

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BESSEMER TOWNSHIP BOARD: Monday, January 14, 2008, 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 three electors present.

PRESENTATION OF THE MINUTES: **MOTION by Grenfell, supported by McLean to accept the minutes as presented from December 10, 2007. AYES: 5/NAYES: none. Motion carried.**

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS: None.

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

PETITIONS: None.

COMMUNICATIONS:

Supervisor:

- Notice to Bid from City of Wakefield for used equipment.
- December 2007 Daily Pumpage report.
- Minutes from November 26, December 10, December 17, 2007 from Gogebic County Road Commissioners.
- Bessemer Area Sewer Authority minutes from November 1, December 5, 2007 and January 9, 2008; Organizational Meeting minutes from December 5, 2007
- Minutes from December 12, 2007 for the Gogebic County Road Commission.
- Public Hearing Notice from Gogebic County Board of Commissioners for December 26, 2007
- Gogebic Range Solid Waste Management Authority agenda from December 20, 2007 and minutes from November 15, 2007.
- Letter from Art Nordeen regarding blight for E8154 Horseshoe Bend.
- Minutes from December 12, 2007 for the Gogebic County Board of Commissioners.
- Agenda for January 9, 2008 and minutes from December 26, 2007 for the Gogebic County Board of Commissioners.
- Two letters from Charlie Supercynski regarding Copper Peak hill climb and various updates.
- Letter from the Michigan Stormwater Floodplan Association.
- Western UP Planning & Development Commission Notice of Intent to Request Release of Funds, December 19, 2007.
- Revised Environmental Assessment from USDA.
- Michigan State Housing Development Authority block grant information packet.

Clerk:

- Letter from AT & T regarding their merger with Cellularone.
- UP Engineers and Architects newsletter
- MTA notice regarding the January 8-11, 2008 annual meeting.
- Minutes from the December 11, 2007 and January 8, 2008 Bessemer Township Planning Commission.
- Minutes from December 11, 2007 Bessemer Township Board of Review.

Treasurer: None.

McLean: None.

Tarnaski: None.

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

REPORTS – BOARDS & COMMITTEES

POWDERHORN AREA UTILITY DISTRICT (PAUD) – The Supervisor reported on the December 20, 2007 meeting. Someone has been hired to do the rate study and they are working with Jean Verbos.

GOGEBIC RANGE WATER AUTHORITY (GRWA) – Treasurer Grenfell reported on the December 10, 2007 meeting. The auditor presented the audit for fiscal year ending June 30, 2007, which was clean. The assets are now exceeding the liabilities. XCel Energy has settled regarding the Black Jack incident for \$760.00. Senator Levin sent a letter of congratulations for the funding on the Ironwood Township project. A letter of thanks from Justin Lund was received regarding the care package that was sent to him in Iraq. They are still looking for the deed regarding the storage tank at Grand View Hospital. Authority was given to administrator Jean Verbos to look for a new attorney.

BESSEMER AREA SEWER AUTHORITY (BASA) – Trustee McLean reported on the January 2008 meeting. The \$129,000 overage left from the project will be tied up until next year.

GOGEBIC RANGE SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY (GRSWMA) – Trustee McLean noted that the audit was clean and the Christmas bonuses were approved.

E911 – None.

ASSESSOR – None.

OLD BUSINESS

ENBRIDGE ENERGY/CONSENT JUDGMENT – The Board reviewed the tax tribunal’s response. Michael Pope will attend the next pre-trial hearing in February 2008. Enbridge has requested that members of each township (at least two from each) appealing the settlement come to their corporate office in Superior for a meeting. The board discussed this issue. **MOTION by Tarnaski supported by McLean to approve both the Supervisor and Treasurer for attendance at the meeting and also approval of any expenses involved. ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Grenfell, Randall, Janczak, McLean, Tarnaski. NAYES: none. Motion carried.**

