

**FORD RIVER TOWNSHIP REGULAR BOARD MEETING**  
**September 10, 2018 FORD RIVER TOWNSHIP HALL**

Called to order at 7:02 p.m. by Rachael Fontaine, who led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members present: G. Boudreau, R. Fontaine, A. Wagner D. Wellman, H. Coyne

Members absent: none

Audience sheet attached.

**PUBLIC HEARING**

Moved, H. Coyne, seconded, R. Fontaine, CARRIED to open public hearing at 7:02 PM.  
Board went through proposed changes in Resolution to Establish Rates and Charges for Public Water System Usage.

Resident questioned if the \$25 Shut off for Season rate will stay the same. R. Fontaine addressed that at this time there is no change for Shut off for Season.

Moved, G. Boudreau, seconded, A. Wagner, CARRIED to go with proposed changes of \$49.00 for first 5,000 gallons for residential and \$51.00 for first 5,000 gallons for commercial with overage charges being \$12.00 per 1,000 gallons for residential and \$19.50 per 1,000 gallons for commercial. The turn on rate due to nonpayment will be \$45.00. The security deposit will be held for 12 consecutive months. The bills be due on the 20th of the month.

Roll call vote:

yeas: G. Boudreau, A. Wagner, R. Fontaine, D. Wellman, H. Coyne

Nays: none

R. Fontaine requested a letter be sent to all water customers with proposed changes stating effective date. The letter will also include a copy of the updated Resolution.

Moved, G. Boudreau, seconded, A. Wagner, CARRIED to make November 1, 2018 be the effective start date for new rates.

Resident questioned the billing of the apartment building on system.

R. Fontaine requested a letter be sent to owner of apartment building to confirm how many apartments are in the building.

Moved, R. Fontaine, seconded, G. Boudreau, CARRIED to close public hearing at 7:20 PM.

**PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS**

R. Fontaine added 9e. Fire truck, 12e. Training request, 12f. FOIA. H. Coyne added 9F. Ethics Policy.

**AGENDA**

Moved, G. Boudreau, seconded, A. Wagner, CARRIED to approve the Agenda.

**MINUTES**

R. Fontaine requested minutes state that budget was addressed and tabled for next month as there was still some corrections that weren't printed. Requests that the word 'was' being taken out of the MFR report. Requested that the public comment read that a request was made for the screen door to be removed instead of how it reads now.

Moved, G. Boudreau, seconded, H. Coyne, CARRIED to accept the Township Board regular meeting minutes with changes for August, 2018.

## **REPORTS**

Received Reports.

- a. August 2018 Financial Reports: A. Wagner reports that Treasurer and Clerk were in balance. R. Fontaine requests Clerk bring proposed amount for elections cost in case there needs to be a change in budget.

Moved, R. Fontaine, seconded, G. Boudreau, CARRIED to approve 2018-2019 budget.

Moved, R. Fontaine, seconded, G. Boudreau, CARRIED to approve final 2017-2018 budget.

Moved, R. Fontaine, seconded, G. Boudreau, CARRIED to approve August financial report.

- b. Zoning Administrator Report for August, 2018

Moved, A. Wagner, seconded, G. Boudreau, CARRIED to accept Zoning Administrator report August 2018.

- c. Assessor Report July, 2018; R. Fountained noted that Assessor will be present after December Board of Review.

Moved, H. Coyne, seconded, G. Boudreau, CARRIED to accept Assessor Report August 2018.

## **CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

- a. Delta Solid Waste Management Authority regular meeting July Minutes
- b. Ford River Township Planning Commission regular meeting August Minutes
- c. UPPCO notice of Public Hearing case no. U-20175
- d. Notice of hearing for The Natural Gas Customers of DTE Gas Company case no. U-20076
- e. Notice of Hearing for The Electric Customers of Upper Peninsula Power Company case no. U-20184
- f. Michigan Associate of Planning powerpoint

## **FIRE DEPARTMENT BUSINESS**

Received the Fireman's Report for August 2018– Maintenance Reports/Treasurer's Report:  
Brian Nelson, Fire Chief, was present

- a. Fire Report provided to board.

Moved, G. Boudreau, seconded, A. Wagner, CARRIED to the accept the Fire report.

- b. Fire Chief Updates: Pancake breakfast will be held October 21, 2018. Raffle tickets are available to sell. Firefighters 1 & 2 practical exam is being held this weekend. The boot at Meisters has brought in 455.18 this month. Unit 2 has some electrical issues that the Chief is working with Pomasl on. Delta County Dispatch is no longer sending out pages for informational meetings. The Chief Association is working together to try to get this changed.
- c. Fire Calls: 1 call for August; 9 FY.
- d. Fire Truck: The title for truck was unable to be located at both the office and the Secretary of State. Chief has started the proper actions to get a replacement one.
- e. Ethics Policy: Tabled until next month.

