

MICHIGAMME TOWNSHIP

William Seppanen, Supervisor

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Julia Anderson-Leake, Trustee

Donald DeRoche, Trustee

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TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING MINUTES

JANUARY 11, 2021—7:00 PM – VIA ZOOM – Meeting ID 571 416 4947

ATTENDANCE: Board Members: On site via Zoom: William Seppanen, Donald DeRoche

Off-site Via Zoom: Neil Hanson, Nicole Haskett, Julia Anderson-Leake

Guests: Debbie Kinnunen, Kurt Bursmaa, owner of Bursmaa Agency, Scott Gravedoni, Cindy Coleman, Rose McBride, Beth Koenig, Rhonda Boshears, Irene DeRoche, Jan Rosewall, John and Rachel Howe

- I. CALL TO ORDER – Seppanen called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm.
- II. ROLL CALL – Seppanen called the roll: Anderson-Leake, Haskett, DeRoche, Seppanen are present, Hanson is absent. There is a quorum.
- III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - recited
- IV. CONSENT AGENDA: Seppanen moved with Haskett seconding the motion to approve the consent agenda. 4 Ayes. 0 Nays. 1 Absent. Motion carried. Seppanen stated corrections to the minutes, one typo on VIII. 5. extra “The”, the second public comment – 8. correct library is open to read “three” days and not two, 13. correct “April” to state “March”. DeRoche requested that #8 Ice rink under New Business.
 1. AGENDA
 2. DECEMBER 14, 2020 BOARD MEETING MINUTES
 3. TREASURERS REPORT
 4. BILLS TO BE PAID
- V. PUBLIC COMMENT (Three Minutes) – McBride stated the health insurance plan sounds like a good plan and would support it for the Township employees.
- VI. BOARD COMMENT – DeRoche stated he saw many garbage bags out today that were not picked up and are still out. Anderson-Leake stated that the Township officials notify residents of the garbage schedule change. Haskett stated that perhaps we should be putting it on a Township social media account. Hanson thanked the Board for patience with him as he was just released from the hospital and he will call in again during the closed session. Seppanen stated that he had oral surgery this morning at 8 am but was feeling okay.
- VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:
 1. COMMUNITY BUILDING ROOF REPAIR REBID – Seppanen talked with the Premium Sheds owner, Nate Smith, that the Board chose to complete the repair. Mr. Smith will calculate the costs of materials and resubmit a new bid.
- VIII. NEW BUSINESS:
 1. BCBSM HEALTH INSURANCE PROPOSAL FOR FEBRUARY 2021 - Seppanen introduced Kurt Bursmaa to present a new health insurance proposal for 2021. Bursmaa Agency provides all compliance information for employees and also takes care of all adds and deletions and changes for employees and the employer. Could incur a savings on Hanson’s insurance of \$750 per year for making his policy Medicare primary. Can reduce employee’s liability by switching to a BCN program and having a deductible of \$2,000 out of pocket. Both the Hansons will be Medicare plan eligible in April, both could move to a Medicare Plan or remain on the Township’s plan. He stated that there is not pre-existing conditions that would preclude him from transferring to the new plan. Proposing to fund 2/3 of the deductible and the Township would still save premium dollars. The HSA funds never go away, they do not have to use it by a certain time. The total \$ amount for Johns’ contribution can be a total of \$8,200. Howe stated he likes the plan and would be agreeable to it. Call Kurt Bursmaa on Wednesday and paperwork needs to be into him by Friday. The Board discussed the funding of the health insurance deductible for the employees. The Board agrees to fund the HSA. Seppanen moved to accept the BCN plan with Haskett seconding. DeRoche moved that the Township contribute to the HSA plan to for a single and family plan and fund the HSA to the deductible with it being paid quarterly. Haskett seconded the motion. Roll Call: Haskett, Aye, DeRoche, Aye, Anderson-Leake, Aye, Seppanen, Aye, Hanson, Absent. 4 Ayes, 0 Nays, 1 Absent. Motion carried.

