

SOO TOWNSHIP MONTHLY BOARD MEETING
Soo Township Hall
Aug 9, 2023

PRESENT

Larry Perron
Allen Walther
Krista Broos-Adams
Jim Callon
Don Kucharczyk

ABSENT

The August monthly Board Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Larry Perron, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Jeff Killips, Pam Chipman and Charles Palmer were in attendance. Member of the public, Linda Bourque was also present.

Public Comment:

Linda Bourque asked about the potential for getting 4 ½ Mile Rd. (off Baker Side Rd.) paved. L. Perron let her know that the project would be a few years down the road due to high cost and previously planned road projects within the Township.

Board Meeting Minutes:

-The July 12, 2023 regular meeting minutes were discussed.

-A Motion was made by Don Kucharczyk and supported by Jim Callon to approve the minutes of the regular Board Meeting minutes of July 12, 2023. Motion carried.

Fire Dept report (Jeff Killips):

-1 fire run reported for the month.

-Reported that Trans Canada had donated \$2500 to the fire dept.

Assessors Report (Pam Chipman):

-The Board of Review met on July 18 and conducted approximately 12 reviews.

Clerk's Report (Allen Walther):

-Presented the final FY22-23 budget for review.

-Discussed the request from Kinross EMS to participate in and provide funding for an feasibility study to form a EMS Authority in the EUP.

-A Motion was made by A. Walther and supported by Jim Callon to not participate in the group nor provide any funding. A roll call vote was held and all approved. Motion carried.

-Sault Schools is placing a millage request in the Nov 2023 election. Since this is the only item on the ballot the school system should be responsible for the cost within Soo Twp.

-Cemetery grounds keepers have both said this is their final season to work at Pine Grove. We will finish the season with the help of Tom Thoresen and look to hire new grounds keepers in the Spring of 2024.

-Trans-Canada has donated \$2500 to the Soo Twp Fire Dept and the check has been deposited in the General Fund. Request to increase the Fire Dept Operating Supplies (336-757) line item by \$2500 to a total of \$49500.

J. Callon made a motion and it was supported by K. Broos-Adams to approve the budget increase of \$2500 to the Fire Dept Operating Supplies (336-757). A roll call vote was held and all approved. Motion passed.

-Recommend the following budget adjustments for current FY:

-None

Treasurer's Report (Krista Broos-Adams):

-The Tax Acct was reported to have a negative balance due to a bank error. A deposit was made for over \$18k in July but was deposited in the General Fund not the Tax Acct. The error was discovered on Aug 3rd and the deposit was placed in the Tax Acct.

-CD established with First National Bank as discussed at last meeting. Terms are 24 months @ 4.6%.

Planning Commission Report (Jim Callon):

-Discussed the draft Master Plan that has been distributed to board members.

J.Callon made a motion and it was supported by D. Kucharczyk to place the draft Master Plan out to Public Comment. A roll call vote was held all approved. Motion passed.

-Planning Commission forwarded on a couple addresses that need grass cutting. Addresses were given to C. Palmer to initiate letters.

Permit Administrator (Jim Callon):

-3 building permits were issued in the last month.

Attorney's Report (Charles Palmer):

-Discussed the status of all ongoing legal cases within the township.

-Discussed Radar Rd. issues with trucks. Truck traffic appears to be traveling at safe speeds and water trucks/street sweepers have been observed.

-Discussed water agreements between residents and the City of Sault Ste Marie. Many of the agreements are expiring soon. C. Palmer will contact the city to discuss.

-Discussed the request of the new "Carpet Mart" being built on 3 Mile Rd. at the old RV repair shop location. They have requested to attach to City water.

J.Callon made a motion and it was supported by D. Kucharczyk that Soo Twp have no objection to the business connecting to City water lines. A roll call vote was held all approved. Motion passed.

Supervisor's Report (Larry Perron):

-Discussed ongoing property clean-ups within the Twp.

-Discussed the request for a speed limit study on Baker Side Rd. The MI State Police require a Twp Resolution in order to proceed.

D. Kucharczyk made a motion and it was supported by K. Broos-Adams to pass a resolution (2023-07) to request the State Police conduct a speed limit study on Baker Side Rd. A roll call vote was held: K.Broos-Adams, L. Perron, & D. Kucharczyk were yes, J. Callon and A. Walther were nay. Motion Passed.

-Neebish Island community requested the boards approval to build an extensions on to the existing community center for storage. This would be done at no cost to Soo Twp.

D. Kucharczyk made a motion and it was supported by J. Callon to permit the Neebish Isl Improvement Assoc. to build and extension on the community center at no cost to Soo Twp. A roll call vote was held and all approved. Motion passed.

-Discussed roof replacement, lighting upgrades and ceiling tile replacement to the Community Center.

-Reported that a discussion was held with the road commission regarding speed limit signs on Scenic Dr. Road Comm. will look into it and replace signs in required.

-Local road line painting is still schedule according to the road commission.

-Discussed Radar Rd. issues. Washouts have occurred and the Road Comm will take care of them.

-Discussed the ongoing issues with the gravel pits along Radar Rd. Discussions had been held with two of the three pit owners and they agreed to be vigilant try to address the issues.

Payment Approvals:

J. Callon made a motion and it was supported by D. Kucharczyk to approve the payment of the July and Aug (up to 8/9) bills, payroll and payroll taxes as follows:

July Payments as of 7/31:

July checks for bills: Check#'s 12311-12337, 12353-12362, (3) ET's totaling \$44157.92

July Payroll checks: Check#'s 12310, 12338-12352 totaling \$9237.61

July Payroll taxes: US Treasury-\$5457.81 (ET), MI DOT \$1032.36 (ET) totaling \$6490.17

Total Expenses as of 7/31: \$59885.70

Aug Payments as of 8/9:

Aug checks for bills: Check#'s 12370-12389, 12400-12412 and (1) ET, totaling \$38537.43

Aug Payroll checks: Check#'s 12363-12369, 12390-12399 totaling \$12363.57

Aug Payroll taxes: US Treasury-\$2697.27 (ET on 8/15), MI DOT \$539.30 (ET on 8/08) totaling \$3236.57

Total Expenses as of 8/9: \$54137.57

A roll call vote was held and all board members approved, the motion passed to pay the July and Aug (partial) bills, payroll, and payroll taxes as presented.

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