

Regular Board Meeting
February 26, 2024 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, Steven Selin, Fire Chief and 6 residents.
3. **PRESENTATION OF THE MINUTES – MOTION** by Roberts, support by Ikola to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried.
4. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA – MOTION** by Randall, support by Roberts to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.
5. **PUBLIC COMMENT –** A resident asked if the blight issues within the Township will be back on the agenda. The Supervisor stated that with spring approaching, blighted properties will be on the agenda again.
6. **PETITIONS**- None.
7. **COMMUNICATIONS:** - The PAUD Audit and 2024 Board of Review Schedule were presented to the Board as communications. MOTION by Randall, support by Berg, to accept the communications and place them on file. Motion carried.
8. **REPORTS – BOARDS & COMMITTEES –** GRSWMA – The Board moved to purchase a new garbage truck for approximately \$419,000.00. With the purchase of the new truck, GRSWMA will have three garbage trucks to use in their rotation.

PAUD –PAUD is approaching their fifteenth anniversary of being in operation. With that, they voted to purchase seven grinder pumps to have on hand. They currently maintain fourteen pumps. Each pump costs approximately \$3,000.00.

UTILITIES – There are currently 30 accounts that are eligible for the shut-off process. The Utility Clerk notified those residents that they have until March 8, 2024 to pay their bill, otherwise shut-off will take place on March 11, 2024. The total owed for accounts 90 days past due is currently \$10,879.51.

9. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- A) **POST OFFICE STATUS –** Residents have been speaking to a representative from Jack Bergman’s office named Colin. Colin delivered some good news, stating that there are plans to begin construction of the post office in April. Discussion took place on possible alternative locations to house the post office in Ramsey if construction did not go through. A comment was made that because this is an election year, it would be they year to push the issue.
- B) **UTILITY BILL FORGIVENESS POLICY –** The Board was presented with a Resolution and Policy for a one-time forgiveness of a late utility payment. A discussion took place on creating a form to have residents fill out as a way for the Utility Clerk to keep track of residents who have utilized the policy. MOTION by Tarnaski, support by Roberts, to adopt the One-Time Service Charge

Approved

Forgiveness Policy for Water and Sewer Utilities, with the development of a form. Motion carried by roll call vote.

- C) AUDIT – When the Supervisor spoke to Ken Talsma, Auditor from Anderson Tackman, he stated that he had not received any documentation needed to conduct the audit from the Treasurers Office. The Treasurer stated that he is incorrect, and that she did send him information via email a few months ago, and that at that time, Mr. Talsma had not received anything from the Clerk’s Office. Both the Treasurer and the Clerk will contact Mr. Talsma to coordinate days and times for them to all be in the office so that the Audit can be completed.

10. NEW BUSINESS

- A) POVERTY EXEMPTION GUIDELINES – Each year, Property Tax Poverty Exemption Guidelines must be adopted by the Board. MOTION by Tarnaski, support by Berg to adopt the Property Tax Poverty Exemption Guidelines for the 2024 tax assessment year, as well as the Application for Property Tax Poverty Exemption. Motion carried.
- B) PERSONAL PROPERTY POLICY – The Board was presented with a proposed Personal Property Canvass Policy, which is required to ensure that assessments of personal property are accurate. The Township Assessor will canvass residences to determine if personal property has been added or removed to the parcels. MOTION by Tarnaski, support by Roberts, to adopt the Personal Property Canvass Policy, with the correction of the grammatical errors that were listed. Motion carried.
- C) WATER DAMAGE REIMBURSEMENT REQUEST – At the last meeting, the Board approved paying half of the cost of a washer and dryer for a resident who lost their washer and dryer due to a water main break last month. month. The Supervisor reported that the cost for a basic set was roughly \$1,400.00 at the appliance store in the area. MOTION by Tarnaski, support by Roberts, to authorize the payment of half of the cost, not to exceed \$700.00. Motion carried by roll call vote.

11. **TREASURER’S REPORT** – The last day to pay the Winter Tax bills at the Township is February 29, 2024. After that date, all payments must be made at the Gogebic County Treasurer’s Office.

12. APPROVE PAYMENT OF BILLS, PAYROLL & MILEAGE –

FUND	CHECK NUMERS	AMOUNT
General Fund	# 16714-16749	\$19,930.73
Water Fund	# 22446-22452	\$17,062.15
Anvil Sewer	#	
Ramsay Sewer	#	
West End Sewer	#	
Blackjack Water		

MOTION by Tarnaski, support by Ikola to approve the bills as presented. Motion carried by roll call vote.

13. **PUBLIC COMMENT AND OTHER BUSINESS-** A resident asked if the garbage collection date was changing. The Supervisor stated that nothing has been decided at the moment.

Steven Selin, Fire Chief, stated that the fire department received two applications to join. He asked if there was a way for the application to be included on the drop-down bar of the fire departments web page.

Approved

14. **ADJOURNMENT** – MOTION by Tarnaski, support by Roberts to adjourn the meeting at 5:54 p.m.
Motion carried.

These minutes are respectfully submitted:

Erin Berg, Township Clerk

Approved