The board discussed how to rectify the tax rate change that has already been implemented regarding Enbridge. They have already made *summer 2007 tax* payment using this modified rate. **MOTION by Tarnaski supported by Grenfell to authorize Supervisor Randall and Treasurer Grenfell in consultation with MTA council and the township’s attorney to find out how to reverse these changes to the tax rate. Also to contact the board for authorization of any changes. ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Randall, Janczak, McLean, Tarnaski, Grenfell. NAYES: none. Motion carried.**

RAMSAY/SANDERS RD SEWER EXTENSION PROJECT – **MOTION by Randall supported by McLean to terminate the proposed sewer extension project to Ramsay**

**and Sanders roads until such time in which a grant may be available. AYES: 5/NAYES: none. Motion carried.**

NEW BUSINESS

US-2 CORRIDOR ACCESS ORDINANCE DRAFT – The Supervisor gave this to the board for review. **MOTION by Tarnaski supported by Randall to have comments available at the next board meeting on January 28, 2008 with the intent of approving and moving forward with the ordinance. AYES: Randall, Janczak, Tarnaski, Grenfell. NAYES: McLean. Motion carried.**

ELECTRICAL INSPECTOR FOR BESSEMER TOWNSHIP – The board reviewed and discussed the letter received from Lawrence Anderson of Wakefield regarding his qualifications. He is already the electrical inspector for Wakefield and Marenisco townships. Several questions arose that were not directly answered regarding mileage, insurance coverage, and the posting of such a position. **MOTION by McLean supported by Tarnaski to table this issue until next meeting. AYES: 5/NAYES: none. Motion carried.**

BUDGET/FIRE DEPARTMENT – Because of the purchase of the new tanker truck the fire department budget needs to be modified by moving funds. A discussion was had as to where the capital outlay for the truck was coming from. The Clerk will review past minutes to see which account was to be charged for the purchase of the tanker truck. Also, the department is in need of training it's newest members and needs to know where the budget stands.

BLIGHT CONCERNS – The board discussed the letter received from Art Nordeen as well as the parcel on Belmont and the Sampson property. **MOTION by McLean supported by Tarnaski to authorize the Supervisor to proceed as originally intended regarding these three blight properties. ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Janczak, McLean, Tarnaski, Grenfell, Randall. NAYES: none. Motion carried.**

TAX COLLECTION AGREEMENT – WAKEFIELD/MARENISCO SCHOOLS – **MOTION by Tarnaski supported by Grenfell to accept the agreement with no changes from the previous year. AYES: 5/NAYES: none. Motion carried.**

TAX COLLECTION AGREEMENT – GOGEBIC/ONTONAGON ISD – **MOTION by Tarnaski supported by Grenfell to accept the agreement with no changes from the previous year. AYES: 5/NAYES: none. Motion carried.**

PLANNING COMMISSION BY-LAWS – The board reviewed the by-laws provided *and will be placed on file.*

TREASURER'S REPORT: Treasurer Grenfell reviewed the cash account reports and replacement fund balances.

APPROVE PAYMENT OF BILLS, PAYROLL & MILEAGE: The Clerk noted the following checks for payment: General Fund: Check#6192-6255- \$51,654.04; Anvil Sewer: Check #1023-1026-\$4583.59; Ramsay Sewer: Check#2206-2209- \$823.81; West End Sewer: Check #- \$; Water Fund Checks #18107-18135- \$23,586.28. **MOTION by Grenfell supported by McLean to approve payment of bills. ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Janczak, McLean, Grenfell, Randall NAYES: none. Motion carried.**

PUBLIC COMMENT AND OTHER BUSINESS: The Supervisor provided a copy of the Fire Department's Financial statement.

Walter Rickard attended the meeting for the Gogebic County Master Plan. There will be a public meeting on January 24, 2008 at 6:30 p.m. at the Gogebic Community College.

Trustee McLean requested that the GRWA lease which was up in July 2007 be reviewed.

**ADJOURNMENT: MOTION by Grenfell supported by Randall to adjourn the meeting at 6:22 p.m. Ayes: 5/Nayes: none. Motion carried.**

These minutes are respectfully submitted:

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Debra A. Janczak, Bessemer Township Clerk