

**FORD RIVER TOWNSHIP REGULAR BOARD MEETING
SEPTEMBER 9, 2013, FORD RIVER TOWNSHIP HALL**

Called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Supervisor Rachael Fountaine, who led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members present: Rachael Fountaine, Amanda Wagner, Patty Anderson, Delor Wellman, and Gary Boudreau

Members absent: None

Audience sheet attached.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

None.

AGENDA

Two items were added to the Agenda – Under Waters Systems - 9f – GEI and under New Business - 12d – Ice Cream Social.

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

MINUTES

Received Minutes:

August 12, 2013 - Township Board Regular Meeting

Moved G. Boudreau, seconded A. Wagner, CARRIED, to accept the minutes as read.

REPORTS

Received Reports

- a. August, 2013 Financial Report: A. Wagner noted that there were no discrepancies.

Moved G. Boudreau, seconded R. Fountaine, CARRIED, to acknowledge the Financial Report.

- b. August, 2013 Tax Report

Moved G. Boudreau, seconded R. Fountaine, CARRIED, to accept the Tax Report.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

1. July 23, 2013 meeting minutes from the Delta Solid Waste Management Authority Regular Meeting
2. Assessor Report – August, 2013
3. August 1, 2013 Ford River Township Planning Commission Regular Meeting
4. Notice from the State of Michigan Public Service Commission – Alger-Delta Cooperative Meeting
5. State of Michigan Notice of Hearing for the Customers of DTE Gas Company

WATER SYSTEM BUSINESS

Received the August 2013 Water Report. Moved G. Boudreau, seconded R. Fontaine, CARRIED, to accept the Water Report.

- a. H2O In Motion has now taken over the handling of the water system and representatives from H2O were present and were introduced.
- b. Received estimate for metering of the fire hall. R. Fontaine discussed the need to do this before winter. Metering of the township hall would be considered next year.

Moved by A. Wagner, seconded G. Boudreau, CARRIED, that H2O in Motion proceed in the metering of the fire hall this year.

- c. H2O in Motion will coordinate the fire hall metering with the fire chief.
- d. Fire hydrant needs replacement due to leak. Discussion was held on repair of the hydrant vs replacement. A contractor will be needed to dig up hydrant and set hydrant. R. Fontaine will check into local contractors and further discussion will be held at the next meeting.
- e. H2O in Motion recommends that the heater in the garage needs to be replaced. Jeff had brought this up in the past. Options were discussed. H2O will present quotes on the new heater at the next meeting. Well # 3 will also need to be serviced and it was suggested that this be done next year to stagger the costs.
- f. Two residents are on the same water system and if one gets shut off, the other will also. H2O will look into how to correct this situation.
- g. Percentage of water loss was discussed. This is less than 20%. This will be tracked.
- h. D. Wellman voiced concern regarding past due water bills.
- i. The transducer repair was completed on 9/4/2013.
- j. Water System Ordinance and Resolution. R. Fontaine suggested that this be tabled until the winter.
- k. Letter requesting forgiveness of water bill at 5101 Hwy M-35 due to leak was received. The leak has since been fixed. D. Wellman presented pictures of the repair of the line. The amount to be forgiven is \$195.00. The water charge for June and July will be \$43.00 per month.

Moved A. Wagner, seconded G. Boudreau, CARRIED, to forgive water bill at 5101 Hwy M-35 in the amount of \$195.00.

- l. GEI provided information as to what they have done. Maps are available. There is no balance due. H2O will be reviewing the information.

FIRE DEPARTMENT BUSINESS

Received the Fireman's August 2013 Maintenance Reports.

Fire Chief updates:

1. Fund raising continues. Fall Pancake Breakfast is 10/20/2013 from 8:00 to 1:30.
2. A fall fire school training is being held in Alpena in November. Jon is interested in sending 8 fire fighters to this meeting at the cost of \$180.00 per member which includes meals and lodging.

Moved, R. Fountaine, seconded G. Boudreau, CARRIED, to appropriate funds for 8 members to attend the fire school in Alpena in November.

3. The fire department has a new member, Ryan Giese. That brings the total of firefighters to 30.
4. Fire Department raffle tickets are available from Jon and Brian.

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

5. Fire truck is still being advertised for sale. The price is \$12,000.00.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS AND UPDATES

- a. Roads: A-15 and A-31 have been completed. D. Wellman provided detailed information regarding seasonal roads followed by a detailed discussion.
- b. Zoning Ordinance: We have not gotten the opinion back from the attorney.
- c. Cemetery Ordinance: Will be tabled until the winter. R. Fountaine will be meeting with the sextons.
- d. Cemetery Equipment Repairs: R. Nelson had the weed wacker repairs. R. Nelson discussed the need for servicing of the lawnmower used at the cemetery and R. Fountaine discussed the need for servicing of the lawnmower used at the water tower. G. Boudreau suggested that this be done this winter when the equipment is not in use. This will be further discussed next month.
- e. ATC – R. Fountaine provided a copy of Michigan Act 30. Escanaba Township had submitted an Ordinance for review regarding the plans as presented by ATC. It was decided that no ordinance by Ford River Township would be beneficial.
- f. Signs for 9th Lane – MTA provided R. Fountaine with information on all roads, a copy of which will be provided to the Planning Commission. Bark River does pay for similar signs as needed. Discussion was held as to whether the Township should pay for such signs. The cost is \$250.00 per sign with two needed. The Road Commission will install the signs. These signs will need to be ordered. Future cases will be decided on an individual basis.

Moved A. Wagner, seconded R. Fountaine, CARRIED, that Ford River Township purchase the signs for 9th Lane in the amount of \$500.00. D. Wellman was the only opposing vote.

NEW BUSINESS

Moved G. Boudreau, seconded A. Wagner, CARRIED, to pay bills from the General and Liquor Funds totaling \$20,629.29 and bills from the Water System Fund totaling \$10,186.03.

- a. Assessor's Contract : V. Esch was here working and was available for questions if needed. The extension of the contract would be for two years.

Moved G. Boudreau, seconded, R. Fountaine, CARRIED, to renew Assessor's Contract for two more years.

- b. Dickinson County board of Commissioners – "Trail Tourism" – Dickinson County Board of Commissioners as that we pass a Resolution of Support For the Promotion and Development of a Southern U.P. Route for the Governor's Proposed Belle Isle to Ironwood Michigan Trail. This would promote more tourism in the Southern U.P. Discussion followed.

Moved G. Boudreau, seconded A. Wagner, CARRIED, to support Dickinson County Board of Commissioners Resolution #2013. A roll call vote was taken with all in favor.

- c. Ice Cream Social – This was held 8/25/2013 with 123 people being served. The fire department received \$145.75 in donations. \$145.00 in raffle tickets were sold. The cost of the social to the Township was \$94.63. D. Wellman provided a complete display of pictures and extensive information on Ford River. The Board thanked D. Wellman for his time and effort. Discussion was held on how to preserve this display and information. G. Boudreau suggested that possibly the gym at the Ford River School could be purchased and could be transformed into a museum to house and preserve all this information. Further discussion on this will be held next month.

PUBLIC/BOARD COMMENTS

- a. Appreciation for the Ford River Township Fire Department and their efforts was expressed.

Moved G. Boudreau, seconded A. Wagner, CARRIED, to adjourn at 8:14 p.m.

Patricia Anderson

Patricia Anderson, Clerk

10/14/13

Approved: