

SOO TOWNSHIP MONTHLY BOARD MEETING
Soo Township Community Center
July 10, 2013

Present:

Larry Perron, Supervisor
Jim Callon
Don Kucharczyk
Cheryl Thoresen
Andree Watson

The July meeting was called to order at 7 p.m. by Supervisor, Larry Perron. Larry Bitner, Anne Earle, Jeff Killips, Luanne Kooiman, and Chuck Palmer were in attendance.

A correction was made to the June 12th minutes. A garnishment will be sent out to Stub's Trucking & Excavating for back 2010 taxes. **A motion was made by Don Kucharczyk supported by Cheryl Thoresen to approve the minutes of the June 12, 2013 Annual Meeting as presented and the June 12, 2013 monthly Board Meeting as corrected. Motion carried.**

Jim Callon reported it is the Planning Commission's recommendation that Larry Bitner be granted a Special Use Permit to construct a duplex at 3537 Reynolds Lane on property that is presently zoned single family. A public meeting was held and neighbors petitioned for approval. **A Motion was made by Jim Callon and supported by Andree Watson to approve the Planning Commission's recommendation of allowing a Special Use Permit for the construction of a duplex at 3537 Reynolds Lane which is presently zoned single family dwelling. Motion carried.**

Anne Earle from Neebish Island thanked the Board for allowing her to speak at the Annual meeting and reiterated the need for paved roads on Neebish Island. Mrs. Earle also presented a list of questions she would like the Board to answer regarding the pavement of roads on Neebish Island

Luanne Kooiman, Assessor, presented the following Land Divisions for approval:

#012-321 Osborn – Parcel A Resolution #2013-3

#012-322 Osborn – Parcel B Resolution #2013-4

A Motion was made by Don Kucharczyk and supported by Jim Callon to approve the Land Divisions as presented. A roll-call vote was taken: Larry Perron-yes, Don Kucharczyk-yes, Jim Callon-yes, Andree Watson-yes, and Cheryl Thoresen-yes. Motion Carried.

The Assessor presented the 2013 Tax Rate options for Soo Township Operations for 2013. **A Motion was made by Andree Watson and supported by Don Kucharczyk that per Resolution #2013-5, the total millage rate of 1.6083 mills be levied upon property located within Soo Township for 2013. A Roll-call vote was taken: Don Kucharczyk-yes, Jim Callon-yes, Andree Watson-yes, Cheryl Thoresen-yes, and Larry Perron. Motion carried.**

Jeff Killips presented the monthly fire department report. The new truck will be arriving approximately September. Six volunteer firemen from Soo Township responded to a barge fire in June.

The Clerk read the following communications received:

- Notarized letter from Rodney Sadler dated July 5, 2013
- Letter from Anne Earle, Neebish Island dated June 13, 2013
- Letter from Neebish Island Improvement Association dated June 17, 2013
- Thank you via email from Mr. & Mrs. Greg Warner and Mrs. MacLean for the beautiful condition of Pine Grove Cemetery.

The Budget vs Actual figures for the 2012/2013 fiscal year were presented.

A letter Agreement from AT&T for the *Metro Act Right of Way Permit Extension* was received. The Agreement will be signed and forwarded to AT&T.

A Motion was made by Jim Callon and supported by Don Kucharczyk to approve the purchase of a new printer for the clerk at a cost not to exceed \$215. A Roll-call vote was taken: Larry Perron-yes, Don Kucharczyk-yes, Jim Callon-yes, Andree Watson-yes, and Cheryl Thoresen-yes. Motion carried.

A Motion was made by Andree Watson and supported by Cheryl Thoresen to adopt the *Principles of Governance* as proposed by the Michigan Township Association. Motion carried.

The Treasurer reported that the 2013 tax notices have been mailed out and as of July 2nd, tax collection hours will be on Tuesdays from 9:00 to 1:00 and Fridays from 1:00 to 5:00 with tax collection from 9:00 to 5:00 on September 16. The Treasurer is checking into residents being able to pay their taxes by Visa. There will be a 3% charge for residents to utilize Visa cards. However, there will be no charge to the Township.

Jim Callon reported there were 2 permits issued for June.

The Attorney, Chuck Palmer, reported the Tribunal for Wendy's was settled with an agreement of a value of \$450,000 on the property.

The Attorney reported that there have been some responses to Nuisance Ordinance letters that were mailed out last month.

Telephone calls to Amber Clement regarding the clean-up of her property went unanswered. A drive-by indicated that the trailer had been moved; new fencing was visible for the chickens. The shed has not been moved. However, the property owners would have to get a survey, at their own expense, to determine whose property the shed is on and how far from the property line the shed presently is. As far as the remaining complaints Mr. Sadler addressed that are within the Township's description of the Nuisance Ordinance, they have all been addressed to the Township's satisfaction.

The Road Commission submitted cost figures for the following roads under consideration in Soo Township:

1. The total cost of Riverside Drive between 3 & 4 Mile is \$557,135. Soo Township's portion is \$60,267.50
2. Soo Township's portion of 15 Mile Road, Neebish Island, a distance of 1.36 Miles, is \$96,964.
3. Soo Township's portion of 17 ½ Mile Road, Neebish Island, a distance of 1.5 Miles is \$106,964.

Federal Funds may be available for 17 ½ Mile Road, Neebish Island, but not for 15 Mile Road.

A Motion was made by Jim Callon and supported by Cheryl Thoresen to approve the Road Commission's resurfacing of Riverside Drive at a cost of \$60,267.50. A Roll-call vote was taken: Jim Callon-yes, Andree Watson-yes, Cheryl Thoresen-yes, Larry Perron-yes, and Don Kucharczyk-yes. Motion carried.

A Motion was made by Jim Callon and supported by Don Kucharczyk to amend the 2013/2014 budget by adding \$40,000 to Road Construction Line Item from the carry-over amount in the General Fund for a potential road project on Neebish Island. A Roll-call vote was taken: Don Kucharczyk-yes, Jim Callon-yes, Andree Watson-yes, Cheryl Thoresen-yes, and Larry Perron-yes. Motion carried.

A Motion was made by Don Kucharczyk and supported by Cheryl Thoresen to approve the Road Commission's resurfacing of 15 Mile Road, Neebish Island, at a cost of \$96,964. This project not eligible for Federal Funds. A Roll-call vote was taken: Jim Callon-no, Cheryl Thoresen-yes, Larry Perron-yes, Don Kucharczyk-yes, and Andree Watson-no. Motion carried.

The Supervisor received a concern from a Neebish Island resident that the ships passing by were causing such a wake that beach front is eroding. The supervisor was told by the Corps of Engineers that they would need a resolution at the local level and then they would do a review/ research. The Attorney is reviewing the request.

A Motion was made by Don Kucharczyk and supported by Jim Callon to approve the June bills from check #6607 to check #6646 totaling \$29,644.83 (ck #'s 6634 to 6638 were used for July payroll) and July bills from check #6634 to check #6667 totaling \$14,0221.49 including Electronic Transfer in the amount of \$3,445.20 for June payroll taxes. Motion carried.

Andree Watson
Clerk