

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
OF
THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF ALPENA-BOARD OF TRUSTEES
March 25, 2019 – 9:45 a.m.
MINUTES**

The Charter Township of Alpena Board of Trustees met in special session on Monday, March 25, 2019 at 5:00 p.m. at the Alpena Township Offices, 4385 US 23 North, Alpena, MI 49707.

Present: Supervisor Nathan Skibbe
Clerk Michele P. Palevich
Treasurer Laura L. Ellery-Somers
Trustee Norm Poli
Trustee Matt Dunckel
Trustee Steve Lappan

Absent: Trustee Cash Kroll

Others present: Attorney Tim Gulden

Supervisor Nathan Skibbe called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Roll call was called; the following board members were present: Trustee Norm Poli, Trustee Steve Lappan, Clerk Michele P. Palevich, Treasurer Laura L. Ellery-Somers, and Supervisor Nathan Skibbe. Excused absence: Trustee Matt Dunckel and Trustee Cash Kroll.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Moved by Trustee Steve Lappan and supported by Trustee Norm Poli to approve the agenda as presented. Roll call vote was taken. AYES: Trustee Steve Lappan, Clerk Michele P. Palevich, Treasurer Laura L. Ellery-Somers, Trustee Norm Poli and Supervisor Nathan Skibbe. NAYES: None. Absent: Trustee Cash Kroll and Trustee Matt Dunckel. Motion carried unanimously.

Trustee Matt Dunckel arrived at 5:04 p.m.

ADOPTION OF THE 2019-2020 BUDGET

Supervisor Nathan Skibbe announced the opening of the Budget Hearing and asked for Public Comment.

Marie Twite, 4165 Truckey Rd, Alpena, expressed displeasure with advertising for the budget meeting, couldn't find a line item for an ambulance and where is the \$2,000,000 in the water provisional fund?

Frank Rosinski, 1146 Bear Pointe, Alpena, asked if the township was proposing a levy, suggested contracting an assessor and how were the new salaries determined.

Russ Ryhnard, 315 Par Dr, Alpena, questioned the Fire Department's \$200,000.00 contribution from the General Fund and the parody of salaries.

Ben Westrope, 509 Brentwood Dr, Alpena, read a letter from Larry Clark regarding funding to the South Bay Corridor.

Stan Mischley, 446 Victoria Dr, Alpena, is in favor or raises but questioned why the treasurer's raise was less.

Mike Sobeck, 1459 Island View Dr, Alpena, is opposed to wage increases. It is not the right of the board to propose their own wages. Would like it to be voted on by electorates.

Brett Finzel, 9266 North Pointe Shores Dr, Alpena, did not see where a new ambulance, tanker and engine are addressed in the budget. Only problem with salaries is that there should be no more until water litigation is settled.

Lourrie McDonald, 6661 US 23 N, Alpena, advised that over the last week she has received emails from fire department friends and family regarding the downstate lawyer hired for union contract negotiations. Why hired and who is paying for it?

Beverly Banks, Misery Bay Rd, Alpena, wondered why the HSA amounts are different per department. What company do you go through to get insurance? Do you do cost analysis and does employee pay a %.

Marie Twite, 4165 Truckey Rd, Alpena, commented on the fire mileages and the history. Also, did not see where there was money budgeted for equipment.

Ellen Dohn, 2247 Long Lake Park Rd, Alpena, wanted to know if Mr. Malcomson's proposed leasing of a vehicle for the township was in the budget.

Lourrie McDonald, 6661 US 23 N, Alpena, questioned if the assessor's assistant had lost his credentials.

Russ Ryhnard, 315 Par Dr, Alpena, a contracted assessor may be a better option. Are we still hiring a consultant to teach us how to be a charter township? Mr. Rhynard commented on the funding for Thunder Bay Island and the large reserve fund. Is there going to be a mileage increase?

Dave Dohn, 2247 Long Lake Park Rd, Alpena, asked about increases for BCBS in the Building Inspector's Dept, Clerical Salary in Clerk's Dept going from \$15,000 to \$34,000 and funding to Thunder Bay Island. He stated that elected officials deserve a raise but the raises should be equal. Also, questioned mileage reimbursement vs. leasing vehicles.

Larry Clark, Alpena requested the board reconsider their funding for the wet land assessment.

April Wallot, 104 Blue Heron Dr, Alpena, stated that she hasn't seen where an audit has been done since 2016 and believed that the township should have an audit.

Correne Kensa, 4820 French Rd, Alpena, discussed the chart of accounts conversion.

Russ Ryhnard, 315 Par Dr, Alpena, asked which elected officials are receiving health insurance.

Brett Finzel, 9266 North Pointe Shores Dr, Alpena, commented about the fire department equipment mileage and purchasing equipment and paying it over time.

