

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
OF
THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF ALPENA-BOARD OF TRUSTEES
July 13, 2021 –11:00 a.m.
REGULAR MINUTES**

The Charter Township of Alpena Board of Trustees met in Regular session on Tuesday, July 13, 2021 at 11:00 a.m. at the Charter Township of Alpena Offices, 4385 US 23 North, Alpena, MI 49707.

Present: Supervisor Nathan Skibbe
Clerk Michele Palevich
Treasurer Laura Ellery-Somers
Trustee Cash Kroll
Trustee Norm Poli
Trustee Russ Rhynard
Trustee Steve Lappan

Absent: None

Others present: Attorney Tim Gulden

Supervisor Nathan Skibbe called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Roll call was taken. The following board members were present: Trustee Norm Poli, Trustee Steve Lappan, Clerk Michele Palevich, Treasurer Laura Ellery-Somers, Trustee Cash Kroll, Trustee Russ Rhynard, and Supervisor Nathan Skibbe. Absent: None.

AGENDA

Moved by Treasurer Laura Ellery-Somers and supported by Trustee Steve Lappan to approve the agenda as presented with the following addition to New Business: 3. Covid Coordinator. Voice Vote. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Tamara Snyder commented on Fire Department, DNR and ambulances being dispatched to her home and the cause.

PAYMENT OF BILLS

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

MINUTES

June 24, 2021 (Special), June 28, 2021 (Regular) and June 30, 2021 (Special)

Moved by Trustee Steve Lappan and supported by Trustee Cash Kroll to approve the meeting minutes as presented with a correction on the June 30, 2021 Minutes to remove unanimously from the Letter of Agreement – Staffing Shortage. Voice Vote. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence included: Zoning Board of Appeals – Minutes June 15, 2021, Alpena Power Company – Notice of Hearing and Federal Energy Regulatory Commission – Thunder Bay Project, Norway Point Development. Moved by Trustee Russ Rhynard and supported by Clerk Michele Palevich to receive and file correspondence. Voice Vote. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

FIRE DEPARTMENT UPDATE

Trustee Cash Kroll, Task Force Chair, informed the Township Board that the Fire Department Task Force has met twice with the personnel and are making progress. Trustee Cash Kroll stated that all shifts for July, 2021, are being covered and paid on call participation has grown at each meeting. Clerk Michele Palevich informed that communication and trust has opened up between both sides. Trustee Steve Lappan stated that communication and trust are key aspects and introduced Ryno Scholtz to the Township Board. Ryno Scholtz has volunteered his services to facilitate the process of rebuilding the fire department and help submit a road plan to change to the Township Board in 2 weeks. Ryno Scholtz's role would be as an organizational development consultant. Chief Dave Robbins reported that in the next 2 weeks the following will be worked on: developmental plans, exit interviews, gather critical run data, review skill sets, review budget and revisit a cost recovery ordinance. If needed the Township has a mutual aid agreement with Thunderbay Firefighter Association.

PRATTSCAPE, LLC INVOICE

The Township Board discussed the invoice from PRATTscape in the amount of \$4,480.00 for spring clean-up and lawn mowing for April, May and June at the water towers and lift stations. Supervisor Nathan Skibbe will contact PRATTscape, LLC for a detailed invoice and ask for monthly billing. Moved by Trustee Norm Poli and supported by Clerk Michele Palevich to table the PRATTscape, LLC invoice. Voice Vote. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

PRINCIPLES OF GOVERNANCE

Moved by Treasurer Laura Ellery-Somers and supported by Trustee Cash Kroll to approve the Principle of Governance as presented by Michigan Township Association. Voice Vote. Motion carried.

COVID COORDINATOR

Treasurer Laura Ellery-Somers suggested Supervisor Nathan Skibbe replace her as Covid Coordinator. Supervisor Nathan Skibbe advised that the position no longer exists.

CORONAVIRUS LOCAL FISCAL RECOVERY FUND (CLFRF)

Supervisor Nathan Skibbe advised that the Township could receive approximately \$860,000.00 and that there were 3 options: deny, accept or defer. If accepted, the primary uses for the money are water, sewer and broadband. There is a possibility for using the funds for other projects but are waiting

for more information from the State of Michigan as no official rules have been established. Supervisor Skibbe recommended that a CLFRF committee be established to include Supervisor Nathan Skibbe, Trustee Norm Poli and Trustee Russ Rhynard to discuss and present options at the next Board of Trustees meeting.

ORDINANCE NO. 137 – BLIGHT ORDINANCE

Attorney Tim Gulden informed the Township Board of the process for addressing a blight violation and to expedite the process, recommended amending the current ordinance. Moved by Trustee Steve Lappan and supported by Trustee Russ Rhynard to have Attorney Tim Gulden proceed with amending Ordinance No. 137 Blight Ordinance by removing Section III Subsection B. Roll call vote was taken. AYES: Treasurer Laura Ellery-Somers, Trustee Cash Kroll, Trustee Russ Rhynard, Trustee Norm Poli, Trustee Steve Lappan, Clerk Michele Palevich and Supervisor Nathan Skibbe. NAYES: None. Absent: None. Motion carried unanimously.

F & V OPERATIONS – MAY and JUNE, 2021 OPERATING REPORT

Catherine Winn of F & V Operations presented the Township Board with the Operating Report for May and June, 2021, which included the maintenance allowance update for the contract year. The Township Board discussed with Ms. Winn the chlorine residuals at the Combat Readiness Training Center (CRTC).

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

DISCUSSION

Treasurer Laura Ellery-Somers informed the Township Board that we have enough emergency green house number signs for about a year. We will then need to either purchase for the Public Safety Department or write for a grant.

Supervisor Nathan Skibbe advised that he has contacted Denise Cline of NEMCOG regarding the cost of a survey of Township residents.

Trustee Russ Rhynard responded to Tamara Snyder’s issue.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Trustee Steve Lappan and supported by Trustee Russ Rhynard to adjourn. Voice Vote. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

Clerk Michele Palevich

Supervisor Nathan Skibbe