

Regular Board Meeting
Monday, October 24, 2022 at 5:00 p.m.

1. Meeting was called to order by the Supervisor and began with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.
2. **ROLL CALL**- Sue Roberts – Trustee, Hope Tarnaski – Treasurer, Jeff Randall – Supervisor, Erin Berg – Clerk, and Beverly Ikola – Trustee. Also present were Lisa Hegbloom, Utility Clerk and 3 residents.
3. **PRESENTATION OF THE MINUTES** –MOTION by Ikola supported by Randall to approve the minutes from the October 10, 2022 meeting. Motion carried.
4. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA** – Ikola recommended adding “Baseball Field” to the agenda. MOTION by Randall, supported by Roberts to add “Baseball Field” to New Business Item B. Motion carried.
5. **PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS** –None.
6. **PETITIONS**- The Supervisor informed the Board that he received a complain about a resident on Mill Street with a large amount of lumber in their yard. The Blight Officer was notified and will speak to the resident.
7. **COMMUNICATIONS**: - The Supervisor received a letter from Sue Cameron, AFSCME Union Representative, reminding the union about the upcoming contract renewal. The letter included a list of suggested meeting dates.

GRSWMA – A letter from Chris Ann Bressette was received stating that due to the increasing costs in fuel and operations, their board approved a rate increase of 50 cents per household. The Townships new monthly amount will be \$9.25 beginning on January 1, 2023.

A letter to Steven Hamilton, President of the Gogebic Range Trail Authority, from Charles Skinner, President of Midwest Family Ski Resorts, was presented. The letter stated that due to the unsuccessful attempts at securing additional insurance coverage, the skil hill will not be able to give any more consideration in letting the snowmobile trail continue through their property.

The Supervisor received a letter of resignation from DPW employee, Mykahl Kirby.

8. REPORTS – BOARDS & COMMITTEES

BASA – The sewer connection between the two ski hills, as well as the grants available for sewer improvements were discussed.

PAUD – The Board learned that the Powdermill Inn is not hooked up to the sewer system within the Powderhorn Area Utility District.

GRSWMA – Currently, the GRSWMA is paying \$5,000 per month on a loan for an End Loader. The loan is estimated to be paid in full in January. Once that happens, the \$5,000 will be put into an equipment replacement funds for future trucks and equipment.

Utilities – The Utility Clerk notified the Board that of the 33 water shutoff notices that were sent, only 3 were shut off. Those residents who were shut off, questioned forgiveness of the \$150 fee to be turned back on if the bill was paid in full. MOTION by Randall, support by Tarnaski to continue to not waive any fees and/or offer payment plans for residents who are delinquent on their water bills. Motion

carried by roll call vote. The Utility Clerk reminded the board that this quarters water bills are due on Wednesday, October 26, 2022.

9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

COMPLAINT SAARI – There was nothing to report at the time. By the recommendation of the Township Attorney, the issue will be revisited in one month.

UNION CONTRACT – COMMITTEE APPOINTMENT – A discussion was had on which board members would be able/willing to be on the Negotiations Committee. MOTION by Tarnaski, support by Ikola to appoint Jeff Randall as one member of the Committee. MOTION by Ikola, support by Berg to appoint Hope Tarnaski as the other member if they should both choose to accept. Motion carried by roll call vote.

AUDIT REPORT – The Clerk will reach out to the auditor to inquire about possible dates to make a formal presentation of this year's audit. No action was necessary.

LAND PURCHASE – FAVERO – In the past, Mr. Favero had approached the Board about purchasing a parcel of land on the east side of Verona Road. The land would have to have been put up for public auction. At the time, the sale price would have been \$750 per acre. Mr. Favero rescinded his request and asked that the Board not sell the land. When revisiting the request, if the Township were to sell the land, there would be a possibility that they would have to purchase a portion of it back because of the potential motorized and nonmotorized trail. MOTION by Tarnaski, support by Ikola to table the matter until the Board knows more about the placement of the proposed trail. Motion carried by roll call vote.

LAND PURCHASE – TASKILA – In a letter from Mr. Taskila, he requested purchasing 75' of land owned by the Township on the corner of Belmont and Verona roads to construct a new garage. The Board learned that there is an existing water main on the proposed site. If the garage were to be constructed, there would be no way to access the water main. MOTION by Tarnaski, support by Roberts to table the matter until the Board knows more about the infrastructure and how the future water/sewer project would affect it. Motion carried by roll call vote.

10. NEW BUSINESS

DPW RESIGNATION / NEW HIRE – The Board learned about the resignation of DPW employee Mykahl Kirby, whose last day will be Friday, October 28th. MOTION by Tarnaski, support by Roberts to go forward with the advertisement of the position opening with the deadline to apply set for November 11, 2022. Motion carried by roll call vote.

BASEBALL FIELD – A concern about residents and others using the baseball field as a dog park was brought to the Boards attention. A discussion was had on ways to keep pets off the field. MOTION by Tarnaski, support by Roberts to look into purchasing a sign that states animals are not allowed on the field. Motion carried by roll call vote.

11. TREASURER'S REPORT – The balances in each of the Township's accounts were reported.

12. **APPROVE PAYMENT OF BILLS, PAYROLL & MILEAGE** –The following checks were presented for payment:

FUND	CHECK NUMERS	AMOUNT
General Fund	# 15934-15958	\$17,032.78
Water Fund	# 22262 - 22270	\$34,284.10
Anvil Sewer	#	\$
Ramsay Sewer	#	\$
West End Sewer	#	\$
Blackjack Water	#	\$

MOTION by Tarnaski supported by Ikola to pay the bills as presented. Motion carried by roll call vote.

13. **PUBLIC COMMENT AND OTHER BUSINESS**- There will be a group going around to make sure that the fire numbers at residences match what the County Emergency Management System has.

A concern was heard about large equipment vehicles damaging Prospect Drive. The Supervisor stated that he will contact the County to see if there are any restrictions that can be enforced.

A comment was made regarding the snowstorm that the County had endured and how well the crews did to clean up the aftermath of the storm.

14. **ADJOURNMENT** – MOTION by Tarnaski supported by Roberts to adjourn the meeting at 6:45 p.m. Motion carried.

These minutes are respectfully submitted:

Erin Berg, Township Clerk