

6W

**FORD RIVER TOWNSHIP REGULAR BOARD MEETING
JULY 10, 2023 FORD RIVER TOWNSHIP HALL**

Called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Supervisor, S. Nelson, who led the Pledge of Allegiance.
Members present: S. Nelson, D. Brown, R. Valentine and J. Church
Members absent: A. Wagner

4. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

T. Pepin asked about cutting on the side of county roads.

5. AGENDA

Supervisor added: 8c.

Motion, J. Church, supported by R. Valentine, CARRIED to approve the agenda with changes.

6. MINUTES

Motion, R. Valentine, supported by J. Church CARRIED to approve the June 12, 2023 Regular Board Meeting minutes.

7. CONSENT TO AGENDA

- a. Financial Reports June 2023.
- b. Assessors Report for June 2023.

Motion, J. Church, supported by R. Valentine, CARRIED to approve the Consent to agenda.

8. COMMUNICATIONS

- a. Planning Commission Meeting Minutes June 7, 2023
- b. Informational Meeting on the Cease and Desist ERIC Contract on July 12, 2023 at the Escanaba Township Hall
- c. DTE

9. FIRE DEPARTMENT BUSINESS

- a. Fire Reports/Calls June 2023
Brian Nelson, Fire Chief, was present.

Motion, J. Church, supported by R. Valentine, CARRIED to approve the fire report for June 2023

- b. The Fire Chief gave updates.

Motion, D. Brown, supported by J. Church, CARRIED, to add Austin Watchorn to the Volunteer Fire Department.

Motion, D. Brown, supported by J. Church, CARRIED, to purchase two sets of turnout gear for up to \$7000.00.

Motion, J. Church, supported by D. Brown, CARRIED, to purchase for one mask and five bags for up to \$600.00

10. WATER SYSTEM BUSINESS

- a. Water system report-June 2023

Motion, J. Church, supported by, B. Valentine, CARRIED to accept the water report for June 2023.

- b. Water operator updates. Troy Rodman, Water Operator, was on vacation.
- c. Billing Register. All normal.
- d. Water rate increase.

Motion, J. Church, supported by R. Valentine to adopt Resolution #0710023, a resolution to raise water rates.

Roll call:

Ayes: J. Church, D. Brown, S. Nelson, R. Valentine Nays: NONE Absent: A. Wagner

11. ZONING ADMINISTRATOR BUSINESS

- a. The Zoning Administrator gave updates and the June 2023 Zoning report.
- b. Master plan update: Should have a draft in August.

12. COUNTY COMMISSIONER BUSINESS

- a. District #3 report/update
ABSENT

13. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- a. Marijuana. Long discussion. It was 4 years ago that the Township Board asked the Planning Commission to take a look at the possibility of Retail and Micro grow establishments. It would be in commercial zones only. Both of the Boards have almost completely changed members. There has been no interest brought forward in a couple years. There doesn't seem to be a way we can enforce this ordinance.

Motion, J. Church, supported by R. Valentine to table the Marijuana indefinitely and stop all work on it until a need arises.

- b. Bike Path: working with property owners,
- c. 911 signs: Still waiting on the County to amend their Ordinance.
- d. Playground grant. No update.

14. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Payment of bills
 - i. GF Total: \$ 66,766.89
 - ii. WF Total: \$ 2,676.49
 - iii. LF Total: \$ 21.27

Motion, J. Church, supported by R. Valentine, CARRIED, to pay the bills as presented.

- b. Township property (water)

Motion, J. Church, supported by R. Valentine, CARRIED to reimburse the Water dept. \$7,500.00 from the General fund for purchase of property.

- c. Swimming on Township property. Supervisor checked with the insurance company, and we need to put up signs for swimming at your own risk.
- d. Fees for short term rental. TABLED until August waiting for Resolution.
- e. DNR No wake zones. DNR would like us to pay for no wake signs on the river. The signs were removed because the No Wake Ordinance was repealed in June 2019.
- f. DNR trail/11th road. Supervisor would like the public to know that the DNR is planning to put in a trail off the end of 11th road to the State land on the river.

15. PUBLIC COMMENT.

D. Jahnke: Agencies should use social media and other media to communicate. 911 signs would like this to proceed or he will buy his own if he knows the color.

R. Fettig: Rode in an ambulance last year and the driver had no problem finding his house.

T. Nelson: would like to talk to the people about the recall on Bob Barron that is happening fast. Would like any help possible to locate addresses.

C. Williams: Typically when setting a fee there is some justification as to why that fee is being set.

D. Ribble feels as though if a person misses the date of renewal for STR special use permit, if they cannot apply for another year, he feels it a lose lose situation and the Township will be losing revenue as well as the applicant will be losing the ability to have a rental.

16. BOARD COMMENT.

C. Detiege: has had problems with the Owl. Newer model available with updates.

J. Church: Lions club fish boil and Croatian chicken August 6, 2023 12-6pm

S. Nelson: Signs will be Red with white lettering for the 911 signs.

D. Brown: The audit was completed in one day. When the Auditor left here he said everything looked good.

A public comment was made at the last county meeting by one of our residents informing Bob Barron of our meeting date and time.

17. ADJOURNMENT

Motion, J. Church, supported by R. Valentine, CARRIED to adjourn at 8:38 pm
Minutes approved by:


Debbi R. Brown, Township Clerk

8-14-22
Date