

...February 23, 2024 ...

The regular monthly meeting and the public hearings of the Board of Trustees for the Charter Township of Calumet were held at the Township office on February 23, 2024.

Attending were Supervisor Timothy Gasperich, Clerk Robin Hicks, Treasurer Lana Hyrkas, Trustees, David Yeo, Jeffrey West, Gary Lassila and Thomas Helppi.

Absent: none

Guests: Tom Tikkanen: Houghton County Commissioner, Larry Zurawski: Swedetown Trails Club, Graham Jaehnig: Daily Mining Gazette, Brian Taivalkoski: Calumet Electronics Corporation, Nina Helppi, Ryan Helppi, Christopher Davidson: CLK school Superintendent, Doug Jurmu, Josh Loukus, Adam Loukus, Mark Halonen, Brent Halonen, Nathan Sturos, Marc Madigan, George Kiiskila Jr., Adam Taivalkoski and Sam Stonelake

The meetings opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Supervisor Gasperich called the Public Hearings to order at 1:00. The purpose of these hearings was to review the Calumet Electronics IFE, DNR Grants for the Colosseum and Lehto Ball Field.

Public Comment: George Kiiskila discussed the Colosseum Grant with a 25% match the max would be \$400K and needing \$125K from the Township.

Discussion was then held regarding the grant application for Lehto Ball Field. This would be used for dugouts, fencing, infield work and a batting cage that would require \$25-30K from the Township.

Trustee West motioned to close the public hearing at 1:10, Trustee Yeo supported. Carried 7/0.

PUBLIC APPEARANCES:

Brent Halonen had a presentation regarding Short Term Rentals, asking for us to look into adopting an ordinance to limit them as there are over 100 in the Township. Discussions held regarding the prices of homes going up, businesses not being able to hire employees due to lack of housing. Many owners of these homes do not live in Houghton County, so they are entire homes left empty when not in use. Supervisor Gasperich mentioned our next Recreation Plan meeting coming up where we can discuss a possible ordinance. He said we will post the meeting dates and then it can be further discussed during public comment.

Motion by Trustee West and supported by Trustee Lassila to approve the January 26, 2024 regular minutes as presented. Carried 7/0.

NEW BUSINESS.

Motion by Trustee West and supported by Trustee Yeo to pass Resolution 24-03 to approve Calumet Electronics Corporation Application for Industrial Facilities Tax Exemption

Voice Vote:

Ayes: Yeo, Hicks, Helppi, Hyrkas, Gasperich, West, Lassila

Nays: 0

Resolution 24-03 passed.

Copy is attached.

Motion by Treasurer Hyrkas and supported by Trustee Helppi to pass Resolution 24-04 to approve applying for a grant for improvements at the Paul Lehto Ballfield:

Voice Vote:

Ayes: Gasperich, Yeo, Hicks, Helppi, Hyrkas, West, Lassila

Nays: 0

Resolution 24-04 passed. Copy

is attached.

Motion by Treasurer Hyrkas and supported by Trustee Helppi to pass Resolution 24-05 to approve submitting a Grant request to the Michigan DNR Spark Grant Program for a new roof for the Colosseum.

Voice Vote:

Ayes: Yeo, Hicks, Helppi, West, Hyrkas, Gasperich, Lassila

Nays: 0

Resolution 24-05 passed.

Copy is attached.

Motion by Trustee West and supported by Treasurer Hyrkas to approve paying the annual KEDA membership dues of \$1000.

Carried 7/0

Motion by Clerk Hicks and approved by Trustee Lassila to apply for a Copper Shores Grant for Phase 1 of the Swedetown Chalet Expansion Project. Carried 7/0.

OLD BUSINESS:

Depot Sale to Jim Flood.

Motion by Treasurer Hyrkas and supported by Trustee Helppi to pass Resolution 24-06 for Member Consent to approve the sale of Real Property regarding the sale of The Depot to James Flood.

Voice Vote:

Ayes: Yeo, Hicks, Helppi, West, Hyrkas, Gasperich, Lassila

Nays: 0

Resolution 24-06 passed.

Copy is attached.

Motion by Trustee Helppi and supported by Treasurer Hyrkas to approve using ARPA funds for projects at Swedetown, Calumet Lake and Waterworks Park. Carried 7/0.

A discussion was held regarding the \$60K donation from Daniel Kargela. All agree that he would've liked it to go towards the Colosseum.

Correspondence: A letter was received from the CLK Rotary regarding the selling of property on Sixth Street Extension to Calumet Electronics. They are hoping we do not turn that property into an industrial park as they believe it would serve better as something that welcomes visitors and would represent who we are as a community.

Fire Department report: CTFR responded to 2 emergency calls in February, bringing total to 6 for the year. Their training for the month was doing a walk through in all of the Calumet Electronics buildings. They are set to receive their new firefighting gear in the next few weeks. A new starter and alternator were installed in their 1994 tanker. Their Saber pumper is in need of pump repair, an estimate was provided. A section of drain pipe is broken apart in the drain in the new section also.

Motion by Trustee Helppi and supported by Treasurer Hyrkas to pay the bills as presented. Carried 7/0.

Motion by Trustee West and supported by Trustee Yeo to adjourn at 1:50. Carried 7/0.

Timothy Gasperich, Supervisor

Robin Hicks, Clerk