2. REQUEST FOR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS FROM DEPARTMENTS – Seppanen stated the CIP forms have been updated and are available to the departments to make CIP requests for consideration in the next five years budget.
 3. BUDGET WORKSHOP DATES – Seppanen asked for dates and times from the Board to hold the workshops and should schedule at least three dates. Wednesdays work for the Board members to begin at 9:00 am beginning February 3rd, 10th and 17th and if additional days are needed the 24th. The CIP scoring date will be on February 24th at 9:00 am. The Township will post the workshop with a restriction of only having a total of 10 people in the room with masks and social distancing. The CIP requests need to be received by February 2nd.
 4. BOARD OF REVIEW MEMBER APPOINTMENT – Seppanen stated that he has received three applications for Board of Review Laura Mattson, Ruth Starr and Nancy Ferro. Seppanen nominated Ruth Starr and Nancy Ferro to the Board of Review; one as a regular member and the other an alternate. At the organizational meeting the regular member and the alternate will be determined. Leake-Anderson seconded the nomination. Roll Call: Haskett, Aye, DeRoche, Aye, Anderson-Leake, Aye, Seppanen, Aye, Hanson, Absent. 4 Ayes, 0 Nays, 1 Absent. Motion carried.
 5. FIRE BOARD MEMBER APPOINTMENT – Seppanen stated that he has received one application for Michigamme Township’s Fire Board member from Larry Frisk. Seppanen nominated Larry Frisk to represent Michigamme Township on the Fire Board for a three-year term with DeRoche seconding the motion. Roll Call: Haskett, Aye, DeRoche, Aye, Anderson-Leake, Aye, Seppanen, Aye, Hanson, Absent. 4 Ayes, 0 Nays, 1 Absent. Motion carried.
 6. ADDITIONAL QUICKBOOKS USER – Seppanen stated that the Board previously decided to not add a fourth user to the QuickBooks software. He stated that the Township should reconsider this decision and add a fourth user so that the Receptionist can access QuickBooks as a back-up to the Clerk, Treasurer, and Administrative Assistant. The upgrade to QuickBooks Desktop Premier 2021 will cost \$1749 and will allow four users with the license. Seppanen suggests that the Board purchase the upgrade beginning in the new fiscal year in April 2021.
 7. BUDGET RESOLUTIONS – Seppanen read the budget resolutions needed. Clarification was made as to the Fire Fund for Radios, one account is for the Fire Department and the other is for First Responders. Haskett moved to accept the budget resolutions as presented with DeRoche seconding. Roll Call. Haskett, Aye, DeRoche, Aye, Anderson-Leake, Aye, Seppanen, Aye, Hanson, Absent. 4 Ayes, 0 Nays, 1 Absent. Motion carried.
 8. ICE RINK – DeRoche stated that he would support using the Township employees to maintain the ice rink. Seppanen stated the Fire Department asked that the Township does not use the John Deere tractor on the rink as it is too heavy. Paul Paquette has volunteered at no charge to keep light snowfalls removed using the Township John Deere lawn mower brush. For heavy snowfalls, the Fire Department personnel will clean it off.
- IX. PUBLIC COMMENT (Three Minutes) - Cindy Coleman stated she called Seppanen about the garbage pickup today; Jan Rosewall questioned how the ice rink will be cleaned after a snow storm; Scott Gravedoni stated that the DDA has been working on signage for the Township designating businesses and Township attractions, adding dog clean up stations around the Township, and suggested the Township consider accessing fines for non-compliance of clean up by dog owners; Jan Rosewall asked about dogs being allowed on the beach; Rhonda Gravedoni suggested that the announcement of garbage pick-up dates be put on the private FaceBook accounts that refer to the history of Michigamme by residents Jim Innerabner and Irene DeRoche.
- X. BOARD COMMENT – Anderson-Leake stated the library doors will be installed on February 14th. Seppanen reminded everyone that the Township will hold a Public Hearing regarding the Recreation Plan on January 26th at 5 pm with a Special Township Board Meeting following the hearing. This Public Hearing has been advertised in the Mining Journal and posted in the appropriate spots in the Township, the Special Board Meeting will be posted as specified.
- XI. CLOSED SESSION – Seppanen moved to go into close session with Haskett seconding. 4 Ayes, 0 Nays, 1 Absent. Motion carried. The Township Board entered closed session at 9:10 pm. Seppanen called Hanson to return to the Board meeting for the closed session. The Township Board resumed open session at 10:05 pm.
1. DPW EMPLOYEE STATUS - Seppanen moved to request a doctor’s release from Jan’s doctor and if it indicates he can only return to light duty Jan will be offered a pay rate of \$17 per hour, which would encourage him to return to full duties with full time pay. Hanson seconded the motion. Roll Call: DeRoche, Aye, Anderson-Leake, Aye, Haskett, Aye, Seppanen, Aye, Hanson, Aye. 5 Ayes. 0 Nays. Motion carried.
 2. BOARD PACKETS – no action taken on this item.
- XII. ADJOURNMENT – Hanson moved to adjourn the meeting with Seppanen seconding. 5 Ayes. 0 Nays. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 10:12 pm.