

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BESSEMER TOWNSHIP BOARD: Monday, March 31, 2008, 5:36 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, Debbie Janczak-Clerk.. In addition there were three electors present.

PRESENTATION OF THE MINUTES: **MOTION by Tarnaski supported by Randall to accept the minutes as presented from March 10, 2008. AYES: 5/NAYES: none. Motion carried.**

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS: An addition was made to 10. E for “Hannula Insurance Review.”

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

PETITIONS: None.

COMMUNICATIONS:

Supervisor:

- Daily Pumpage report for March, 2008.
- Gogebic County Board of Road Commissioners notice regarding spring weight restrictions for county roads.
- Gogebic County Board of Road Commission minutes from March 10, 2008.
- Agenda for March 26, 2008 and minutes from March 12, 2008 from Gogebic County Board of Commissioners.
- Agenda for March 12, 2008 and minutes from February 27, 2008 from Gogebic County Board of Commissioners.
- MTA flyer for Spring District Meeting.

Clerk:

- Minutes from the March 11, 2008 Planning Commission.
- MTA offering on “Take Two Topics.”

Treasurer:

- Notice from Computer Doctors regarding their end of subcontracting with InkRX.

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) – Treasurer Grenfell took the Supervisor’s place at the March 20 meeting. There were some leaky pipes repaired by UP Pipe, which were located at Powderhorn. The auditor gave the district a clean audit (copy of which was given to the Clerk). The administrator was given authorization to set up a PMI account for Powdermill Inn who has not been paying their bill.

BESSEMER AREA SEWER AUTHORITY (BASA) –None.

GOGEBIC RANGE WATER AUTHORITY (GRWA) – Treasurer Grenfell reported on the March 13 meeting. A leak locator was approved for approximately \$3600 in cost. Bids for the Anvil project were opened the day before. What was received was \$200,000 over projection, so no bid could be awarded. There has been a \$150,000 grant awarded and this will leave on \$50,000 that will have to be taken out on loan.

GOGEBIC RANGE SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY (GRSWMA) – Trustee McLean reported that the front end loader broke down and cost \$9,000 to repair. New rates will be effective May 1, 2008. The administrator is compiling a list of services that are provided along with their fees that will be able to be included in the township's summer newsletter.

E911 – None.

ASSESSOR – None.

OLD BUSINESS

ENBRIDGE ENERGY/CONSENT JUDGMENT – Supervisor Randall referred to the letter in the agenda packet from Michael Pope. A tentative meeting is set for Wednesday, April 23, 2008 at 9:00 a.m. at the Bessemer Township hall. **MOTION by McLean supported by Tarnaski to appoint the Supervisor and Treasurer as representatives to attend the meeting. AYES: 5/NAYES: none. Motion carried.** A brief discussion was had regarding whether the township can charge the other taxing entities it collects for a part of the legal fees. This is not possible.

BUILDING INSPECTOR CONTRACT– A review of the updated contract took place. **MOTION by Grenfell supported by Tarnaski to approve the agreement as amended. ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Randall, Janczak, McLean, Tarnaski, Grenfell. NAYES: none. Motion carried.**

NEW BUSINESS

GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT – **MOTION by McLean supported by Tarnaski to approved of the 2008-09 General Appropriation Act with the estimated revenues of \$491,582.00 and the estimated expenditures of \$604,320.00. ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Grenfell, Randall, Janczak, McLean, Tarnaski. NAYES: none. Motion carried.**

WAKEFIELD CITY/BESSEMER TOWNSHIP SEWER CONTRACT – The Board discussed the letters exchanged between Supervisor Randall and the City of Wakefield's manager regarding the additional SSO charge for those residents living in the Verona Location of Wakefield (part of Bessemer Township). **MOTION by Tarnaski supported by McLean to appoint the Treasurer and Supervisor to a sub-committee to discuss the issue with the City of Wakefield and the creation of an addendum to the current contract. AYES: 5/NAYES: none. Motion carried.**

DIMENSIONAL VARIANCE APPROVAL – The board reviewed a request from Robert and Opal Gothblad that was approved by the Planning Commission. **MOTION by Tarnaski supported by Grenfell to approve the Dimensional Variance presented with the Planning Commission's recommendations. ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Randall, Janczak, McLean, Tarnaski, Grenfell. NAYES: none. Motion carried.**

MTA SPRING DISTRICT MEETING – The Supervisor showed interest in attending the meeting. **MOTION by Tarnaski supported by Grenfell to approve the expenses for Jeff Randall to attend the May 28, 2008 meeting held in Houghton. ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Janczak, McLean, Tarnaski, Grenfell, Randall. NAYES: none. Motion carried.**

HANNULA INSURANCE REVIEW – The board reviewed the revised copy of rates provided by the Clerk. A discussion on the amount savings that would be seen by having a higher deduction rate took place. **MOTION by Grenfell supported to approve the insurance rate using the higher deductible. ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Randall, Janczak, McLean, Tarnaski, Grenfell. NAYES: none. Motion carried.**

TREASURER’S REPORT: Treasurer Grenfell reviewed the cash summary reports.

APPROVE PAYMENT OF BILLS, PAYROLL & MILEAGE: Some larger payments were made this month, which went to CNH for the annual payment on the tractor, also workman’s comp insurance was paid. The Clerk noted the following checks for payment: General Fund: Check#6363-6410 - \$62,909.95; Anvil Sewer: Check #1030-\$93.58; Ramsay Sewer: Check#2213-2214- \$486.21; West End Sewer: Check #1023- \$12.80; Water Fund Checks #18180-18192- \$2325.27. **MOTION by Tarnaski supported by Grenfell to approve payment of bills. ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Randall, Janczak, McLean, Tarnaski, Grenfell. NAYES: none. Motion carried.**

PUBLIC COMMENT AND OTHER BUSINESS:

A brief discussion was had regarding a spring clean-up.

The Treasurer noted that the new computers have been installed for the his and the Clerk’s offices. His computer has gone to the DPW office. The Clerk’s computer will be put down into the Fire Department once she checks that all files have transferred.

The Clerk informed the board that she had received a letter from an accounting firm soliciting audits. The board discussed fees for audits. **MOTION by Grenfell supported by Tarnaski to have the Clerk send out letters to the three qualified accounting firms in the area as well as a response to the solicitation received for audit quotes; to be turned in by April 28, 2008. AYES: 5/NAYES: none. Motion carried.**

The Supervisor made a reminder of the Planning Commission meeting on Tuesday April 8, 2008.

ADJOURNMENT: **MOTION by Grenfell supported by Tarnaski to adjourn the meeting at 6:30 p.m. Ayes: 5/Nayes: none. Motion carried.**

These minutes are respectfully submitted:

Debra A. Janczak, Bessemer Township Clerk