Angie Skiba, 6635 River St, Alpena, believed raises for all elected officials should be the same and that in the future, if husband and wife both work for the township, if one opts into the health insurance than the other would not receive the opt out.

Marie Twite, 4165 Truckey Rd, Alpena, commented regarding the petition and Ordinance No. 135. Attorney Tim Gulden explained why the Ordinance could not be put on a ballot. Trustee Steve Lappan gave an update on Ordinance No. 135's Ad hoc committee.

A motion was made by Trustee Poli and supported by Trustee Lappan to close the Public Budget Hearing. Roll call vote was taken. AYES: Clerk Michele P. Palevich, Treasurer Laura L. Ellery-Somers, Trustee Matt Dunckel, Trustee Norm Poli, Trustee Steve Lappan and Supervisor Nathan Skibbe. NAYES: None. Absent: Trustee Cash Kroll. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Trustee Dunckel to recess. Voice Vote. AYES: All. NAYES: None. Motion carried unanimously.

Supervisor Nathan Skibbe recessed the meeting at 6:47 p.m.

Supervisor Nathan Skibbe called the meeting back to order at 7:00 p.m.

ADOPTION OF BUDGET – after Budget Hearing

A motion was made by Trustee Matt Dunckel and supported by Trustee Norm Poli that it be resolved, that Alpena Township, having duly published notice of a public hearing on the proposed budget in accordance with MCL 42.6, having complied with Section 16 of the Uniform Budgeting and Accounting Act and MCL 211.24e in order to levy an operating rate which exceeds the base tax rate, and having held the required public hearing, the proposed budget for the fiscal year as previously considered and prepared by the Township Board is hereby adopted as the Alpena Township Budget for the fiscal year April 1, 2019 through March 31, 2020. Roll call vote was taken. AYES: Trustee Matt Dunckel, Trustee Norm Poli, Trustee Steve Lappan, Clerk Michele P. Palevich and Supervisor Nathan Skibbe. NAYES: Treasurer Laura L. Ellery-Somers. Absent: Trustee Cash Kroll. Motion carried.

ADOPTION OF OFFICER SALARIES

A. Supervisor

A motion was made by Trustee Matt Dunckel and supported by Trustee Steve Lappan that it be resolved Alpena Township, not having conducted an annual meeting of electors, the Supervisor's salary for the 2019-2020 fiscal year shall be as follows: \$45,108.00 plus the same health insurance coverage provided for Township employees and an annual Health Savings Account deposit of \$1,300 for a single plan or \$2,600 for a family plan; or in lieu of health insurance, a monthly payment of \$300.00 per month should the Supervisor opt out of Alpena Township's health insurance coverage. Roll call vote was taken. AYES: Trustee Norm Poli, Trustee Steve Lappan, Clerk Michele P. Palevich, Trustee Matt Dunckel and Supervisor Nathan Skibbe. NAYES: Treasurer Laura L. Ellery-Somers. Absent: Trustee Cash Kroll. Motion carried.

B. Clerk

A motion was made by Trustee Matt Dunckel and supported by Trustee Norm Poli that it be resolved Alpena Township, not having conducted an annual meeting of electors, the Clerk's salary for the 2019-2020 fiscal year shall be as follows: \$44,000.00 plus the same health insurance coverage

provided for Township employees and an annual Health Savings Account deposit of \$1,300 for a single plan or \$2,600 for a family plan; or in lieu of health insurance, a monthly payment of \$300.00 per month should the Clerk opt out of Alpena Township's health insurance coverage. Roll call vote was taken. AYES: Trustee Steve Lappan, Clerk Michele P. Palevich, Trustee Matt Dunckel, Trustee Norm Poli and Supervisor Nathan Skibbe. NAYES: Treasurer Laura L. Ellery-Somers. Absent: Trustee Cash Kroll. Motion carried.

C. Treasurer

A motion was made by Trustee Matt Dunckel and supported by Trustee Steve Lappan that it be resolved Alpena Township, not having conducted an annual meeting of electors, the Treasurer's salary for the 2019-2020 fiscal year shall be as follows: \$41,500.00 plus the same health insurance coverage provided for Township employees and an annual Health Savings Account deposit of \$1,300 for a single plan or \$2,600 for a family plan; or in lieu of health insurance, a monthly payment of \$300.00 per month should the Treasurer opt out of Alpena Township's health insurance coverage. Roll call vote was taken. AYES: Clerk Michele P. Palevich, Trustee Matt Dunckel, Trustee Norm Poli, Trustee Steve Lappan and Supervisor Nathan Skibbe. NAYES: Treasurer Laura L. Ellery-Somers. Absent: Trustee Cash Kroll. Motion carried.

