RANGE SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY (GRSWMA) – Trustee McLean reported that it was just regular business.

E911 – None.

#### OLD BUSINESS

ASSESSOR'S REPORT: Past assessor Randall introduced Doug Powers and Eric Thompson from Landmark Appraisal. Also introduced was Brad Hendrickson, the new assessor. Mr. Powers gave the board an overview of their company and the process they will be taking as they begin with the township's reassessment.

Supervisor Randall informed the board that he will be out of the office on Friday, April 27, 2007 to attend continuing education in Houghton.

#### NEW BUSINESS

VETERAN'S COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE APPOINTMENT: The Supervisor received a letter from Jack Liller requesting a new appointment to the council. He also received a letter from Donald Ormes volunteering to fill this open position due to the death of past Trustee Bob Sailer. The board discussed the vacancy. **MOTION by Tarnaski supported by Randall to place an ad in the paper for the open position on the veteran's council. ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Randall, Janczak, McLean, Tarnaski, Grenfell. NAYES: none. Motion carried.**

MTA DISTRICT MEETING: The board discussed the attendance of the officials at this meeting on May 15, 2007. **MOTION by Tarnaski supported by Grenfell to authorize approval of expenses for any officer wishing to attend the spring district meeting. ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Janczak, McLean, Tarnaski, Grenfell, Randall. NAYES: none. Motion carried.**

NEW FIRE DEPARTMENT MEMBERS APPROVAL: The board reviewed the applications for Bill Baer and Paul Cradit. They are both members of the search and rescue team and would be an asset to the fire department. The fire department already gave their approval. **MOTION by Tarnaski supported by Grenfell to approve the membership for Bill Baer and Paul Cradit to the Bessemer Township Fire Department. ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Tarnaski, Grenfell, Randall, Janczak, McLean. NAYES: none. Motion carried.**

SPRING CLEAN-UP: The board discussed the clean-up from last year that was held on May 19 (a Friday) from 7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. **MOTION by Tarnaski supported by Grenfell to place**

**a similar ad for May 18, 2007. ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Janczak, McLean, Tarnaski, Grenfell, Randall. NAYES: none. Motion carried.**

It was noted that the City of Bessemer is doing a scrap pick-up this year. The board discussed how this would benefit the township and how it would help to get rid of extra scrap and possible blight issues. **MOTION by Grenfell supported by Tarnaski to have the Supervisor explore the possibility of Bessemer Township having such a day. AYES: 5/NAYES: none. Motion carried.**

The Supervisor requested approved for placement of an ad for the noxious weed publication. **MOTION by Tarnaski supported by Randall for approval of publication. ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Grenfell, Randall, Janczak, McLean, Tarnaski. NAYES: none. Motion carried.**

TREASURER’S REPORT: Treasurer Grenfell reported that he has still not received a check from the county for \$35,000. Utility bills are due and the last day for payment is Tuesday, April 24 without any penalty.

An update was given regarding the request for the sale of land near Anvil Hill. There is a water line through the land requested, so no sale can be done.

The Clerk inquired about the situation of Jack Forslund’s request for his frozen water line and a bill adjustment. This is still being looked in to.

APPROVE PAYMENT OF BILLS, PAYROLL & MILEAGE: The Clerk noted the following checks for payment: General Fund: Check#5670-5727- \$70,075.72; Anvil Sewer: Check # - \$; Ramsay Sewer: Check#, \$; West End Sewer: Check #- \$; Water Fund Checks #17855-17880- \$19,574.54. **MOTION by Grenfell supported by Randall to approve payment of bills. ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: McLean, Tarnaski, Grenfell, Randall, Janczak. NAYES: none. Motion carried.** Treasurer Grenfell requested a list from account number 101-956 Township Board/Miscellaneous. If need be, there has to be an adjustment before the audit in May.

PUBLIC COMMENT AND OTHER BUSINESS: The Supervisor reminded the board that the MTA meeting will be held in Marenisco Township at 6:00 p.m. tomorrow.

Patti Ikola was present at the meeting representing the various baseball teams that use the field in Ramsay. She was requesting that the township bring in some new sand for the field. The games start in the middle of May. **MOTION by Tarnaski supported by Grenfell to approve clean-up and the purchase of sand. ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Randall, Janczak, McLean, Tarnaski, Grenfell. NAYES: none. Motion carried.**

ADJOURNMENT: **MOTION by Randall supported by Tarnaski to adjourn the meeting at 6:02 p.m. Ayes: 5/Nayes: none. Motion carried.**

These minutes are respectfully submitted:

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Debra A. Janczak, Bessemer Township Clerk