

## MEETING OF THE ALLOUEZ TOWNSHIP BOARD

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September 13, 2023

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Wednesday, September 13, 2023

6:00 p.m. at Allouez Township Offices, 102 Second St. Mohawk MI 49950

Guests present: Aaron Waara, Emmet Bjorn, Gary Bracco, Mark Harrick; Waste Management, Ryan LaPorte; Keweenaw Snowmobile Club, Emily Kaniter; KISMA, Marcia Goodrich; Keweenaw Wild Ones, Julia Petersen; TNC-Michigan, Kaitlin Lapka; TNC-Michigan, Dan Steck; 5 Mile Pt Resident, Tom Hall; Houghton Township, Chad VanBennton; Keweenaw Snowmobile Club

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 Butala, Trustee Haataja, Trustee Kaura

Motion by Supervisor Aho, 2<sup>nd</sup> Treasurer Newman to add to new business to beginning of meeting, Marcia Goodrich from KISMA, add new items to agenda: Tax Rate Request, Mohawk Groomer Barn. Carried; ayes. Motion by Supervisor Aho, 2<sup>nd</sup> Treasurer Newman to approve Previous Meeting Minutes. Carried; ayes

Motion by Trustee Kaura, 2<sup>nd</sup> Trustee Haataja to accept the Financial Report; Carried; ayes  
Motion by Supervisor Aho, 2<sup>nd</sup> Treasurer Newman to subtract the amount for munibilling from last month's financials to be reconfigured. Carried; ayes

Motion by Trustee Kaura, 2<sup>nd</sup> Trustee Haataja to approve Monthly Bills. Carried; ayes.

### **Bills Paid**

**Fire: 3,717.89      Sanitation Fund: \$ 11,294.23**  
**Sewer Fund: \$ 26,398.03      General Fund: 3692.89**

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

**FIRE DEPARTMENT:**

Per Chief Bracco, 1 Fire Call. Starting chimney cleaning. State Grant for \$10,000 to be used for helmets and boots. Motion by Supervisor Aho, 2<sup>nd</sup> Treasurer Newman to use restricted funds for remaining \$3000.00; Carried ayes.

Motion by Clerk Butala, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Treasurer Newman to use the restricted fund for new suction pump for \$100.00, using match grant for new batteries in all saws at \$6500.00 Carried; ayes.

**MEDICAL FIRST RESPONDERS: n/a**

**PUBLIC WORKS:**

Motion by Supervisor Aho, 2<sup>nd</sup> Treasurer Newman to remove all porta poties at the end of the month. Carried; ayes.

**Sanitation:**

Motion by Treasurer Newman, 2<sup>nd</sup> Clerk Butala to close out 255 Phoenix Street and apply balance due of \$423.60 onto 257 Phoenix Street tax bill as property owned by Jesse Garrow is now a single property. Carried; ayes.

Motion by Treasurer Newman, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Clerk Butala to approve up to \$4000.00 to Munibilling for any outstanding bills. Carried; ayes.

**Sewer:**

**Cemetery Report & Requests:**

Motion by Treasurer Newman, 2<sup>nd</sup> Supervisor Aho to have all seasonal decorations that can be blown away or destroyed by snowfall to be removed from the cemetery by October 1, 2023; Carried; ayes

**Parks & Rec Reports & Requests: n/a**

**Assessor's Report: attached**

**OFFICER REPORTS –**

**Supervisor's report: n/a**

**Clerk's report: n/a**

**Treasurer's report:**

Treasurer Newman moved the savings and current CD in Range Bank to a new CD with a 5.15% interest that was approved at the last meeting. There was \$19.13 of interest that was deposited. Range Bank waived the penalty of \$92.93 for closing CD early and creating a new CD.

Motion by Treasurer Newman, 2<sup>nd</sup> Supervisor Aho to purchase 3 lap top bags at \$40.00 each. Carried; ayes

### **Old Business:**

### **Sewer Project:**

Motion by Supervisor Aho, 2<sup>nd</sup> Clerk Butala to approve invoice from UPEA for \$4531.40 to be applied to the invoice loan. Carried; ayes.

### **Waste Management**

Mark Harrick brought proposal from Waste Management to have them take over billing for garbage January 1, 2024 and going to a cart system. Cost per month/ per resident will be \$24.00 with the option of an additional cart for \$6.00 per month. The initial cart will be free for garbage residents with any additional carts to be paid for by property owner. Public Works, Aaron Waara will go on a ride about with Josh from Waste Management to determine outlying areas. Supervisor Aho will call a special meeting for Tuesday, October 10, 2023 at 6 pm at the ATCB for public comment. There will be discussion as how to handle the up to 4-month road restrictions enforced by the county road commission on how garbage will be picked up at those times.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

#### **KISMA**

Motion by Supervisor Aho, 2<sup>nd</sup> Clerk Butala for a letter of support to the Wildwinds Project for their grant to the State for education programs. Carried; ayes

#### **Ahmeek Location Property**

Current owners not at meeting, will be tabled.

#### **Other Discussion:**

Snowmobile club discussed future plans for the Groomer Barn. They are applying for a blight grant to fix up the Barn for it to be used half for personal residence and the other half as the groomer barn. They will keep the Board informed on future plans.

Motion by Supervisor Aho, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Haataja to open an account at Houghton Building Supply for the township/fire department with a limit of \$5000.00. Carried; ayes.

Motion by Supervisor Aho, 2<sup>nd</sup> Treasurer Newman to levy the max for both for the tax equalization for Keweenaw County. Both Supervisor Aho and Clerk Butala signed the request. Supervisor Aho will submit the tax rate request to the Equalization Director for the County. Carried; ayes.

Motion by Treasurer Newman, 2<sup>nd</sup> Supervisor Aho to approve Bill Luokkanen as a signer for accounts at Campioni and TrueValue. Carried; ayes.

**Auditor**

Motion by Supervisor Aho, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Treasurer Newman for Supervisor Aho to request a 2-week extension from SOM. Carried; ayes

**Mohawk Park Concrete**

Motion by Supervisor Aho, 2<sup>nd</sup> Treasurer Newman to add an additional \$8000.00 on to the project to increase the size from 30x80 to 60x80. Carried; ayes

**Ahmeek Ice Rink**

Motion by Clerk Butala, 2<sup>nd</sup> Treasurer Newman to allow the Keweenaw Community Foundation to open a special fund dedicated to the Ahmeek Ice Rink for donations with the Foundation promoting the rink's future plans. Carried; ayes.

Motion by Supervisor Aho, 2<sup>nd</sup> Treasurer Newman to support the Portage Health Foundation Grant for the Ahmeek Ice Rink being prepared by Joni Erkkila. Carried; ayes.

Introductions made by Keweenaw Heartlands Conservancy representatives that will be requesting to be put on a future agenda.

**Public Comment:** n/a

**Adjournment:** Motion by Supervisor Aho, 2<sup>nd</sup> Treasurer Newman 7:36 pm. Carried; ayes

Motion by Supervisor Aho, 2<sup>nd</sup> Treasurer Newman to adjourn meeting at 6:45 PM Carried; ayes

Rebecca Butala, Clerk