

SOO TOWNSHIP MONTHLY BOARD MEETING
Soo Township Hall
April 10, 2024

PRESENT

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

ABSENT

The April monthly Board Meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Larry Perron, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Jeff Killips and Charles Palmer, and Pam Chipman were in attendance.

Public Comment:

-None

Acceptance of Agenda:

-A Motion was made by J. Callon and supported by D. Kucharczyk to approve the Agenda as presented for the regular Board Meeting of April 10, 2024. Motion carried.

Board Meeting Minutes:

-The Mar 13, 2024 regular meeting minutes were discussed.

-A Motion was made by K. Broos-Adams and supported by D. Kucharczyk to approve the minutes of the regular Board Meeting minutes of March 13, 2024. Motion carried.

Fire Dept report (Jeff Killips):

-7 fire runs reported for the month.

-Fire Truck 402 will be brought to CSI soon to get front end suspension work done. Overall refurbishment date is still up in the air.

Assessors Report (Pam Chipman):

- Discussed assessed values reports.
- Board of Review members did very well in the March Board of Review.
- Discussed upcoming assessing audit. Will work with clerk on required items.

Clerk's Report (Allen Walther):

- Reported that the annual ARPA report had been submitted. Currently intend to use remaining funds for refurbishment of fire truck.
- Still looking for grass cutters for the cemetery. Job posted at the high school and we have one applicant as of now. Depending on applicants we may consider a part time grass cutter (20 hrs/week) to augment the two full time.
- Election paperwork for board member positions due April 23,2024.
- Brought the new county wide Early Voting Agreement to the board for approval.

-A Motion was made by J. Callon and supported by D. Kucharczyk to approve the Aug/Nov 2024 Chippewa County Early Voting Agreement as presented. Motion carried.

-Recommend the following budget adjustments for current FY:

- Increase Fire Dept-Operating Supplies (336-757) by \$10,000 (FD Grant from State of Michigan)
- Transfer the \$4000 from Contingency Fund (899-957) to Clerk-Office Supplies (215-727).
- Transfer the \$1500 from Contingency Fund (899-957) to Fire Dept-FF Stipend (336-860).
- Transfer the \$1300 from Planning Commission Wages (721-702) to Trustee Salaries (101-702).

-A Motion was made by D. Kucharczyk and supported by K. Broos-Adams to approve the budget adjustments as presented. A roll call vote was held and all voted yes. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report (Krista Broos-Adams):

- The tax account balance as of 31 Mar was \$1761.42.
- The General Fund balance as of 31 Mar was \$620038.17.

Planning Commission Report (Jim Callon):

-Reported Planning Commission was appreciative of the board for approving the Master Plan.

-Presented two potential candidates for the Planning Commission membership. Mr. Arlen Bell and Mr. Tom Nelson.

-A Motion was made by D. Kucharczyk and supported by A. Walther to approve both Arlen Bell & Tom Nelson as members of the Planning Commission. A roll call vote was held and all voted yes. Motion carried.

-Planning Commission intends to begin review of Zoning Ordinance as there are a number of corrections that need to be done.

-Discussed need for green energy policies.

-Discussed the possible need for ordinance controlling "tiny homes".

Permit Administrator (Jim Callon):

-One permit issued (County Sheriff garage).

Attorney's Report (Charles Palmer):

-Discussed the status of all ongoing legal cases and property clean up issues within the township.

-Discussed green energy issues and recommended that Soo Twp may want to establish an ordinance to regulate these issues. Planning Commission will move forward on this subject.

-Discussed work on drafting of Gravel pit ordinance. A draft ordinance was given to board members to preview. Discussed the need to move forward on this.

Supervisor's Report (Larry Perron):

-Discussed ongoing issues with EUPTA and the Neebish Island Ferry schedule. Board recognizes frustrations NI residents have with EUPTA. Board concluded that letters of support will be sent to the different government entities involved. Letters will ask for remedies to maintain more than a 12 hr ferry schedule and support the residents on the island.

Payment Approvals:

J. Callon made a motion and it was supported by D. Kucharczyk to approve the payment of the March and April (up to 4/10) bills, payroll and payroll taxes as follows:

Mar Payments as of 3/31:

Mar checks for bills: Check#'s 12771-12800, 12803-12807 and (2) ET's totaling \$20374.25

Mar Payroll checks: Check#'s 12748-12770, 12801-12802 totaling \$11937.70

Mar Payroll taxes: US Treasury-\$2809.82 (ET on 3/15), MI DOT \$563.00 (ET on 563.00) totaling \$3372.82

Total Expenses as of 3/31: \$35684.77

Apr Payments as of 4/10:

Apr checks for bills: Check#'s 12819-12849 and (2) ET's totaling \$16665.63

Apr Payroll checks: Check#'s 12808-12818 totaling \$7671.48

Apr Payroll taxes: US Treasury-\$3284.51 (ET on 4/15), MI DOT \$698.56 (ET on 4/08) totaling \$3983.07

Total Expenses as of 4/10: \$28320.18

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

J. Callon made a motion and it was supported by A.Walther to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 7:55pm.

Allen Walther, Township Clerk