

DRAFT APPROVED

Charter Township of Portage Township  
 Regular Board Meeting  
 October 12, 2009  
 Portage Township Office  
 47240 Green Acres Road  
 Houghton, MI 49931  
 (906) 482-4310

The meeting was called to Order at 7:00 p.m. Those in attendance were Supervisor Bill Bingham, Treasurer Carol Little, Clerk Sandra Luoma, Trustees Peggy Anderson, Mark Jalkanen, John Ollila and Jim Zerbst. Approval of the Minutes of September 14, 2009 was made on a Motion by Jalkanen supported by Ollila and passed on all YES vote. Results of the 14 pt review have not been received yet.

Approval of the bills as audited was made on a Motion by Anderson with support by Ollila and passed on all YES vote.

Clerk's report reviewed. Budget adjustments recommended by Executive Committee presented. Budget expenses adjustments as of September 30, 2009 of \$600 for the Board of Review and \$60,000 for Sewer, was made on a Motion by Jalkanen with support by Zerbst and passed on all YES vote.

Treasurer's report reviewed. New CD's have been purchased for Perpetual Care, Woodland, and Portage Water.

Assessor's report reviewed. Number of parcels in Township questioned. Number to be clarified between Treasurer and Assessor.

Correspondence:

1. WUPPDR, CUPPAD and EUPRPDC (the Regional Planning Commissions of the UP) are working on an initiative grant to make Chassell/Houghton trail part of a regional non-motorized transportation system.
2. No interest shown for ad for Winter Carnival.

Public Comments:

1. Suggestions for plowing at HTFD were made. Doors have to be kept clear for emergencies. Maintenance department will plow there this winter.
2. Clarification of 9E requested. DEQ's follow-up inspection of VVQ was reported in a letter to Bingham dated September 23, 2009. Cited violations were found to be adequately addressed and permits are to be issued shortly. Drain Commissioner's report states no evidence of soils leaving site from runoff.

Shawn Leche was introduced as new Director of Portage Lake District Library. Greater outreach to Community and Schools will be Leche's focus. Minutes of the Portage Lake District Library Board will be sent to the Township Board to better communicate current activities at the Library.

Unfinished Business:

- A. VVQ update. Items of agreement have been finalized. See Attached. A Motion to Recommend to the Planning Commission that items 7A-H under Farm/Forest in the Zoning Ordinance; be added to Rural Residential under Special Use and the restrictions negotiated with VVQ be included in the Special use Permit was made by Jalkanen with support by Ollila and passed on all YES vote.
- B. Hall repairs. U.P. Engineers reviewed bids and building and has suggested that blowing insulation into roof and checking vents for blockage may stop leaks. Motion to go ahead with recommend repairs was made on a Motion by Ollila supported by Jalkanen and passed on all yes vote. Executive Committee will contact contractors.
- C. Woodland meters are continuing to be replaced. On October 20<sup>th</sup> at 6:00p.m. at the Houghton High School, there will be a meeting with the Dakota Heights residents to hear about the sewer project. Discussions will include getting contractors for hook-ups and grants that are available for residents to cover these costs.
- D. Sewer Project update. Rural Development has received all paperwork so upon approval project can go out on bids. Partial work will be done this fall.

- E. Land Bank. Property in Superior location is again on tax sale with cost of \$1100 with no restrictions. If the property does not sell this time, the Township may pick it up at no cost. Board agrees to wait to see if it sells.
- F. Budget changes. See Clerk's report above.

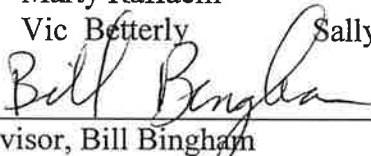
New Business:

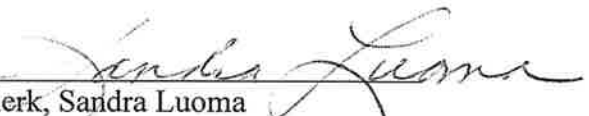
- A. Motion to sell on bids a 1994 Ford truck was made by Anderson supported by Zerbst and passed on all yes vote. Details on truck are available at office.
- B. Board approves support of WUPDDR's grant for a watershed assessment of the Pilgrim River on a Motion by Jalkanen supported by Ollila and passed on all YES vote.
- C. No update on Copper Country Mall.
- D. City of Hancock is planning a new water line next spring from Somero's to Walmart. New hydrants and T's for future development are planned. A water agreement with the City of Hancock will be needed.
- E. Other items: Skaters are now wearing florescent clothes but still are in unsafe conditions. Questions were raised why there aren't any sidewalks in Dodgeville. Supervisor will find out and report at next meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20pm on a Motion by Jalkanen supported by Zerbst.

Public in Attendance:

Linda Pizzi Dale Belanger  
 Marty Raffaelli  
 Vic Betterly Sally Santeford

  
 Supervisor, Bill Bingham

  
 Clerk, Sandra Luoma