

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BESSEMER TOWNSHIP BOARD: Monday, May 12, 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, Jerry Grenfell-Treasurer, Jeff Randall-Supervisor, Debbie Janczak-Clerk. Late: Hope Tarnaski-Trustee. In addition there were three electors present and three guests.

PRESENTATION OF THE MINUTES: **MOTION by Grenfell supported by McLean to accept the minutes as presented from April 28, 2008. AYES: 4/NAYES: none. Motion carried.**

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS: An addition was made to 10. F for “Electrical Work Proposal.”

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: **MOTION by McLean supported by Grenfell to accept the agenda as amended. AYES: 4/NAYES: none. Motion carried.**

PETITIONS: None.

COMMUNICATIONS:

Supervisor:

- Certified letters from Foster, Swifts, Collins and Smith regarding a pending suit against the township by Grand View Hospital involving personal property taxes. They are requesting that the township be taken to the tax tribunal.
- Daily Pumpage report for April 2008.
- Letter from the Michigan Department of Transportation noting 2008 road projects.
- Notice from the Michigan State Public Service Commission about a May 22, 2008 10:00 a.m. hearing in Lansing regarding Northern States Power.
- Weight restriction lifting notice from the Gogebic County board of Road Commissioners.
- MTA flyer for a workshop in Marquette on June 4, 2008 regarding roads and parks. **MOTION by Tarnaski supported by Grenfell to approve the cost of attendance for any officials wanting to participate. ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Randall, Janczak, McLean, Tarnaski, Grenfell. NAYES: none. Motion carried.**
- Minutes from April 14, 2008 for the Gogebic County Road Commission.

Clerk: None.

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

GOGEBIC RANGE WATER AUTHORITY (GRWA) – Treasurer Grenfell noted that at the May 8, 2008 meeting they discussed the deed to the property where the water tank will be placed by Grand View Hospital. Once the revised deed is received an executive committee will meet to sign it. They have contracted with Professional Computer Services, LLC to create a website for the authority.

POWDERHORN AREA UTILITY DISTRICT (PAUD) – None.

BESSEMER AREA SEWER AUTHORITY (BASA) –None.

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

E911 – None.

ASSESSOR – None.

OLD BUSINESS

ENBRIDGE ENERGY/CONSENT JUDGMENT – No updates.

AUDIT PROPOSALS – A letter was received from Roger Kolehmainen regarding his quote for the audit, which would not exceed \$8,000. The board discussed the hiring of an auditor. **MOTION by Grenfell supported by Randall to hire Roger Kolehmainen to perform the township's 2008 audit not to exceed \$8,000.00. ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Janczak, McLean, Grenfell, Randall. NAYES: Tarnaski. Motion carried.**

NEW BUSINESS

UNION NEGOTIATIONS MEETING – The union representative stopped in the Supervisor's office. He said a letter had been sent regarding upcoming negotiations which we have not yet received. Jeff asked for a copy of the letter.

MOTION by Grenfell supported by Janczak to have Supervisor Randall and Trustee Tarnaski as a sub-committee to meet with the union representatives of AFSME. AYES: 5/NAYES: none. Motion carried.

BLIGHT/CONDEMNATION OFFICER APPOINTMENT – Supervisor Randall explained that a person is needed to oversee a public hearing in order to following the condemnation process. The person should be outside of the board members. Robert Berg was a possibility, but he has not been approached yet. Walter Rickard is willing to do the job temporarily. **MOTION by Tarnaski supported by Grenfell to approve of the Supervisor approaching Robert Berg and do a voice poll of the board in order to proceed with the public hearing. Also, to cover the costs of any advertising. ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Grenfell, Randall, Janczak, McLean, Tarnaski. NAYES: none. Motion carried.**

PARK PAVILION VANDALISM – DPW Lead man Louis Sworab described the vandalism that has recently been done to the pavilion's roll up door to the kitchen area. In addition several items were stolen. A police report was filed. The board discussed what actions could be taken to curb this activity. Costs for various implementations need to be examined. Also possibly changing the overhead door.

WATER/SEWER COLLECTION POLICY DISCUSSION – Treasurer Grenfell brought up the topic regarding landlord and tenant billing for utilities. Ordinance #130-Deposits Accompanying Water Sewer Affidavits was discussed. He will start sending the bill to the landlord only.

BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE – The board discussed the meeting schedule since the next Monday’s meeting falls on Memorial Day. **MOTION by Tarnaski supported by Grenfell to cancel the May 26 and June 9 meeting and reschedule a meeting for Monday, June 2. Also, approved are any expenses for advertising. ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: McLean, Tarnaski, Grenfell, Randall, Janczak. NAYES: none. Motion carried.**

ELECTRICAL WORK PROPOSAL – DPW Lead man Louis Sworab described the problem with the Chart reader and flow meter. Due to unknown circumstances they are both in need of replacement. A report will be written up. The Clerk will try to submit this to the insurance company for coverage. Trustee McLean will inquire whether these items are used in processing billing for sewer.

TREASURER’S REPORT: Treasurer Grenfell reviewed a year-end utility billing report and account balances.

APPROVE PAYMENT OF BILLS, PAYROLL & MILEAGE: The Clerk noted the following checks for payment: General Fund: Check#6460-6491 - \$25,903.95; Anvil Sewer: Check #1035- \$14.76; Ramsay Sewer: Check#2220- \$12.00; West End Sewer: Check #1026- \$4.90; Water Fund Checks #18225-18239- \$11,328.15. **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:

The Clerk commented that two electors that came to vote on May 6 had concerns regarding Stone Hill Road and its bad condition.

Elector Jeff Elias was present at the meeting and requesting the use of township land for a garden. He also brought pictures of a house owned by Steve Ward that is located near his own and the terrible state of disrepair as well as garbage located all around the property. The house’s foundation is beginning to cave in. This is a blight issue. The landlord has been notified that he needs to fix the property.

ADJOURNMENT: **MOTION by Randall supported by Tarnaski to adjourn the meeting at 6:55 p.m. Ayes: 5/Nayes: none. Motion carried.**

These minutes are respectfully submitted:

Debra A. Janczak, Bessemer Township Clerk