

...May 29, 2020...

The regular monthly meeting and Public Hearings of the Board of Trustees for the Charter Township of Calumet were held at the Township office on May 29, 2020.

Attending were: Supervisor Tim Gasperich, Treasurer Fay Mattson, Clerk Beth Salmela, Trustees, David Yeo, Jeffrey West and Paul Lehto.

Absent: Trustee Robert Zander

Guests: Tom Tikkanen; Houghton County Commissioner, John Sullivan, Chris Holmes; UPEA and Craig Hughes; Swedetown Trails President.

Supervisor Gasperich called the public hearings to order at 1:00

John Sullivan gave a presentation on the repairs and repainting of the interior and exterior of the Swedetown Standpipe.

The reason is for safety concerns and to keep it operational. The cost would be \$504,300. \$404,300 could be bonded at 2% for 20 years. There would be a \$100,000 down payment to be taken from the Fire/Water fund.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Craig Hughes from the Swedetown Trails Club stated that the Club would like to work together on the project.

The second Public Hearing was to review an application for an industrial facility tax exemption REL would like a tax relief on a new building in the Renaissance zone.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

The public hearings closed at 1:07.

Supervisor Gasperich called the regular monthly Board Meeting to order at 1:07

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion by Trustee Yeo and supported by Trustee West to approve the April 24, 2020 minutes and the May 8 special meeting minutes as presented.

Carried 6 0.

NEW BUSINESS:

Motion by Trustee West and supported by Trustee Yeo to adopt a resolution for water system improvements and designate an authorized project representative.

Voice Vote:

Ayes 6

Nays 0

Resolution is attached

Motion by Trustee West and supported by Trustee Lehto to approve a resolution for REL to apply for and industrial facilities tax exemption.

Voice Vote:

Ayes: 6

Nays: 0

Motion Carried

Resolution is attached

Motion by Trustee West and supported by Trustee Yeo to accept and sign REL, Inc. industrial facilities exemption agreement and affidavit of fees.

Carried 6 0

Motion by Treasurer Mattson and supported by Clerk Salmela to adopt a resolution for the Swedetown Recreational Area to submit a grant request to its principal insurance carrier for security cameras.

Voice Vote

Ayes: 6

Nays: 0

Motion Carried

Resolution is attached

Motion by Trustee Lehto and supported by Trustee Yeo to repair part of the roof on the DeMarois Building for approx. \$2000. The monies will be taken from the Building and Maintenance Fund.

Carried 6 0.

A discussion was held on houses on leased land. Some of them have delinquent personal property taxes. Treasurer Mattson will send out letters.

Motion by Trustee Yeo and supported by Clerk Salmela to sign an agreement with UPEA to look into getting a loan from Rural Development for the Swedetown Water tower project.

Yeas: 5

Trustee West abstained

Carried 5 0.

Motion by Trustee West and supported by Treasurer Mattson to purchase playground equipment for the Recreation Park. \$20,000 from the Portage Health Foundation grant and \$21,000 from the DDA fund.

Carried 6 0.

OLD BUSINESS:

Supervisor Gasperich informed the Board that The KHNP Advisor Commission denied our grant request for money to help replace the roof at the old state police post.

Motion by Treasurer Mattson and supported by Clerk Salmela to take an additional \$7500 from the DDA Fund and \$7500 from the Building and Ground Fund for the roof repairs.

Carried 6 0.

Supervisor Gasperich reported that the Village of Laurium is going to take back their garbage truck.

Supervisor Gasperich reported that we made over \$15,000 on the sale of timber we had cut.

Motion by Trustee West and supported by Trustee Yeo to engage as special counsel, Miller Canfield, for the possible future purchase of the Michigan American Water Co.

CORRESPONDENCE:

None

Fire Department report:

None.

Motion by Treasurer Mattson and supported by Trustee Yeo to pay the bills as presented.

Carried 6 0.

GUEST APPEARANCES:

Tom Tikkanen spoke about the airport water system He also spoke about sited for a new jail. The Calumet Township Board of Trustees presented Trustee Lehto with a plaque honoring his years of service as the Townships Supervisor.

Motion by Trustee Yeo and supported by Trustee Mattson to adjourn at 1:50

Carried 6 0.

Timothy Gasperich, Supervisor

Beth Salmela, Clerk