

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BESSEMER TOWNSHIP BOARD: Monday, July 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: Jeff Randall-Supervisor, Debbie Janczak-Clerk, John McLean-Trustee, Hope Tarnaski-Trustee, and Jerry Grenfell-Treasurer. In addition there were five electors present.

PRESENTATION OF THE MINUTES: The following corrections were made to the July 9, 2007 minutes: page 2 under New Business/Planning Commission change McLean's vote to Naye; page 2 Public Comment, new Apex program "costs around \$550.00; page 3 should read "Brian "*Trekas*."

**MOTION by Grenfell, supported by McLean, to accept the minutes as amended from July 9, 2007.**

**AYES: 5/NAYES: none. Motion carried.**

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS: Supervisor Randall added the following under "New Business:" 10.B. Approval of Board of Review Ad; 10.C. Approval of Planning Commission ad.

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

PETITIONS: Supervisor Randall read a petition regarding the construction of a municipal sanitary sewer system for the third street area of Ramsay. The board discussed the petition. Jean Verbos gave information noting that there had been a study done two years ago. This information has been forwarded to the engineering company for costs on Third Street, South River, Spring and Sanders Road. She will be looking under the Farm Bill as to whether any of these costs could be covered through grant money.

**MOTION by Tarnaski supported by Grenfell to authorize the Supervisor to work with Jean Verbos regarding an amount and then do a voice poll to the board as to whether this issue should proceed. ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Randall, Janczak, McLean, Tarnaski, Grenfell. NAYES: none. Motion carried.**

COMMUNICATIONS:

Supervisor:

- Letter from Larry Merrill, Director of the Michigan Township's Association regarding the proceedings of the case with Embridge. It was decided that it is not cost effective to proceed with the case.
- Notice of an employment seminar in Marquette.
- July 11, 2007 agenda and June 26, 2007 minutes from the Gogebic County Board of Commissioners.
- Minutes of June 25, 2007 from the Gogebic County Road Commissioners.
- Great Lakes Gas Trans Pipeline Emergency information.

Clerk:

- Minutes of June 6, 2007 from the Bessemer Area Sewer Authority.
- Request from the Bessemer Township Volunteer Fire Department for \$1800 for funding for the upcoming Firefighter's Tournament in Amasa, MI July 26-28. **MOTION by Tarnaski supported by Grenfell to give the department a check for \$1800.00 and any money to be reimbursed to the General Fund for those "no-shows" to the tournament. ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Janczak, McLean, Tarnaski, Grenfell, Randall. NAYES: none. Motion carried.**

Treasurer: None.

McLean: None.

Tarnaski: None.

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

REPORTS – BOARDS & COMMITTEES

**POWDERHORN AREA UTILITY DISTRICT (PAUD)** – Supervisor Randall reported that there were a few issues cleared up regarding rate charges. The court upheld the GRWA's position on the amount they are charging for their rates. Residents are still being hooked up and the contractor is still finishing up punch list items on the project.

**GOGEBIC RANGE WATER AUTHORITY (GRWA)** – Treasurer Grenfell gave an overview of the July 12, 2007 meeting. The grant for the water tank to be placed on the hill near Grand View Hospital received an additional \$20,000 to make it a total of \$100,000. Grand View Hospital will be putting \$35,000 toward the tank and the rest will be a loan. The members approved the signing of the loan. There was some damage done on Black Jack by XCel and they are currently disputing being at fault for the damage.

**BESSEMER AREA SEWER AUTHORITY (BASA)** – None.

**GOGEBIC RANGE SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY (GRSWMA)** – None.

**E911** – None.

OLD BUSINESS

**ROAD REPAIR CONTRACTS:** The Supervisor has not gotten any further information from the Road Commission. **MOTION by Grenfell supported by Randall to table the decision on road repair. AYES: 5/NAYES: none. Motion carried.**

NEW BUSINESS

**POVERTY EXEMPTION RESOLUTION:** Supervisor Randall reviewed the attachments to the agenda regarding one resident's request for the exemption. They are able to also apply for exemption through the state via the Homestead Property Tax Credit form. The board discussed the issue. **MOTION by McLean supported by Grenfell to deny the poverty exemption resolution. ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Tarnaski, Grenfell, Randall, Janczak, McLean. NAYES: none. Motion carried.**

**APPROVAL OF BOARD OF REVIEW PUBLICATION AD:** This was done at the previous meeting.

**APPROVAL OF PLANNING COMMISSION PUBLICATION AD:** This meeting will be set for August 7, 2007 at 5:00 p.m. **MOTION By Grenfell supported by McLean to approve the cost of the ad. ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Grenfell, Randall, Jnaczak, McLean, Tarnaski. NAYES: none. Motion carried.**

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Treasurer Grenfell noted that the money from the CD came in to cover the cost of the new Fire Department truck. The Clerk will write out a check today. Utility bills have gone out and payments are coming in. Landmark Appraisal will be coming in during the week to enter more data and work up to section 36. They have finished the photographs for each property in the township and they will be uploaded to the assessor's program. Tax payments are also coming in.

**APPROVE PAYMENT OF BILLS, PAYROLL & MILEAGE:** The Clerk noted the following checks for payment: General Fund: Check#5887-5919- \$28,017.41; Anvil Sewer: Check # - \$; Ramsay Sewer: Check#, \$; West End Sewer: Check #- \$; Water Fund Checks #17953-17970- \$3,336.37. **MOTION by Grenfell supported by Randall to approve payment of bills. ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: McLean,**

**Tarnaski, Grenfell, Randall, Janczak. NAYES: none. Motion carried.** The Clerk noted the quarterly profit and loss was handed out prior to the meeting. The board reviewed the report.

**PUBLIC COMMENT AND OTHER BUSINESS:** The Supervisor reminded the board of the MTA chapter meeting tomorrow at 6:00 p.m. It will be held in the townhall.

Louie Sworab gave comments to the board regarding how the DPW workers have been unsatisfied with some payroll check figures. There have been issues with rates not being consistent and the July 1<sup>st</sup> raises were omitted from the check. However, the difference in pay was given along with the regular payroll checks after reminders were made by the Personnel Administrator and the Supervisor. The current program used is Quick Books. The Clerk will review the payroll checks more closely for any potential errors.

Jim Scholar asked the board to take a look at the upcoming \$1.35 charge that will be showing up on all phone bills.

**ADJOURNMENT: MOTION by Grenfell supported by Tarnaski to adjourn the meeting at 6:00 p.m. Ayes: 5/Nayes: none. Motion carried.**

These minutes are respectfully submitted:

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Debra A. Janczak, Bessemer Township Clerk