

**SOO TOWNSHIP MONTHLY BOARD MEETING**  
**Soo Township Hall**  
**April 13, 2022**

PRESENT

Larry Perron  
Allen Walther  
Jim Callon  
Don Kucharczyk

EXCUSED

Cheryl Thoresen

The April 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, Krista Adams, Ken Lind, Mark Van Doren & Michael Pages were in attendance.

**Public Comment:**

-Mark Van Doren asked the board about the possibility of a large chain store purchasing property within Soo Township. The Board advised Mr. Van Doren to present his idea/plan to the Planning Commission since it may require re-zoning.

-Mike Pages (Proline Automotive), requested the board reconsider the on going lawsuit against him. Mr. Perron informed him that he needs to be in compliance with the current Special Use Permit and if he desires to make any changes to that permit he needs to attend the next Planning Commission Meeting in May.

-Ken Lind of Lind & Lind Insurance Company presented the board with the Township's insurance renewal package. After a brief discussion of the policy the board thanked Mr. Lind for coming.

**Board Meeting Minutes:**

-The March board meeting minutes were discussed. There was one clarification that needed to be addressed within the fire dept report. The correction was made.

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

**Assessors Report:**

-Pam Chipman reported and briefed on two land division requests. One for the Burton Property (012-033-015-00) and another for the Gordon & Kuczewski properties (012-086-013-50/60).

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

**A roll call vote was held to approve the land divisions for parcels 012-075-007-00 and 012-086-103-50/60. J. Callon (yes), D. Kucharczyk (yes), A. Walther (yes) & L. Perron (yes). Motion carried.**

**Fire Dept report:**

-Jeff Killips reported there were no fire department runs for the time period between 03/01/22 and 4/13/22.

-J. Killips reported that one of the garage doors was damaged. The door has been temporarily fixed. Mr. Killips will look into the cost to repair and a decision will be made as to whether an insurance claim will be submitted.

-J. Killips stated that the Fire Department dinner has been scheduled for April 23 at the casino.

-J. Killips stated that he expects the new fire truck to be delivered to Grayling within a week or so for continued outfitting.

**Clerk's Report:**

-A. Walther that Pine Grove Cemetery would be opening on 02 May and that there were already 3 burials tentatively planned for early May depending on how wet the areas are.

-A. Walther discussed his findings of how Bruce township pays a stipend to their volunteer fire fighters. The Board showed interest in pursuing this and it will be discussed at the budget workshop later in the month.

-A. Walther reported the request for 2% funds from the Sault tribe was hand delivered after last months meeting. Nothing has been heard yet.

-A. Walther reported that the Budget workshop for next FY will be held on April 28<sup>th</sup> at 1pm.

-A. Walther submitted a letter addressed to the US DOT in support of the Sault Tribes request for grant money for the Shunk Rd corridor.

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

-A. Walther reported that the cell phone used by the Cemetery Sexton no longer worked due to it being old (3g) technology. A new phone will be purchased.

-A. Walther discussed the procedure to purchase the fire truck and document it. He will consult with the Auditor as to the best way to document the expenditure.

-A. Walther reported that the first ARPA Funds report had been submitted on line per Treasury Dept directives. No spending of ARPA funds was reported.

-A. Walther reported that electric bill issues brought up at the March meeting had been looked into. It was discovered that some of the bill line items had been placed in the wrong spending categories. The mistakes were corrected.

-A. Walther reported that Soo Township has received \$3200 back from the insurance company (MCCA Refund).

-A. Walther reported that Jim Talentino had resigned from the Park Security job. L. Perron recommended that a letter of appreciation along with a gift card be sent to Mr. Talentino in recognition of his 13+ years with the Township.

Mr. Tom Sherman had shown interest in the job as he lives across the street from the park. Further discussions will be held with Mr. Sherman to layout the job description and expectations.

-A. Walther recommend the following budget Adjustments:

**Transfer \$200 from the Mainland Street lighting (448-926) to Neebish Island Street Lighting (448-927).**

**Transfer \$1000 from the Mainland Street lighting (448-926) to Neebish Island Electricity (265-921).**

**D. Kucharczyk made a motion and it was supported by J. Callon 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:**

-No report.

**Planning Commission Report:**

-J. Callon reported that the commission was still working on the review of the master plan. By laws had been developed and are in place.

**Permit Administrator:**

-J. Callon reported 3 permits issued recently.

**Attorney's Report:**

-C. Palmer discussed the current status of the Pages lawsuit and options the board had in reference to any possible solutions.

-C. Palmer stated a letter had been sent to Mr. Caster thanking him for the payment of his settlement but that he needs to continue to clean up the property.

-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. After a discussion the board thought it best to ask Mr. Martin to fix the situation.

**Supervisor's Report:**

-L. Perron opened a discussion about the Kilackey Rd drainage issue. He stated that the County Road commission is the lead on the issue.

-L. Perron opened up a discussion that the RV repair facility on 3 Mile Rd. needs to be cleaned-up. C. Palmer said he would send a letter.

-L. Perron brought up that there were too many vehicles parked in front of the Savoie garage. His special use permit limited it to 3 vehicles. C. Palmer will send a letter.

-L. Perron discussed the Treasurer position with Krista Adams who has shown interest in the position. Once C. Thoresen returns a meeting will be held to determine the best way to move forward.

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

**March checks for bills: Check#'s 11473-11479, 11481, 11485, 11488 and (1) Electronic Transfers totaling \$4692.07**

**March Payroll checks: Check#'s 11460, 11462-11472, 11480, 11482-11484, 11486-11487 totaling \$8006.62**

**March Payroll taxes: US Treasury- \$1886.68, MI DOT (Ck 11461)-\$343.46 totaling \$2230.14**

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

The meeting adjourned at 8:55pm.

Allen Walther, Township Clerk