

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS  
OF  
THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF ALPENA-BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
November 23, 2020 – 6:00 p.m.  
REGULAR MINUTES**

The Charter Township of Alpena Board of Trustees met in Regular session on Monday, November 23, 2020 at 6:00 p.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 Steve Lappan  
Trustee Cash Kroll  
Trustee Norm Poli  
Trustee Russ Rhynard

Absent: None

Others present: Attorney Tim Gulden

Supervisor Nathan Skibbe called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.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 (teleconference), Trustee Russ Rhynard and Supervisor Nathan Skibbe. Absent: None.

**AGENDA**

Moved by Trustee Steve Lappan and supported by Treasurer Laura Ellery-Somers to adopt the agenda as presented with the following amendments: move Public Comment to after Old Business and add to New Business 8. R & R Fire Truck Repair and 9. Administrative Assistant – Clerk’s Office. Voice Vote. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

**PAYMENT OF BILLS**

Moved by Trustee Steve Lappan and supported by Trustee Cash Kroll 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**

**November 10, 2020 (Regular) & November 10, 2020 (Special)**

Moved by Trustee Norm Poli and supported by Trustee Steve Lappan to approve the meeting minutes as presented. Voice Vote. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

Correspondence included: Long Lake Improvement Association letter. Moved by Treasurer Laura Ellery-Somers and Supported by Trustee Norm Poli to receive and file correspondence. Voice Vote. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

## **INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT FOR FIRE DEPARTMENT ORGANIZATIONAL AND RESPONSE SERVICES**

The Board of Trustees discussed concerns regarding the Intergovernmental Agreement for Fire Department Organizational and Response Services. The concerns included response time, insurance rates, number of individuals on the task force, mutual-aid agreements, jointly purchasing equipment, Maple Ridge auto-aid, personnel, inflation guard, operating/equipment millages, union concerns, EMT vs Paramedic skill levels and having additional public meetings.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Beverly Banks commented on the draft agreement and her concerns.

Marie Twite commented on concerns with the agreement and grants for funding.

Joe Garber commented on service level and contracting with the City of Alpena.

Chris Stephens advised the Board of the current Mutual Aid Agreement with the City of Alpena.

Lora Green thanked the Board for openly considering options and asked what is the financial reason.

Marie Twite commented on the proposed agreement.

Ken Gimbel started to comment but due to technical difficulties unable to hear.

Moved by Trustee Russ Rhynard and supported by Trustee Steve Lappan to end Public Comment due to technical difficulties. Roll call vote was taken. AYES: Trustee Russ Rhynard, Trustee Norm Poli, Trustee Steve Lappan, Clerk Michele Palevich, Treasurer Laura Ellery-Somers, Trustee Cash Kroll and Supervisor Nathan Skibbe. NAYES: None. Absent: None. Motion carried unanimously

## **INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT FOR FIRE DEPARTMENT ORGANIZATIONAL AND RESPONSE SERVICES**

Moved by Treasurer Laura Ellery-Somers and supported by Trustee Steve Lappan to submit the Township Board's and residents' concerns to the City of Alpena in writing for their input on the draft agreement. Roll call vote was taken. AYES: Trustee Norm Poli, Trustee Steve Lappan, Clerk Michele Palevich, Treasurer Laura Ellery-Somers, Trustee Cash Kroll, Trustee Russ Rhynard and Supervisor Nathan Skibbe. NAYES: None. Absent: None. Motion carried unanimously

**1010 TECHNOLOGY CENTER – CRLGG (CARES Act)**

Moved by Trustee Steve Lappan and supported by Trustee Russ Rhynard to approve the quote from 1010 Technology to upgrade the Boardroom’s video streaming services with the subtraction of one 65-inch 4k smart TV and one 43-inch 4k smart TV at a cost of \$4,372.70 plus the cost of labor from GL #101-265-931.000. Roll call vote was taken. AYES: Trustee Steve Lappan, Clerk Michele Palevich, Treasurer Laura Ellery-Somers, Trustee Cash Kroll, Trustee Russ Rhynard and Supervisor Nathan Skibbe. NAYES: None. Absent: None. Motion carried unanimously

**1010 TECHNOLOGY CENTER – SERVER QUOTE**

Moved by Treasurer Laura Ellery-Somers and supported by Clerk Michele Palevich to approve the quote from 1010 Technology Center for a new server at a cost of \$4,733.95 plus the cost of labor. 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. Motion carried unanimously.

