

ALPENA TOWNSHIP – BOARD OF TRUSTEES
REGULAR SESSION – November 27, 2017 – 6 pm
MINUTES

The Alpena Township Board of Trustees met in Regular session on Monday, November 27, 2017 at 6 pm at the Alpena Township Offices, 4385 US 23 North, Alpena, Michigan.

Present: Supervisor Nathan Skibbe
Clerk Karie K. Bleau
Treasurer Laura L. Ellery-Somers
Trustee Matt Dunckel
Trustee Nate Thomson
Trustee Cash Kroll
Trustee Norm Poli

Absent: None

Others present: Attorney Tim Gulden

Media Present: WATZ – Sharon Cole
Alpena News – Julie Goldberg

ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

A motion was made by Trustee Dunckel and supported by Trustee Thomson to adopt the agenda with the following changes: moving the Charter Township Resolution to New Business. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

PRESENTATION:

Employee Health Insurance

Michael Spleet of Franklin Benefit Solutions presented information regarding the services and benefits that Franklin Benefit Solutions can provide Alpena Township for health care products and costs.

David Zeller of Alpena Agency presented information regarding the services and benefits that Alpena Agency can provide to Alpena Township if they are selected to be the Agent of Record and answered the Board's questions regarding the services and benefits that Alpena Agency provides to their customers for health care products and costs.

A motion was made by Trustee Poli and supported by Treasurer Ellery-Somers to contract with Alpena Agency to become Alpena Township's Agent of Record. Roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Trustee Poli, Trustee Thomson, Clerk Bleau, Treasurer Ellery-Somers, Trustee Kroll, Trustee Dunckel, Supervisor Skibbe. Nays: none. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Larry Clark 199 Bear Point Road of South Bay Corridor addressed the Board with an update of the activities of the group for the South Bi-Path extension.

Dennis Wilson of Fitzgerald Lane addressed the Board about his work with Supervisor Skibbe regarding the desire of the residents on Fitzgerald Lane wanting help with a special assessment for paving the private road that they live on.

MINUTES APPROVED:

A motion was made by Treasurer Ellery-Somers and supported by Trustee Kroll to approve the minutes from October 17, 2017 and October 23, 2017. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

PAYMENT OF BILLS:

A motion was made by Trustee Kroll and supported by Trustee Dunckel to pay the bills as presented. Roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Trustee Thomson, Clerk Bleau, Treasurer Ellery-Somers, Trustee Kroll, Trustee Dunckel, Trustee Poli, Supervisor Skibbe. Nays: none. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Alpena Township - Planning Commission - Minutes - Oct 30 & Nov 13, 2017, Charter Committee - Minutes - Nov 6, 2017, Alpena Power Co - Notice of Opportunity to Comment, Intensified Technology - Web Design Service, Alpena County Road Commission - Minutes/Road Report. A motion was made by Trustee Kroll and supported by Trustee Thomson to receive and file all correspondence. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

OLD BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

Resolution of Intent to Become a Charter Township.

Trustee Dunckel informed the Board of Trustees of the intention and recommendation of the Charter Township Exploration Committee to enter into a resolution of Intent to Become a Charter Township. Treasurer Ellery-Somers expressed her desire for a workshop so the Board may obtain additional information and get questions answered. Trustee Dunckel suggested having the Board members do their due diligence and research the topic and have questions prepared for the next Board meeting on December 18, 2017.

Rezone Parcel #'s 013-027-000-880-03 and 013-027-000-880-02 from R-2 to B-2.

A motion was made by Trustee Thomson and supported by Trustee Dunckel to rezone parcel #'s 013-027-000-880-03 and 013-027-000 880-02 from R-2 to B-2. Attorney Gulden will provide the ordinance and arrange for the necessary publication. Roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Clerk Bleau, Treasurer Ellery-Somers, Trustee Kroll, Trustee Dunckel, Trustee Poli, Trustee Thomson, Supervisor Skibbe. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Tax Reverted Properties.

A motion was made by Trustee Dunckel and supported by Trustee Poli to allow parcel #'s 018-300-000-102-00, 018-405-000-114-00 and 011-005-000-345-00 to be reverted to Alpena County. Roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Treasurer Ellery-Somers, Trustee Dunckel, Trustee Poli, Trustee Thomson, Clerk Bleau, Supervisor Skibbe. Nays: Trustee Kroll. Motion carried.

Alpena Township Zoning Ordinance Update Proposal - NEMCOG.

Supervisor Skibbe informed the Board of Trustees the need for updating Alpena Township's Zoning Ordinances and that the most recent zoning changes are from 2010. A motion was made by Clerk Bleau and supported by Trustee Poli to authorize the Supervisor and/or Clerk to execute an agreement with NEMCOG to perform zoning ordinance updates and other services as outlined in the proposal with the cost not to exceed \$17,865.00 to be distributed over 2 years. Roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Trustee Kroll, Trustee Dunckel, Trustee Poli, Trustee Thomson, Clerk Bleau, Treasurer Ellery-Somers, Supervisor Skibbe. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Planning Commission Appointment.

