

SOO TOWNSHIP MONTHLY BOARD MEETING
Soo Township Community Center
September 11, 2019

PRESENT

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

The September Board Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by the Supervisor, Larry Perron, following the Pledge of Allegiance. Katee Blalock, Rob Blalock, Marianne Freebury, Tim Freebury, Jeff Killips, Les Laitinen, Chris Matheny, Tim Moher, Chuck Palmer, Mike Povey, Rob Shields, Amanda TenEyck, Eric Thomas and Todd Vandersys were in attendance.

Tim Moher, Sugar Island resident, brought the Board up-to-date on the efforts to enlist local townships and cities in their attempt to draw attention to the State, Federal Government and Coast Guard in the problems with ice breaking and issues regarding high water on the St. Mary's River. Mr. Moher also stated that a Harbor Safety Committee is being formed with 14 members presently, to continue to monitor the problems. Mr. Les Laitinen, a Neebish Island resident, has agreed to be the representative for Soo Township with the Board's full approval.

Residents Tim and Marianne Freebury, and Rob and Katee Blalock approached the Board with the issue of constant barking dogs in their neighborhood. This issue was brought to the Board's attention several months ago, addressed, and dismissed when problem appeared to be resolved. The problem has returned. They have approached the County Animal Control with no results. The Board recommended that they call Jim German and Don McLean from the County Commission. They were also instructed to call the Supervisor if the County will not assist them.

Amanda TenEyck, Osborn Subdivision resident, spoke to the Board about the neighborhood having more young children in the area and wondering if a play ground on Township Property could be a reality. The Board agreed to look into the request, including the liability.

Fire Chief, Jeff Killips, gave the monthly Fire Department report. Chief Killips reported that there has been 300 hours of Emergency Services rendered this year. Estimates have been received for a new furnace for the fire hall. The fire department presented pros and cons for a new fire hall. The Supervisor suggested a committee be formed to look into the matter.

Two estimates have been received on the replacement of the furnace in the fire hall.

A Motion was made and supported to approve Land Division #012-361, Resolution #2019-25 (Williams). 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 keep the Soo Township Mileage rate for Operations the same as previous years, 1.6083 mills, for the 2019 tax season per Resolution #2019-26. 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 minutes of August 14, 2019. Motion carried.

The Clerk reported that the Fall Clean-up days for Soo Township have been confirmed with GFL Sanitation for October 14th through Saturday, October 19th. An announcement will be placed in the Evening News and on the website.

The Clerk and Treasurer will attend the "MTA-On-The-Road" Session in St. Ignace October 24th.

The Clerk reported that Osborn Junk Yard has paid 1 Judgment in full in the amount of \$1,842.76.

Budget vs Actual for month of August was presented and discussed.

The Planning Commission report was given by Jim Callon. Six building permits were approved by Permit Administration for the month of August.

A Motion was made by Jim Callon and supported by Don Kucharczyk to amend Resolution #2019-21, Soo Township, Michigan to Chippewa County, Michigan for Federal Oversight and State Assistance in Essential Ferry Service to Chippewa County Islands, to Resolution #2019-21A, with two added items regarding high water concerns. A Roll-call vote was taken: Jim Callon-yes, Andree Watson-yes, Cheryl Thoresen-yes, Larry Perron-yes, Don Kucharczyk-yes. Motion Carried.

A discussion was held regarding a statement made by the City Attorney at the recent City Commission meeting stating that Soo Township did not have any services in the township that can be found in the City, i.e., fire protection, police protection, and ambulance services. Several Firemen responded to the false comment and reported they have assisted the Sault Ste. Marie Fire Department on several occasions when asked through a Mutual Aid Agreement. **A Motion was made by Jim Callon and supported by Don Kucharczyk to approve the Attorney writing a letter to the Sault Ste. Marie City Commissioners, Mayor, and Attorney, refuting claims made by the City Attorney regarding services available to Soo Township Residents. Motion Carried.**

A Motion was made by Jim Callon and supported by Don Kucharczyk to pay the August checks from #10131 to #10139 totaling \$8,789.44 and September bills from ck #10140 to ck #10173, totaling \$17,987.47, including Electronic payment in the amount of \$3,563.74 for August payroll taxes. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 9:45 pm.

Andree Watson
Township Clerk