**TENTATIVE AGREEMENT WITH LOCAL 1859 IAFF  
(INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FIRE FIGHTERS)**

Moved by Trustee Steve Lappan and supported by Trustee Norm Poli to ratify the Tentative Agreement with the IAFF for a 6-month extension expiring June 30, 2021 of the current contract, all other terms status quo. 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. Motion carried unanimously.

**PUBLIC SAFETY DEPARTMENT - EMPLOYEE RESIGNATION**

Moved by Trustee Russ Rhynard and supported by Clerk Michele Palevich to accept the resignation of Lieutenant Tom Tolen effective December 12, 2020. Roll call vote was taken. AYES: Trustee Cash Kroll, Trustee Russ Rhynard, Trustee Norm Poli, Trustee Steve Lappan, Clerk Michele Palevich, Treasurer Laura Ellery-Somers and Supervisor Nathan Skibbe. NAYES: None. Motion carried unanimously.

**UNITED HEALTHCARE**

Moved by Treasurer Laura Ellery-Somers and supported by Clerk Michele Palevich to sign an Agent of Record Letter to recognize Joseph Haney at Sterling Insurance Group as our exclusive insurance agent for the United Healthcare Policy #03Y1047. Voice Vote. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

**PUBLICLY FUNDED HEALTH INSURANCE CONTRIBUTION ACT  
ANNUAL OPT OUT VOTE**

Moved by Trustee Russ Rhynard and supported by Treasurer Laura Ellery-Somers that the Township exempt itself from the requirements of the Publicly Funded Health Insurance Contribution Act for the upcoming medical benefit plan coverage year. Roll call vote was taken. AYES: Trustee Norm Poli, Trustee Steve Lappan, Clerk Michele Palevich, Treasurer Laura Ellery-Somers, Trustee Cash Kroll, Trustee Russ Rhynard and Supervisor Nathan Skibbe. NAYES: None. Motion carried unanimously.

**ALPENA COUNTY EQUALIZATION DEPARTMENT -DESIGNATED ASSESSOR**

Moved by Trustee Russ Rhynard and supported by Treasurer Laura Ellery-Somers to approve the Alpena County Interlocal Agreement for County Designated Assessor. Roll call vote was taken. AYES: Trustee Steve Lappan, Clerk Michele Palevich, Treasurer Laura Ellery-Somers, Trustee Cash Kroll, Trustee Russ Rhynard, Trustee Norm Poli and Supervisor Nathan Skibbe. NAYES: None. Motion carried unanimously.

**R & R FIRE TRUCK REPAIR, INC. ESTIMATE**

Moved by Treasurer Laura Ellery-Somers and supported by Clerk Michele Palevich to approve the estimate from R & R Truck Repair, Inc. to repair the brakes on Engine #2 in the amount of \$3,688.92 with funds to be paid from GL #205-336-981.000 Vehicle Maintenance. 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. Motion carried unanimously.

**ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT – CLERK’S OFFICE**

Moved by Treasurer Laura Ellery-Somers and supported by Trustee Russ Rhynard to approve posting the Administrative Assistant position for the Clerk’s office in-house for 5 days per the FOPLC Union Contract and to advertise on the website, The Alpena News and/or Indeed if needed. 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. Motion carried unanimously.

**CLOSED SESSION**

Attorney/Client Privileged Communication – Water Litigation

Moved by Trustee Steve Lappan and supported by Clerk Michele Palevich that the Township Board enter into closed session in order to discuss confidential legal opinion with the Township’s attorney. Roll call vote was taken. AYES: Trustee Cash Kroll, Trustee Russ Rhynard, Trustee Norm Poli, Trustee Steve Lappan, Clerk Michele Palevich, Treasurer Laura Ellery-Somers and Supervisor Nathan Skibbe. NAYES: None. Motion carried unanimously.

The Township Board entered closed session at 8:15 p.m.

The Township Board came out of closed session at 9:13 p.m.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Beverly Banks commented on different technology options for the Boardroom.

**DISCUSSION**

Clerk Michele Palevich advised that the Township’s open enrollment period for benefits is December 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020.

Trustee Russ Rhynard commented on the General Ledger line item for Professional Fees in DPW and Supervisor Nathan Skibbe commented on budget adjustments.

Supervisor Nathan Skibbe commented that FEMA is hosting an online forum to discuss Alpena County preliminary flood insurance rate maps.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Trustee Norm Poli and supported by Trustee Steve Lappan to adjourn. Voice Vote. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 9:24 p.m.

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Clerk Michele Palevich

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Supervisor Nathan Skibbe