

January 27, 2012

A regular board meeting was held on Wednesday, January 18th at 4:30 p.m. All board members were present. There were 8 public participants at the meeting.

Motion by Aho, supported by Kut to approve the minutes from meetings held on December 14th and December 21st. All ayes.

Motion carried.

Motion by Seppala, supported by Dalpra to approve the agenda as submitted. All ayes. Motion carried.

FIRE DEPARTMENT ISSUES AND FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT:

Ray Niemi, Fire Chief reported that there were a total of two fire calls in the month of December. Approximately, 48 man hours were spent in fighting the fires, Niemi stated. The department held one practice and or training sessions during the month. Replacement of the air solenoid on the tanker was also completed, stated Niemi. Niemi also requested approval from the board that on February 4th the Fire Chief's Association will be having their annual meeting in Iron Mountain. The registration cost is \$10.00 per person, and if approved he would like to attend. Niemi stated that there is some interest from the volunteers and if that would be possible for them to attend also. Approval was given by the board. Motion by Seppala, supported by Kut to approve the Fire Chief's report for December. All ayes. Motion carried.

CRYSTAL FALLS SKI HILL UPDATE:

Lesandrini stated that the ski hill is up and running. "Crystal Falls Township has helped out the new management of the recreational facility in several areas" said Lesandrini. Lesandrini commented that the concession stands are opened and the facility passed all the inspections. Lesandrini stated that financially they are doing OK, having received donations of money and in-kind services, including Connor Sport Flooring, which helped with the lodge. "The hill is opened, said Lesandrini, weather permitting, Tuesday, from 4:00 to 8:00 p.m., Fridays from 4:00 to 9:00 p.m., Saturdays from noon to 9:00 p.m., and Sundays from noon to 4:00 p.m. Daily passes are \$8.00, season passes are \$35.00 and family are \$80.00." Season passes may also be used for night skiing at Ski Brule, stated Lesandrini. Fire Chief, Niemi said "that at its January 18th meeting the water for the rink was applied "in one big wave," using fire department apparatus. Approximately 62,000 gallons was used to fill the rink, with about an inch of ice. Three to six inches have been put on. Rather than spraying the water, the wave "levels out". Lesandrini stated that the committee is looking for volunteers if anyone would be interested.

2012-2013 Township Budget:

Lesandrini commented that a big problem area is with garbage collection and recycling, which operates at a deficit every year. "I'm looking at spending \$8,000 for bags this year, said Lesandrini, so we need to come up with a plan." "Raising the bag price to \$4.00 or more is not the answer" said Lesandrini, "Perhaps we should consider going to the sticker system, which would be more economical. 2,000 stickers would cost \$50.00, which is quite a savings. I will have more information for the board at the next meeting." "As far as budgeting process, Mary and myself will be starting it. We will have a work in progress copy sent to each board member for any notes or changes that you would want to make. A public budget hearing meeting will be held before March to review each line item by line item, which is how we did it last year. Once that is completed the board will have its budget hearing and approve the budget."

SUMMER TAX COLLECTIONS:

Dalpra presented the board with information regarding summer tax collection. "Set Collection Resolution adopted on 10/8/02, recent communication with Forest Park, cost verification and signed agreements by the Forest Park School District and Dickinson-Iron Intermediate School District. Based on the L-4022 report, the 2011 taxable parcels in the township total 2,636. The cost of \$2.50 per parcel would be \$6,590.00." Dalpra said, "Moving forward with the summer collection requires consideration for salary increases for the Treasurer and Clerk, and an increase in budgeted time for the Deputy Treasurer". A motion by Dalpra, supported by Kut to approve signing the agreement with Forest Park School District to collect summer taxes, and also further discussion on compensation. Aho stated that he wanted to make sure that compensation was discussed as there will be a cost increase. Roll call was taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

IRON COUNTY SOLID WASTE PLAN:

After further discussion, a motion by Seppala, supported by Dalpra to approve the resolution for the county's amended solid waste plan. Roll call was taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Dalpra, supported by Kut to approve the monthly invoices in the amount of \$7,363.95, the prepaids in the amount of \$ 81,067.37, EFT's in the amount of \$2,556.00 with a total of \$91,260.32. Roll call was taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Seppala, supported by Dalpra to adjourn the meeting. All ayes. Meeting was adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Joanne Seppala/Clerk