

...May 28, 2021...

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 28, 2021.

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

Absent: None

Guests: Tom Tikkanen, Houghton County Commissioner and a group of Township residents attending for the Public Hearings. The names of the guests are attached.

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Supervisor Gasperich called the meeting to order at 1:00p.m.

The purpose of the first public hearing was regarding an Industrial Facilities Tax Exemption application for Calumet Electronics Corporation.

Public comment:

Jeff Radcliff from KEDA spoke about the new jobs that will be created by Calumet Electronics. Tom Tikkanen asked if there would be a follow-up report for the exemption. Jeff stated that there will be a report due in 24 months. The exemption will last for twelve years.

The 1st public hearing closed at 1:07p.m.

The 2nd public hearing opened at 1:08p.m.

The purpose of the 2nd Public Hearing was on the proposed farm animal ordinance.

Public comment:

Many of the township residents that attended the hearing were against the ordinance.

Mary Ruonavaara spoke about the lack of ticks when there are chickens around.

Nick Lambert spoke about his sheep and that none of his neighbors complained.

Supervisor Gasperich read a letter from Tim Porter who was also against the ordinance.

Steward Kauppila stated that he checked with all his neighbors before he got his chickens.

Alex Ziemba stated that she bought her house with the understanding that she could have chickens.

After a lengthy discussion, the public hearing closed at 1:45.

Motion by Trustee Yeo and supported by Trustee West to approve the April 30, 2021 minutes as presented.

Carried 7 0.

NEW BUSINESS:

Motion by Trustee Lehto and supported by Trustee West to table the Farm Animal Ordinance, for now, to see if the Board can improve the context of the ordinance.

Voice vote:

Yeas: 7

Nays: 0.

Motion by Treasurer Mattson and supported by Clerk Salmela to approve Resolution 21-05.

The resolution is to approve the Calumet Electronics Corporation application for Industrial Facilities Tax Exemption.

Voice Vote:

Yeas: 7

Nays: 0

Motion by Trustee West and supported by Treasurer Mattson to accept the Calumet Electronics Corporation Industrial Facilities Exemption Agreement and Affidavit of Fees.

Carried 7 0.

Supervisor Gasperich informed the Board that Gary Lassila has stepped down as the Townships Ordinance Officer.

Supervisor Gasperich informed the Board of the summer road work that is planned in Swedetown and Florida Location.

The Keweenaw Trails Club is purchases two acres from Tom Moyle.
The Board will investigate a refund for the survey money that was spent for our property if Ray Chase brings in the invoice.

OLD BUSINESS:

Supervisor Gasperich gave an update on the Coronavirus Recovery Fund. He has spoken to U.S. Representative Jack Bergman's office to get more information on how the money can be spent.

CORRESPONDENCE:

None.

FIRE DEPT REPORT:

None.

GUEST APPEARANCES:

Tom Tikkanen spoke about the fire that was in Calumet Village.

Motion by Trustee Yeo and supported by Treasurer Mattson to pay the bills as presented.
Carried 7 0.

Motion by Trustee Yeo and supported by Treasurer Mattson to adjourn at 2:15.
Carried 7 0.

Timothy Gasperich, Supervisor

Beth Salmela, Clerk