D. Trustees

A motion was made by Trustee Matt Dunckel and supported by Trustee Steve Lappan that it be resolved Alpena Township, not having conducted an annual meeting, the Trustees shall be entitled for the 2019-2020 fiscal year a salary of \$1,200.00, or \$100.00 per month, plus a per diem for each meeting attended by the Trustee on Township business, including but not limited to, Township Board meetings of \$100.00 per full day (any meeting lasting longer than four (4) hours) and \$60.00 per half day (any meeting lasting four (4) hours or less). Roll call vote was taken. AYES: Treasurer Laura L. Ellery-Somers, Trustee Matt Dunckel, Trustee Norm Poli, Trustee Steve Lappan, Clerk Michele P. Palevich and Supervisor Nathan Skibbe. NAYES: None. Absent: Trustee Cash Kroll. Motion carried unanimously.

E. Planning, Zoning, Appeals and Board of Review

A motion was made by Trustee Matt Dunckel and supported by Trustee Steve Lappan that it be resolved Alpena Township, not having conducted an annual meeting of electors, board members per diem shall be \$58.00 per half day (any meeting or combination of meetings lasting four (4) hours or less), and \$84.00 per full day for (any meeting or combination of meetings lasting longer than four (4) hours). Board of Review will be \$100.00 per day for public day, \$90.00 per day for non-public days and \$58.00 for ½ non-public day. Chairperson and Secretary of the Planning, Zoning and Appeals Board will receive \$10.00 extra for each meeting. Roll call vote was taken. AYES: Trustee Matt Dunckel, Trustee Norm Poli, Trustee Steve Lappan, Clerk Michele P. Palevich, Treasurer Laura L. Ellery-Somers and Supervisor Nathan Skibbe. NAYES: None. Absent: Trustee Cash Kroll. Motion carried unanimously.

DEPOSITORIES

A motion was made by Trustee Matt Dunckel and supported by Trustee Norm Poli that it be resolved, that Township funds be deposited in the following institutions, in such amounts upon such terms as may be decided by the Treasurer, but so that the Township has sufficient ready funds available to meet obligations as they come due. Roll call vote was taken. AYES: Trustee Matt Dunckel, Trustee Norm Poli, Trustee Steve Lappan, Clerk Michele P. Palevich, Treasurer Laura L. Ellery-Somers and Supervisor Nathan Skibbe. NAYES: None. Absent: Trustee Cash Kroll. Motion carried unanimously.

mBank
Chemical Bank
PNC
Alpena Alcona Area Credit Union

REGULAR MEETING DATES

A motion was made by Trustee Matt Dunckel and supported by Trustee Steve Lappan that it be resolved that the regular meetings of the Alpena Township Board of Trustees will be held on the 4th Monday of each month, unless it is a holiday, then being held the following day at 6:00 p.m. and the second Tuesday of each month, unless it is a holiday, then being held the following day at 11:00 a.m. at the Alpena Township Civic Building, 4385 US 23 North, Alpena, Michigan and be it further resolved that the Clerk post a notice of these times and dates for regular meetings within ten (10) days of the date hereof. Roll call vote was taken. AYES: Trustee Steve Lappan, Clerk Michele P. Palevich, Treasurer Laura L. Ellery-Somers, Trustee Matt Dunckel, Trustee Norm Poli, and Supervisor Nathan Skibbe. NAYES: None. Absent: Trustee Cash Kroll. Motion carried unanimously.

RULES OF CONDUCT MEETINGS

A motion was made by Trustee Matt Dunckel and supported by Trustee Norm Poli that it be resolved, all meetings of the Alpena Township Board shall be conducted pursuant to the procedures of "Roberts Rules of Order", as interpreted or modified by the Chair upon advice of legal counsel. Roll call vote was taken. AYES: Clerk Michele P. Palevich, Treasurer Laura L. Ellery-Somers, Trustee Matt Dunckel, Trustee Norm Poli, Trustee Steve Lappan and Supervisor Nathan Skibbe. NAYES: None. Absent: Trustee Cash Kroll. Motion carried unanimously.

ATTORNEY

A motion was made by Trustee Matt Dunckel and supported by Trustee Steve Lappan that it be resolved that the Township appoints the law firm of Gillard, Bauer, Mazrum, Florip, Smigelski & Gulden and the Supervisor and Clerk are authorized to execute a Retainer Agreement with the annual retainer fee to be \$33,120.00, payable monthly at a rate of \$2,760.00 per month. Roll call vote was taken. AYES: Trustee Matt Dunckel, Trustee Norm Poli, Trustee Steve Lappan, Clerk Michele P. Palevich and Supervisor Nathan Skibbe. NAYES: Treasurer Laura L. Ellery-Somers. Absent: Trustee Cash Kroll. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Trustee Steve Lappan and supported by Clerk Michele Palevich to adjourn. Voice Vote. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:26 p.m.

Clerk Michele Palevich

Supervisor Nathan Skibbe