## **MFR**

Todd Holland is present at this time

- a. 15 calls in August, bringing the number of calls for YTD to 75, and 49 for FY.

## **WATER SYSTEM BUSINESS**

Received the Water Operator's report for August 2018

Mark Rose, Water Operator, was present

- a. Water report provided to board. R. Fountaine questioned an account, the report states still account still leaking. M. Rose verified that this account is still shut off as there is no repair completed yet.

Moved, G. Boudreau, seconded A. Wagner, CARRIED to accept water reports.

- b. Billing Register: noted normal monthly usages
- c. Proposed Water Rate Changes: Discussed and decisions made during Public Hearing.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- a. Chart of Accounts: Tabled until return of audit.
- b. Hall Painting Project: Power washing will take place this upcoming weekend and painting towards the end of the month. Clerk to inform renters that the hall may look in shambles on the outside during this process.

Moved, H. Coyne, seconded, A. Wagner, CARRIED to go with cedar stain for exterior of hall.

- c. Playground Project/Grant Completion: Grant received from Michigan Township Participating Plan for \$4,000.00 bringing the total cost from \$9,074.95 to \$5,074.95.
- d. Hall Rental: Supervisor requested expenses that are used for hall rentals be brought forth to discuss possible rate changes. Clerk brought to attention that the hall rental is not the statutory duty of the Clerk and that help would be appreciated at times with checking on hall after rentals. Clerk brought a proposed changed policy. Tabled at this time.
- e. Cemetery: Trees have been removed. Discussion about markers being put back in the correct location after they have been removed due to a resident grading the road. The current road is blocking a couple of empty graves. These will be blocked off in the book by Clerk and Sexton. R. Nelson brought attention to the maps, he will reach out to Davis/Swanic to get the errors corrected. Clerk to create a folder to house suggested cemetery changes. Clerk discussed the proposed change made by MTA to be selling burial rights vs. a deed for a plot.

Moved, D. Wellman, seconded, H. Coyne, CARRIED to put markers back in the ground at the cost of \$300.00.

- f. 911 Emergency Signs: Supervisor spoke to Greg with Road Commission. It is up to the township to verify addresses. Informed that this could go through the Assessor.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

- a. Payment of bills: Clerk brought to attention that a resident questioned how deposits are showing up on the check register. Clerk informed board that in the past deposits were made with a journal entry and now they are being correctly documented. Treasurer stated that her report shows each individual deposit that equals Clerks deposit total. Supervisor requested Clerk see if there is a way to print a report showing each individual deposit.

Moved, G. Boudreau, seconded, H. Coyne, CARRIED, to pay the bills from the General Fund in the amount of \$13,952.82 and from the Water Fund in the amount of \$7,892.07.

- b. Clerk Hours: Clerk states her hours will be adjusted as life changes have occurred. Clerk will be here 8-10:50 AM Monday through Thursday, if unable to be here during those times Clerk will continue to check the phone and email.
- c. Cell Phones: Clerk has requested that we look into providing a cell phone for the Treasurer, Clerk, and Supervisor. Treasurer provided a quote for proposed changes

as she is the contact person for the Verizon account. Cell phones can be used for all duties that board member needs. When there is a change in the board member the residents then don't have to learn a new number. Clerk suggested that the Township Hall phone number can be used for the Clerk's cell phone so that the residents don't have to learn another new number. The Supervisor would like the Township Hall to keep the same landline so that she can continue to check messages. Supervisor has hesitations with professionalism when using cell phones. Supervisor requested another quote be brought forth with a few different options. Tabled at this time.

Supervisor opened the topic up for public discussion. Resident spoke to address the importance of returning phone calls in a timely manner with a cell phone.

d. MTA On the Road training request

Moved, R. Fountaine, seconded, A. Wagner, CARRIED to approve all board members who would like to attend training.

e. Training for Land Division request

Moved, A. Wagner, seconded, G. Boudreau, CARRIED to approve Supervisor going to training.

f. FOIA request

Moved, R. Fountaine, seconded, A. Wagner, CARRIED to pay FOIA administrator the amount quoted when a FOIA request is done.

#### **PUBLIC/BOARD COMMENT**

M. Rose states that he does not need to attend the fall training that he is all caught up currently. He states that he will be having surgery at the end of the month. Clerk and water operator will coordinate when reading will take place. A. Wagner, and R. Fountaine offered to do reading this month if need be.

Moved, G. Boudreau, seconded, A. Wagner, CARRIED, to adjourn at 9:03 PM.

Hannah Coyne, Clerk:

Approved:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "A. Wagner", written over the "Approved:" text.