

**SOO TOWNSHIP MONTHLY BOARD MEETING**  
**Soo Township Hall**  
**March 9, 2022**

PRESENT

Larry Perron  
Allen Walther  
Jim Callon  
Don Kucharczyk

EXCUSED

Cheryl Thoresen

The March monthly Board Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Larry Perron, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Pam Chipman, Chuck Palmer, Jeff Killips & Eric Thomas were in attendance.

**Public Comment:**

No members of the public in attendance.

**Board Meeting Minutes:**

-The February board meeting minutes were discussed.

**-A Motion was made by Jim Callon and supported by Don Kucharczyk to approve the minutes of the Monthly Board Meeting of February 09, 2022. Motion carried.**

**Fire Dept report:**

-Jeff Killips reported there were no fire department runs for the time period between 02/01/22 and 3/09/22.

-J. Killips reported efforts were being made to get a list and quotes for repair needed for the 402 fire truck. So far it was noted that much of the plumbing was corroded would need repair. Air tanks and the muffler were also corroded. He will be getting a diesel mechanic to give quote for engine work.

-J. Killips also brought up the possibility of a Fire Dept Dinner. He will check with the tribe/casino for feasibility.

-Eric Thomas brought up the discussion of paying the volunteer fire fighters a "per run" stipend to cover gas for them. A. Walther will look into the legalities and how other townships do it.

**Assessors Report:**

-Pam Chipman reported and briefed a land division request for the Norris Property (Parcel 012-075-007-00). A brief discussion was held and everything seemed in order.

**J. Callon made a motion and it was supported by D. Kucharczyk to approve the land division.**

**A roll call vote was held to approve the land division for parcel 012-075-007-00. J. Callon (yes), D. Kucharczyk (yes), A. Walther (yes) & L. Perron (yes). Motion carried.**

**Clerk's Report:**

-A. Walther reported the Township had received a franchise request from Cloverland Electric. C. Palmer reviewed the request and informed the board its' purpose.

**D. Kucharczyk made a motion and it was supported by J. Callon to approve the franchise agreement. A roll call vote was held J. Callon (yes), D. Kucharczyk (yes), A. Walther (yes), L. Perron (yes). The motion carried to approve the franchise agreement with Cloverland Electric.**

-A. Walther submitted to the board a letter and request form for 2% funds from the Sault Tribe for \$100,000 to assist with outfitting the new fire truck. A discussion was held and board members all agreed that the letter and form should be submitted as written.

-A. Walther reported he will be out of town from 3/25-4/2.

-A. Walther reported that we will schedule a budget meeting for the next FY in late April.

**-A. Walther recommended that we transfer \$500 from the Contingency Fund (899-957) to the Mainland Street Lighting (448-926). And that we transfer \$300 from the Contingency Fund (899-957) to the Neebish Island Street Lighting (448-927).**

A discussion was held as to why the electric bills for these items had exceeded the budget. A. Walther will contact Cloverland to attempt to figure it out.

**J. Callon made a motion and it was supported by D. Kucharczyk to approve the transfers. A roll call vote was held, J. Callon (yes), D. Kucharczyk (yes), A. Walther (yes), L. Perron (yes). The motion passed.**

**Treasurer's Report:**

-C. Thoresen passed the following information to the board via A. Walther:

-The General Fund balance is \$426,890.69

-She submitted a question as to what Check number 11432 was for. A. Walther reported it was three months worth of billing due to an address change issue with AT&T.

-C. Thoresen submitted a copy of a water bill the city of Sault Ste Marie wants added to the residents' tax bill for collection. C. Palmer will look into how that can be done.

-The ARPA fund balance is \$161,414.05

-C. Thoresen reported she will be out of town from 3/12 thru 4/23. She will check phone messages daily while gone.

-C. Thoresen submitted the settlement sheet for property taxes with the county.

-C. Thoresen had asked 5 individuals if they were interested in the Treasurer's job. All declined.

-C. Thoresen reported a discrepancy on the website for the operating hour of the cemetery. It should read May thru Oct. A. Walther will take care of it.

**Planning Commission Report:**

-J. Callon reported that the commission all had copies of the Master plan and that they would review it this month.

**Permit Administrator:**

-J. Callon reported no permits issued recently.

**Attorney's Report:**

-C. Palmer reported that settlements had been reached for the Caster and Siegwart cases. Mr. Caster delivered \$908.14 to him for the settlement amount. C. Palmer informed him that he still needs to clean-up the property despite paying the settlement.

-Mike Pages was served. He has asked for an extension to respond due to inability to find an attorney. The extension was granted to 23 March 2022.

-A discussion was held on the marijuana growing operation by Mr. Martin. C. Palmer reported that it appeared that he was operating within the law as far as the growing was concerned. He may be in violation of the Township Nuisance ordinance due to the smell.

**Supervisor's Report:**

-L. Perron reported he has been unable to confirm the generator noise complaint from a 4 Mile Rd. resident. J. Callon also stated a Planning Commission member lived near by and hadn't heard the generator. No further action to be taken at this time.

-L. Perron opened up a discussion about the fire department funding. He stated that the repairs to the fire truck in January should not come out of the fire dept budget. If they end up exceeding their budget that repair cost should be covered by a funds transfer if needed.

**J. Callon made a motion and it was supported by D. Kucharczyk to approve the payment of the February bills, payroll and tax withholdings as follows:**

**February checks for bills: Check#'s 11430-11433, 11444-11452, 11454-11456, 11458-11459 and (1) Electronic Transfers totaling \$6708.59**

**February Payroll checks: Check#'s 11429, 11434-11443, 11453 totaling \$6962.93**

**February Payroll taxes: US Treasury- \$1789.04, MI DOT (Ck 11428)-\$346.49 totaling \$2135.53**

**J. Callon made a motion and it was supported by D. Kucharczyk to adjourn the meeting.**

The meeting adjourned at 8:25pm.

Allen Walther, Township Clerk