

MICHIGAMME TOWNSHIP

William Seppanen, Supervisor
Neil Hanson, Clerk
Elizabeth LoCicero, Treasurer

PO Box 220
Michigamme, MI 49861
Phone: 906-323-6608
Fax: 906-323-6344

Robert DellAngelo, Trustee
George Kendall, Trustee

admin@michigametownship.com

TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING MINUTES

OCTOBER 12, 2020—7:00 PM – VIA ZOOM – Meeting ID 571 416 4947

ATTENDANCE: Board Members: On site: William Seppanen, George Kendall, Neil Hanson
Via Zoom: Robert DellAngelo, Elizabeth LoCicero

Guests: Debbie Kinnunen, Ruth Starr, Beth Howe-Koenig, Laura Mattson, Rhonda Boshears, Donald DeRoche, Rose McBride, Chris Holmes, UPEA, Scott Gravedoni

- I. CALL TO ORDER – Seppanen called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.
- II. ROLL CALL - Hanson called the roll: Kendall, LoCicero, Seppanen, DellAngelo, Hanson. All Board members are present, there is a quorum.
- III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Recited.
- IV. CONSENT AGENDA: LoCicero asked to add #5 under Unfinished Business – County Rd 607. LoCicero moved to approve the agenda with Seppanen supported. 5 Ayes. 0 Nays. Motion carried.
 1. AGENDA
 2. JULY 22, 2020 SPECIAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES - Approved
 3. JULY 22, 2020 SPECIAL BOARD MEETING CLOSED SESSION MINUTES – Hanson moved to approve the closed session minutes with Seppanen supporting. Seppanen, Aye, Hanson, Aye, Kendall, Aye, LoCicero, Abstain, DellAngelo, Abstain. 3 Ayes. 0 Nays. 2 Abstain. Motion carried.
 4. AUGUST 19, 2020 SPECIAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES – Approved with the following changes: where it states “\$55,000” change to \$60,000 contingency fund and take out the words “possibly” for the annual sewer increase.
 5. AUGUST 27, SPECIAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES – Postponed, not available
 6. AUGUST 27, SPECIAL BOARD MEETING CLOSED SESSION MINUTES – Postponed, not available
 7. SEPTEMBER 14, 2020 BOARD MEETING MINUTES - Approved
 8. SEPTEMBER 29, 2020 SPECIAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES - Approved
 9. TREASURERS REPORT - Approved
 10. BILLS TO BE PAID - Approved
- V. PUBLIC COMMENT (Three Minutes) – Rose McBride stated that Bill is hard to hear on the Zoom.
- VI. BOARD COMMENT – LoCicero stated that she sent the quarterly investment report to the Board members today. The investments are doing well even with the problems experienced with Covid-19.
- VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:
 1. COMMUNITY BUILDING ROOF REPAIR BID ESTIMATE – Hanson stated that he believes that the insurance company will go with the 2x6 rafters. He will find out tomorrow. This will allow the additional amount to be released.
 2. SICK LEAVE FOR WORKERS-OPTIONS – The Board discussed reviewing the current PTO benefit and postponing the decision to add additional sick leave for employees until the next meeting. DellAngelo supports adding sick leave as PTO rather than as sick leave specifically. The employee handbook can be amended as needed.
 3. BIDS FOR OFFICE HEATING/COOLING SYSTEM – The Board wants to get specifics from the bidder’s proposals to readily distinguish the differences with the two systems. The Board would like to send the bidders a letter to state that the Township is postponing the installation until the next Capital Improvement Process in the spring.
 4. UPLC UPDATE – The Board discussed the update that the lawyer, Van Covering, emailed to Seppanen for the Board to review. The Board agrees that the Township needs to recoup the lawyer fees incurred for fighting this tax dispute. LoCicero moved that the Township submit a list of the Township’s counteroffer with DellAngelo supporting. 5 Ayes. 0 Nays. Motion carried.

