

REGULAR MEETING OF THE ALLOUEZ TOWNSHIP BOARD

August 19, 2021 Meeting

Thursday, August 19, 2021.

6:00 p.m. at Allouez Township Community Building, 388 Bumbletown Road, Allouez.

Guests present: Aaron Waara, Roger Makie, Marlene Sickler, Brian Sickler, Gary Bracco, Daniel Yoder and John Paul Pietila.

Meeting called to order by Supervisor Aho at 6:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Supervisor Aho.

Roll Call; board members present: Supervisor Aho, Treasurer Newman, Clerk Haataja, Trustee Haataja and Trustee Kaura.

Motion by Supervisor Aho, seconded by Trustee Kaura, to approve the August 19, 2021, Regular Board Meeting Agenda. All ayes; carried.

Minutes of the July 15, 2021, Regular Meeting were presented. Motion by Treasurer Newman, seconded by Clerk Haataja, to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes. All ayes; carried.

Motion by Trustee Kaura, seconded by Supervisor Aho, to accept the **Financial Report** and to approve the following:

BILLS PAID BETWEEN MEETINGS:

General Fund: \$15,849.34; **Sewer Maintenance Fund:** \$5,933.79; **Sanitation Fund:** \$20,021.99;
Cemetery Fund: \$0.00; **Fire Protection Fund - SNB:** \$10,625.88; **Fire Protection Fund - IB:** \$63.98;
Mohawk Park: \$0.00; **Ahmeek Ice Rink:** \$0.00.

BILLS PRESENTED FOR PAYMENT AT THIS MEETING:

General Fund: \$2,654.61; **Sewer Maintenance Fund:** \$39,525.85; **Sanitation Fund:** \$55.00;
Cemetery Fund: \$0.00; **Fire Protection Fund - SNB:** \$1,709.28; **Fire Protection Fund - IB:** \$0.00;
Mohawk Park: \$0.00; **Ahmeek Ice Rink:** \$0.00

All ayes; carried.

Additional bills:

Motion by Clerk Haataja, seconded by Treasurer Newman, to approve payment of \$15,195.00 to Traverse Engineering, payable from the fire fund. All ayes; carried.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Motion by Supervisor Aho, seconded by Treasurer Newman, to adhere to and to sign the Principles of Governance sent by Michigan Township Association. All ayes; carried.

Information received about proposed wind turbines being built in Houghton County and the related deficits if this would happen.

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Time was allowed for public comment on non-agenda issues.

FIRE DEPARTMENT: Per Fire Chief, Gary Bracco, two calls since the last meeting—both car accidents. New firehall continues to progress. \$5000 grant from the Portage Foundation has been deposited into the 501(c)(3). The new tank came for the brush truck. Motion by Supervisor Aho, seconded by Trustee Kaura, to approve up to \$1000 for a battery operated chainsaw and up to \$600 for a baffle system, both payable from the Restricted Fire Fund. All ayes; carried.

MEDICAL FIRST RESPONDERS: Some calls since the last meeting, but Gary was unsure of how many.

PUBLIC WORKS:

Motion by Treasurer Newman, seconded by Supervisor Aho, to hire Bjorn Excavating to remove the dead tree in front of the township hall for \$600. All ayes; carried.

Kermits Kids is done, so the youth are no longer working.

Sanitation: Motion by Treasurer Newman, seconded by Supervisor Aho, to allow property #101-53-000-001 at 1027 Ahmeek Street to opt-in to garbage October 1, 2021, at a pro-rated yearly rate, to allow property #102-27-150-004 to opt-in for the current year at the seasonal rate of \$130.00 and to allow property #102-22-250-003 to opt-out of yearly garbage (they haven't lived there all year). All ayes; carried.

Sewer: Treasurer Newman sending out final notices soon.

CEMETERY REPORT & REQUESTS: n/a

PARKS & REC REPORTS & REQUESTS: n/a

OFFICER REPORTS –

Supervisor's report: Michigan Treasury Department reported that we passed our AMAR Review.

Clerk's report: Motion by Supervisor Aho, seconded by Clerk Haataja, to approve up to \$130 per fund for printable checks based on the clerk's judgment. All ayes; carried. Motion by Clerk Haataja, seconded by Supervisor Aho, when all funds' checks are available, to pay bills from each fund versus from the general fund using transfers. All ayes; carried. Motion by Supervisor Aho, seconded by Trustee Kaura,--due to the nature of the request--for the deputy clerk to do the True North FOIA request. All ayes; carried. Motion by Supervisor Aho, seconded by Treasurer Newman, to spend up to \$250 for the clerk's home office printer. All ayes; carried.

Treasurer's report: Motion by Treasurer Newman, seconded by Supervisor Aho, to set the clerk as administrator, and the treasurer as a user, for the online banking at Superior National Bank. This is necessary for the treasurer to do remote deposits. All ayes; carried.

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OLD BUSINESS:

Fire Hall Project: John Paul Pietila gave an update that construction is going fairly smoothly without significant problems. Motion by Supervisor Aho, seconded by Trustee Kaura, to pay DP Construction \$269,607.78 from the fire fund. All ayes; carried.

Sewer System Project: Email update from Emmett Bjorn stated (in summary) that the Rural Development application meeting will be August 24, the compliance/violation letter should be received from EGLE soon, and the sewer rate increase upcoming will add about \$5/month to the average residential user.

NEW BUSINESS:

Recreation Plan/Seneca Lake Expansion: Brian Sickler checked with the DNR, and they offer parks and recreation grants to local units of government. Supervisor Aho will check on the application process.

Karrio property near cemetery: Supervisor Aho will ask owner about the possibility of an easement purchase for the township cemetery purposes.

Water Connection Township Hall: tabled until we get some prices.

Sewer rates: Motion by Supervisor Aho, seconded by Treasurer Newman, to adopt Resolution 2021-8-19-001 to Set Rates and Charges for Sewer Usage. Roll call vote: "Aye": Treasurer Newman, Trustee Kaura, Supervisor Aho, Trustee Haataja, Clerk Haataja. "Nay": none. The Supervisor declared the resolution adopted.

Time was allowed for public comment: None

Motion by Supervisor Aho, seconded by Clerk Haataja, to adjourn the meeting. All ayes; carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:02 pm.

Trudi Haataja, Clerk

