



Grant Township Board
Regular Meeting Minutes
March 8, 2022, 6:00 pm
Grant Township Community Center
220 Gratiot Street Copper Harbor, MI 49918
Phone: (906) 289-4292

Meeting called to order at 6:01pm

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

Present - Art Davis, Scott Ochodnick, Scott Wendt, Misty Filsinger, Ned Huwatschek,
all are present

Absent - None

Zoom - None

Agenda/Minutes Additions and Approvals

Agenda Additions: Misty's training class added

Motion to Approve the March 8th, 2022 Agenda – put forward by Scott O, seconded
by Art, all in favor, Motion carries 5-0-0

Minutes Corrections: Removal of Greg Mielcarz from Roll Call from February Minutes

Motion to Approve February 8th, 2022 Meeting Minutes – put forward by Ned,
seconded by Scott W, all in favor, Motion carries 5-0-0

Supervisors' Remarks and Correspondence

1. Sudden loss of Clerk Board Member Bequita Parks
2. Community Task Force <http://communitytaskforce.com/> working towards improving mobile communications at the tip of Keweenaw
3. Dry Hydrant Lease has been renewed for 25 years
4. Hannula Agency Inc Insurance
 - a. Rates have Increased due to several reasons
 - i. \$23,614.00 per year
 - ii. May have additional premiums for Special Events, **Risk Control Review**, Underwriting Approval
5. Hazardous Household Waste discussion

- a. Online survey to follow as well as Keweenaw Supervisor Meeting in April for additional research
- 6. The Nature Conservancy response letter to Mary McDonald along with the annual donation from TNC
- 7. Letter from Scenic Michigan regarding wind turbines
- 8. Update on the 'Innovative Water Technologies for Lagoon Wastewater Systems in Small Communities' Grant submitted by MTU - 1M/3yrs
 - a. MTU Researchers compiling Scientific Information
 - b. Township Supervisor submitted Letter of Intent to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Review Panel

Supervisor's Open Office Hours (always 2 and 3rd Sat)

CH	March 12	10am-12
LLB	March 19	10am-12

Brief Public Comment

Brief wind turbine discussion

Department Reports

- 1. Financial
 - a. Treasurer Report
 - i. General fund balance is \$639,151.81
 - ii. Fire dept. fund balance is \$484,766.66
 - iii. Copper Harbor DDA fund balance is \$75,253.48
 - iv. Treasurer Misty Filsinger requests an amount not exceeding \$1300 for an April 25th training class
 - b. Motion to Approve \$1300 for Misty's training class – Roll Call vote –** put forward by Misty, seconded by Art, Ned – Aye, Scott W aye, Scott O aye, all in favor, Motion carries 5-0-0
 - c. Clerk Report: Scott Ochodnicki has been sworn in as Clerk just prior to tonight's Board meeting and will be serving as interim Clerk until someone can fill the seat on a more permanent basis
- 2. Utility Board
 - a. A brief update provided by Chair Bob Pokorski
- 3. Public Safety
 - a. Copper Harbor Fire Department's Fire Chief Tom Boost provided brief update
 - b. Lac La Belle Fire Department – No report
 - c. Keweenaw Sheriff - No report
 - d. EMS / First Responders – Paramedic Mike Musiel provided brief update

Standing Committee Reports

- 1. Copper Harbor Downtown Development Authority

- a. Gilly Appreciation
 - b. DDA Member Nomination Discussion/Approval
 - c. **Motion to approve the (4) DDA Board Member nominations Staci Gibson, Dan Wiersgalla, Sam Raymond and Gregory Paul Lis** put forward by Scott W, seconded by Ned, all in favor, Motion carries 5-0-0
2. Board of Review
 - a. Anyone interested in becoming an alternate, Contact Supervisor Scott Wendt
 - b. Completed training Feb 25th virtually
 - c. Organizational Meeting is March 8th 10:00am
 - d. Appeals is March 14th 9am-3pm
 - e. Appeals is March 16th 3pm-9pm
3. South Shore Association
 - a. No report
4. Parks Committees
 - a. Lac La Belle - No report
 - b. Copper Harbor - No report
5. Copper Harbor Improvement Association is seeking a new President
6. Copper Harbor Pedestrian & Bicycle Access 'Streetscape' Committee's Sam Raymond provided brief update
7. Recreation Plan Steering Committee - No report

Unfinished Business

Brief discussions regarding wage increases and current job openings.

