

Regular Board Meeting
Monday, May 8, 2023 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; Dave Macomber, Blight Officer, seven residents.
3. **PRESENTATION OF THE MINUTES –MOTION** by Tarnaski, support by Berg to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried.
4. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA – MOTION** by Randall, support by Tarnaski to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.
5. **PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS –None.**
6. **PETITIONS-** None.
7. **COMMUNICATIONS:** - A letter from the Gogebic County Firefighter Training Council was presented. The letter stated that if training classes are not filled with the required number of attendees, the funds that are received to allocate these trainings are at risk of being returned to the State unused.

The Gogebic County Forestry and Parks Fiscal Year 2022 Annual Report was presented. The Township received the PILT check for 2022.

Motion by Randall, support by Roberts to accept the communications and place them on file. Motion carried.

8. **REPORTS – BOARDS & COMMITTEES –** The Supervisor updated those in attendance on the e-coli event that took place in the area’s City’s and Townships over the past two weeks. The contaminated water was found in the Chicago Mine water source, and a boil warning was immediately issued. A discussion took place on the water testing process and measures that were taken to ensure that the contamination would dissipate.

Utilities – The Utility Clerk informed the Board that 38 accounts are at risk of having their utilities shut off. Once the notices are mailed, customers will have 30 days to pay. The Utility Clerk asked the Board if payment plans were allowable at this time. MOTION by Tarnaski, support by Ikola, to only allow the customers the allotted 30 days to make their payments. Failure to pay within the 30 days will result in the utilities being shut off. Motion carried by roll call vote.

Blight – The Blight Officer notified the Board that he and the Township Attorney met to discuss the ongoing blight issues within the Township and provided the Board with a list of residents whose properties are currently in violation with the Townships blight ordinance.

A resident who currently owns the property that was blighted by an individual was in attendance to discuss his plans to get the property cleaned up. A discussion took place on who is responsible to bring the property up to code; the property owner or the individual who transferred the blight to the property. MOTION by Tarnaski, support by Ikola, to authorize the Supervisor and Blight Officer to continue to work with the individual on a plan to get the property cleaned up with a deadline of June

Proposed

1, 2023. Motion carried. Blight Officer Macomber gave Mr. Dietz a copy of the letter during the meeting.

Another resident with blighted property was in attendance to discuss his plans to get his property cleaned up. A lengthy discussion took place on whether the individual is running a business or if it is a hobby, and if it were a business, what steps would need to be taken to get the proper permits. A question on what the property is currently zoned was also discussed. MOTION by Tarnaski, support by Ikola, to authorize the Supervisor to speak with the Township Attorney about the situation. Motion carried by roll call vote.

9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A) COMPLAINT – SAARI UPDATE – Updated on this were given during the Blight Officers report.

B) POST OFFICE – A resident reached out to Representative Markkanen’s office and received a response from one of his legal aides. A phone number, mailing address, and email address were given for Congressman Jack Bergman. They are as follows:

Phone: (906)273-2227 – Jack Bergman’s Gwinn Office
 Address: 125 G. Ave Suite B-119 Gwinn, MI 49841
 Email: gregmarkkanen@house.mi.gov

C) SEEKING NEW AUDITOR – To date, there have not been any communications received from any of the auditing firms that the Township reached out to. Follow up phone calls will be made.

10. NEW BUSINESS - None

11. TREASURER’S REPORT – The Township received the 2022 tax settlement check from Gogebic County in the amount of \$57,754.06.

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

FUND	CHECK NUMERS	AMOUNT
General Fund	# 16232-16260	\$20,558.22
Water Fund	# 22331-22335	\$39,594.19
Anvil Sewer	# 1391	\$179.36
Ramsay Sewer	# 2859-2860	\$743.08
West End Sewer	# 1284	\$3,859.67
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- A question was asked about the process of purchasing an alley that is unusable. A question was asked about how the softball field help up throughout the inclement weather; when the park will officially open; and if the Spring Clean-Up is still being held on May 19, 2023. MOTION by Tarnaski, support by Berg to push back the Spring Clean-Up to May 26, 2023. Motion carried.

14. **ADJOURNMENT** – MOTION by Ikola supported by Tarnaski to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 p.m.
Motion carried.

These minutes are respectfully submitted:

Erin Berg, Township Clerk