

PORTAGE TOWNSHIP BOARD
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

July 11, 2023 Approved Pat MacLachlan, Clerk

Meeting called to order by Supervisor Reed at 7:00 p.m.

Members present: Reed, MacLachlan, McKeage, Holbrook and Abram

Guest- Corina Clark, Mackinac County District 1 Commissioner

Pledge

Motion McKeage; support Holbrook to approve the agenda as presented. All ayes

Motion Holbrook; support McKeage to approve the minutes of 6/13/23 as presented. All ayes

Motion McKeage; support Abram to approve the bills as presented. EMS payroll \$14,357.50, Township payroll \$11,174.54, General \$25,308.14, Fire \$14,286.12, EMS \$29,565.08, Library \$515.69. All ayes.

Reports

Treasurer-Written report given to board, Tax bills have been sent out.

Clerk-The August board meeting will be 8/8/23 since there is not a special election until November. Highline contacted township about their services and would like to come to a meeting. Streetlight project is almost completed. The recreation area is busy with a 3 times a week, Pickle ball team and softball fields are being used Mondays and Fridays.

Trustees- Holbrook reported the school flooring will be installed in the next 10 days.

Assessor – L4015 received from the county. BOR is scheduled for 7/18 at 9 a.m.

July office hours will be 7/15 and 7/29. It will be posted.

Fire- Jeff Burton reported no runs in June.

EMS- 13 calls. Staffing remains at 2 Paramedics, 4 EMTs and 5 drivers. A possible EMT class in Newberry in the fall. An AED was donated and will be placed in a weatherproof box outside the Fish & Hunt for public use.

Park & Rec- Bernie Hubbard shared that the 5 year Township Park & Rec Plan needs to be updated.

Planning- McKeage said nothing has changed since last meeting.

Library- Linda gave update on what is going on at the library through the end of July. Internet access has been merged to our ATT account. Friends group is working on 501c3 status and have received donations. August 2 is a Quilt show and annual library book sale.

County Commissioner- Corina Clark introduced herself as our new District 1 commissioner. She has been working with Luce County Commissioner and others to lower the Big Lake to the legal level.

Action items

Old Business-

- 1. Resolution offered by Reed; second by Holbrook to place a question of raising .5 mill for 4 years for establishing a township library on the November 7, 2023 ballot. 5 yeas, 0 nays. Resolution accepted.**
- 2. Discussion about EMS ads placed in 5 newspapers with no responses. No Board action taken at this time.**
- 3. Motion McKeage, support Holbrook to sign the MCRC contracts for: 1.Mowing 20 miles of local roads \$1,000 (road/general fund), 2.Addition of gravel to the end of Long Point \$15,427 (road/general fund), 3.Paving correction at Sprang/S. Curtis Rd \$10,000(bond monies), 4.Upgrades to Carlson Rd \$15,767 (bond monies) and 5. N. Gould City Rd 5 culverts to be installed and ditching (bond monies). Final board approval after questions about the Ditching on N. Gould City Rd, are answered. All ayes**
- 4. Motion Reed, support Holbrook to replace community building and Fire barn furnaces/heaters per the quotes from Bowman. All ayes**

New Business-

- 1. MacLachlan presented a quote for \$11,000 to purchase 100' of dock to be seasonally installed at the end of Lake St. on the South Lake. This project was a suggestion given at the public hearing last year for projects to be funded by Covid monies. Discussion by Board and public, Reed to look into other options and report back in August. No action taken.**
- 2. Motion Reed; support Holbrook to purchase power lifts for our 2 ambulances. All ayes.**

Supervisor Report- Further problems with the easement at the end of Ketola Rd. Reed to look into situation.

Public Comment-

- Clarify S. Curtis/Sprang Rd repairs. What is being done about the pot holes on Long Point? What is the land plan for the recreation project?
- Captain Wiegand wants to put an ad in the paper thanking the donor of the AED. Possible offer AED/CPR classes to the community.
- Support is needed for HB 4012 that would allow townships to set speed limits. Signage is needed on H-33 for snowmobile speed limits.
- Sandtown Rd is dangerous for EMS transport as speed needs to be reduced due to road conditions. Speed of 15/20 mph for over 10 miles is problematic.
- What is the status of the review of the shed at 17994 Long Point? We are appalled with the work of the MCRC.

Motion Holbrook/Abram to adjourn 8:38 p.m.