Motion to approve \$325/regular meeting + \$150/special meetings for the new interim Clerk – Roll Call vote put forward by Art, seconded by Ned, Misty aye, Scott W aye, Scott O abstain – Motion carries 4-0-1

Motion to approve \$1400/month salary for the Deputy Clerk position – Roll Call vote put forward by Ned, seconded by Art, Scott O aye, Misty aye, Scott W aye – Motion carries 5-0-0

New Business

1. Solid Waste
 - a. Brief discussion regarding garbage bags, after reviewing several vendors
 - b. **Motion to approve up to \$27,000 for new garbage bags purchase - Roll Call vote** put forward by Ned, seconded by Art, Scott O aye, Misty aye, Scott W aye – Motion carries 5-0-0
2. UPPCO Franchise

- a. Franchise Agreement - Allows UPPCO the right to run lines/poles etc in the public right of way for a period of 30 years.
 - b. **Motion to approve the UPPCO Franchise Agreement - Roll Call vote** put forward by Scott O, seconded by Misty, Art aye, Ned aye, Scott W aye – Motion carries 5-0-0
 - c. The Franchise Agreement is on the Township website [here](#).
3. Conference Room Equipment Purchase
 - a. **Motion to approve up to \$4000 for the purchase of a basic conference room setup for the Grant Township Community Center in Copper Harbor - Roll Call vote** put forward by Scott O, seconded by Misty, Ned aye, Art aye, Scott W aye – Motion carries 5-0-0
4. Accounting Manager Laptop Purchase
 - a. **Motion to approve up to \$1300 for the purchase of a new laptop for the Accounting Dept. - Roll Call vote** put forward by Scott O, seconded by Misty, Scott W aye, Ned aye, Art aye – Motion carries 5-0-0
5. Raymond Landsberg (KAC Land Usage)
 - a. Guest speaker Raymond Landsberg introduces himself as new owner of Keweenaw Adventure Company (KAC), requests use of Township property for new kayak launch
 - b. **Motion to approve permission for KAC to use Township property contingent on Grant Township's legal counsel Copper Country Law and KAC agreeing on the details** put forward by Scott W, seconded by Misty, all in favor, Motion carries 5-0-0
6. Nathan Miller (CHTC)
 - a. Guest speaker Nathan Miller from Copper Harbor Trails Club (CHTC) discusses CHTC License Agreement
 - b. Grant Township's legal counsel Copper Country Law is working to finalize verbiage.

Public Comment Period

- ❖ Policy/Rules for Public Comment
 - The public comment portion of the public meeting shall last approximately 20 minutes.
 - Any Resident/taxpayer wishing to address the Board, must be first recognized by the Chair, then identify themselves by name, address of residence.
 - Each speaker will be given three (3) minutes to comment.
 - Each speaker will be given six (6) minutes total for public comment over the course of the meeting.

- Comments are to be directed solely to the board not to audience members..
- No official Board action will take place on items presented in the public comment period. Matters addressed publicly will be taken under advisement, with the Board responding directly to the person at a later date or the Board will respond during a future public meeting as an agenda item

Brief public discussions included mentioning the upcoming bike patrols training at Keweenaw Mountain Lodge on May 7th and thanks for the CHTC regularly showing up to the Board meetings.

Financial Wrap UP

The Clerk's Office reports this month's bills to be approved:

Sewer: \$6455.45

Fire: \$4441.60

General: \$18,389.18

Water: \$291.39

Total: \$29,577.62

Motion to approve this month's expenditures - Roll Call vote put forward by Scott O, seconded by Misty, Scott W aye, Ned aye, Art aye – Motion carries 5-0-0

Motion to adjourn – put forward by Ned, seconded by Scott W, all in favor, Motion carries 5-0-0

Meeting adjourned at 7:42pm

*Vote tallies recorded in Meeting Minutes as Aye/Yes - Nah/No - Abstain
(Absent excluded from tally)*