5. COUNTY ROAD 607 – LoCicero stated that she recalls that Mr. Iwanicki wanted the Township to respond to the Road Commission with its preferences for paving this road. DellAngelo stated that the Township is spending a lot of money where the revenue receives in taxes is only 5%. He added that the Road Commission is postponing paving projects due to expected State funding cuts due to Covid-19. Seppanen will follow-up with Iwanicki to see what they may need from the Township and what they are proposing for future paving.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS:

1. LICENSED SEWER OPERATOR AGREEMENT – Seppanen stated that the lawyer has prepared these agreements for both DPW employees. LoCicero moved that the Township implement this licensing agreement for both employees with DellAngelo supporting. Roll Call: Seppanen, Aye, Hanson, Aye, DellAngelo, Aye, Kendall, Aye. 5 Ayes. 0 Nays. Motion carried.
2. UPEA WASTEWATER CERTIFIED OPERATOR ASSISTANCE PROPOSAL – DellAngelo moved to accept the proposal of using Chris Holmes for the Township Sewer Operator assistance and training while waiting for the employees to take and pass the State test with Seppanen supporting. Roll Call: LoCicero, Aye, Seppanen, Aye, DellAngelo, Aye, Kendall, Aye, Hanson, Aye. 5 Ayes. 0 Nays. 0 Absent. Motion carried.
3. BIDS FOR GARAGE HEAT – DellAngelo stated that he believes that the Township already allowed for this expense in the CIP process at so much per year expecting it to be at least \$15,000. This bid has come in quite a bit less than that amount. Hanson moved that the Township accept the bid from Bianco Plumbing and Heating with DellAngelo supporting. 5 Ayes. 0 Nays. Motion carried.
4. AIRGAS QUOTE – The Board reviewed the proposed leasing of the tanks and torches from Airgas.
 - a. SALE OF TORCHES AND TANKS – Seppanen stopped at Perry’s garage sale this past weekend and discovered this set for sale. LoCicero moved to purchase Perry’s equipment with DellAngelo supporting. Roll Call: DellAngelo, Aye, Hanson, Aye, Seppanen, Aye, LoCicero, Aye, Kendall, Aye. 5 Ayes. 0 Nays. Motion carried.
5. AD FOR ZONING ADMINISTRATOR/ENFORCEMENT OFFICER – Seppanen stated that DellAngelo is resigning as Zoning Administrator effective January 1, 2021. LoCicero stated that the Township needs to put together a job description and research what to expect as the wages for a Zoning Administrator.
6. MOOSE DROP INN SEWER CHARGES – ORDINANCE – The Board discussed the ordinance REU’s per what is listed for a restaurant like hers. DellAngelo moved that her restaurant be classified as a restaurant with dinners only and be charged the user rate of 2.5 with Seppanen supporting. Roll Call: DellAngelo, Aye, LoCicero, Aye, Kendall, Aye, Seppanen, Aye, Hanson, Aye. 5 Ayes. 0 Nays. Motion carried.
7. SHORT TERM RENTAL ORDINANCE PROPOSED CHANGE – DellAngelo moved to strike the 14-day exception in the current Short-Term Rental Ordinance with LoCicero supporting. 5 Ayes. 0 Nays. Motion carried.
8. 2 MAIN STREET LOTS ADJACENT TO JOE COX – Seppanen stated that City of Negaunee have promoted providing a tax break to new businesses coming into their city. Joe Cox is interested in purchasing the two lots that were formerly the Stone’s Throw and the adjacent lot. DellAngelo stated that this may be an incentive to promote businesses to move into the area for development. LoCicero stated that it should be developed into a Township policy if allowed. DellAngelo stated that the Township should research how to implement this proposal. Seppanen stated he will ask Negaunee Township their process and details. The Board agreed to explore this item.
9. RECYCLING – Seppanen stated that he spoke to Bradley at MCSWMA for an explanation of the single stream recycling program specifics. The Township can still use our own trailers. The Township needs to decide if glass should be included since the collection needs to be separate. DellAngelo asked to find out the number of loads that have been contaminated and must be put in the landfill. Glass collection could be added later if the recycling of other items goes well. If the residents persist on mixing glass and non-recycling items into the recycling trailers it defeats the purpose and would not be cost effective to continue. The Board discussed providing signage to explain what cannot be included. The Board decided to start without glass collection for now.

IX. PUBLIC COMMENT (Three Minutes) - None

X. BOARD COMMENT - None

XI. ADJOURNMENT – Seppanen moved to adjourn the meeting with Hanson supporting. 5 Ayes. 0 Nays. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.