Supervisor Skibbe informed the Board of Trustees of his desire to re-appoint Fred Sterns to the Planning Commission for a one year term 10/1/17 - 10/1/18 and he would like to appoint Ryan Fairchild as an alternate for a 3 year term 10/1/17 - 10/1/20. A motion was made by Trustee Poli and supported by Trustee Thomson to re-appoint Fred Sterns to the Planning Commission for a one year term 10/1/17 - 10/1/18 and appoint Ryan Fairchild as an alternate for a 3 year term 10/1/17-10/1/20. Roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Trustee Dunckel, Trustee Poli, Trustee Thomson, Clerk Bleau, Treasurer Ellery-Somers, Trustee Kroll, Supervisor Skibbe. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Department Reports/Requests: Assessing, Building, Fire, Water:

Assessing Dept. - Certified Assessing Tech Course - January 5-7, 2018 - Roscommon.

A motion was made by Trustee Dunckel and supported by Trustee Thomson to permit one employee to attend the class. Class fees, test fees and mileage will be paid by the township with the stipulation that the employee signs an agreement that they will reimburse the township if they do not complete the class or pass the test. A motion was made by Trustee Poli and supported by Trustee Dunckel to withdraw the original motion. Roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Trustee Poli, Trustee Thomson, Clerk Bleau, Treasurer Ellery-Somers, Trustee Kroll, Trustee Dunckel, Supervisor Skibbe. Nays: none. Motion carried. A motion was made by Trustee Dunckel and supported by Trustee Thomson to table the issue. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Building Dept. - Permit Reports - October, 2017

Building Official Bleau asked the Board for questions regarding the reports for the Building Department; the Trustees did not have questions.

Water Dept. - Report - J. Bleau

DPW Director Bleau informed the Board of a few issues: Snowplowing. Bleau brought 2 bids (Grass Hoppers and Goodrich). Goodrich does not want to do the fire departments and just wants to have a schedule. Bleau's recommendation is to use Grass Hoppers who will do the offices, fire departments, pump stations, water towers and bike path. A motion was made by Trustee Kroll and supported by Treasurer Ellery-Somers to authorize the Clerk and Supervisor to enter into a contract with Grass Hoppers to provide snow plowing services for the 2017-2018 snow season. Roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Trustee Thomson, Clerk Bleau, Treasurer Ellery-Somers, Trustee Kroll, Trustee Dunckel, Trustee Poli, Supervisor Skibbe. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Bleau also informed the Board of a problem with a sewer only customer at 3201 Lowell Road. He reported that in 2012 the sewer only account for this address became inactive and had not been billed since that time. In 2016 a new owner acquired the property and did not inform the water department so the account has not been billed. Bleau would like to know the Board's

wishes. A motion was made by Trustee Kroll and supported by Trustee Dunckel to start billing the customer at 3201 Lowell Road for unmetered sewer as of the current quarter. Roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Clerk Bleau, Treasurer Ellery-Somers, Trustee Kroll, Trustee Dunckel, Trustee Poli, Trustee Thomson, Supervisor Skibbe. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Bleau advised the Board that the valves are inoperable at the water towers which are designed to allow water flow from one tower to the others. Bleau informed the Board of the recent water crisis at the City. Currently, the water can NOT be directed to the Piper or US 23 South water towers from the M 32 tower. Bleau advised the Board to be mindful of this situation when he comes to them for funding of tower repairs/renovations so this issue may be avoided in the future.

Fire Dept. - Report - D. Robbins

Chief Robbins informed the Board that the volume of runs for this year has put the fire department on track to exceed the amount of runs for past years.

Chief Robbins requested that the Board approve moving \$500.00 from the Full-time PPE line item into the Paid On-call PPE line item to buy boots for a member of the Paid On-call roster. A motion was made by Trustee Dunckel and supported by Treasurer Ellery-Somers to move \$500.00 from the Full-time PPE line item (# 101.336.736.000) into the Paid On-call PPE line item (101.336.735.000) to buy boots for a member of the Paid On-call roster. Roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Treasurer Ellery-Somers, Trustee Kroll, Trustee Dunckel, Trustee Poli, Trustee Thomson, Clerk Bleau, Supervisor Skibbe. Nays: none. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Susan Skibbe 130 Channel Road #2 wants to know the status of the revenue sharing report that is due by Dec. 1st. Treasurer Ellery Somers responded that she is working on it and is hopeful that we can send it in with the appropriate information by the due date.

Larry Clark 199 Bear Point Road from South Bay Corridor group informed the Board about the status of the proposed 45th Parallel Park and the possibility of dedicating it to Peter Pettalia. Mr. Clark also informed the Board of an addition of Wayne Calkins as a new member to their Steering Committee and that Jamie Gohlke has expressed interest in partnering with the group to pursue a north bi-path extension.

DISCUSSION:

Clerk Bleau informed the Board of the need, and provided a physician's note, for an ergonomically correct workstation in her office. Clerk Bleau provided two quotes. Funds will need to be moved from line item 592.100.703.010 Payable to Clerk's Office into 101.215.980.000 Equipment & Furniture. A motion was made by Trustee Dunckel supported by Treasurer Ellery-Somers to allow Clerk Bleau to move the funds from line item #592.100.703.010 Payable to Clerk's Office into 101.215.980.000 Equipment & Furniture and purchase the necessary office equipment not to exceed \$1,350.00. Roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Trustee Kroll, Trustee Dunckel, Trustee Poli, Trustee Thomson, Clerk Bleau, Treasurer Ellery-Somers, Supervisor Skibbe. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Clerk Bleau also informed the Board that the State Election computer that is in the front office needs to be moved into her office and sought permission from the Board to change offices with Chief Robbins to allow for more room. The Board had no objection to this request.

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion was made by Trustee Poli and supported by Trustee Thomson to adjourn the meeting.
Adjourned at 8:14 pm.

Respectfully submitted:

Karie K. Bleau
Clerk