

March 15, 2010

A regular board meeting was held on Tuesday, March 9th, at 4:30 p.m. Roll call was taken. All board members were present. There were 16 public attendees present. Motion by Dalpra, supported by Kut to approve the minutes from meetings held on February 9th, February 15th and February 22nd with corrections. All ayes. Motion carried. Motion by Seppala, supported by Takala to approve the agenda with additions. All ayes. Motion carried.

PUBLIC WORKS FOREMAN'S REPORT:

Monthly bacti water samples were collected from the Lind and Townline systems and sent to the State Lab in Houghton for testing. All samples met the MDNRE standard requirements.

Monthly water usage reports were sent to the MDNRE in Gwinn and Crystal Falls City Foreman.

The 96 Ford F-350 Utility truck developed transmission problems (136,800 miles) and was taken to the transmission shop and found the transmission needed an extensive overhaul. There was a discussion between the Supervisor and Alexa and they decided to cease putting anymore money towards repairs for this truck and put it up for bids as is. I was given permission to seek prices on a used truck. The 1999 International dump truck received a fresh coat of black paint on the frame. The right front bumper support was repaired and front bumper was painted.

Oil and filter change was done on the 2004 Chevrolet Utility truck (63,000 miles).

Motion by Seppala, supported by Takala to approve the Public Works Foreman's report. All ayes. Motion carried.

GIBSON LAKE PARK UPDATES: ROB ANDERSON

Rob Anderson of AECOM reported the Gibson Lake Park site improvement plan is 65 to 70 % completed. Anderson stated that the existing changing houses and pavilion will be removed by the Township crew. The new changing house, Anderson reported, will be located just off the existing parking lot with power and a septic system. Anderson commented that the proposed pavilion will be closer to the existing changing house location with a concrete sidewalk going to it. Anderson stated that there will be a gravel trail put into a fishing pier located down near the lake where the existing pavilion is. The concrete slab will be used for a basketball court.

Anderson reported that the plans should be finalized in the next two to three weeks, and then sent to the DNR for approval, with construction starting this Spring.

FIRE AUTHORITY UPDATE:

Lesandrini reported that the Fire Authority had met and proposed the Township pay two-thirds and the City of Crystal Falls pay one-third of the Fire Authority costs through the end of this fiscal year.

Lesandrini stated that the City will be asking city voters to approve two mills for fire protection.

Lesandrini stated that the Township's fire protection millage will be coming up for renewal in August. At this point, Lesandrini stated, the Fire Authority budget is in place through June 11th, with one driver leaving on April 1, 2010, and the other two drivers will work through June, unless the voters approve the millage and one driver can stay on full-time. Once the August election is over, Lesandrini commented, the City will know how much it can contribute to the department through the end of the fiscal year, November 30th. Lesandrini stated that during that time a new contract will be drawn up for next year, and hopefully we will be working towards a 50/50 split depending on the City's funds. Kut questioned whether a Fire Authority Board was necessary, based on the fact that "What did the Fire Authority Board do for the Township in the previous years?" They did not contain our cost, Kut commented. Based on what had happened in just a short period of time, Kut stated, working with John Ahola who was very helpful in trying to extract numbers for us and the Township Board, we were able to in a very short time break down the Option two that all three boards were working on the last three weeks, and come up with

a three month dollar amount to get us through June 13th. Takala stated that his thoughts were that there should always be some type of Board to make these decisions. Takala stated that they can do the legwork and then bring it to our Board. Lesandrini stated that he would push to keep the Fire Authority Board with members from the City, Township and Mastodon and Mansfield townships involved. Lesandrini stated that he would like to see the department keep one full-time driver. Kut questioned whether we would need 40, 20, or 10 hours a week. What would this person do in 40 hours a week? Lesandrini stated that after the August election, we can work out the contract and budget as we move forward. A motion by Takala, supported by Dalpra to approve the 1/3-2/3 proposal and work toward a 50/50 funding formula to keep the Fire Authority in place with three votes going to the Township, one to the City and one to a Fireman representative; and to keep one full-time man from June 14th until November 30th at 40 hours per week. Roll call was taken. Dalpra – yes, Takala – yes, Kut – no, Seppala – yes, and Lesandrini – yes. Motion carried.

CEMETERY:

A letter was presented to the Board from Dorothea Olson, City Clerk/Treasurer/ Interim City Manager stating that the City Council, at their regular monthly meeting, rejected the offer from Crystal Falls Township to pay \$30,000.00 toward the 2009-2010 cemetery agreement with full resident rate retroactive to all Township residents. After further discussion, a motion by Kut, supported by Seppala to refuse the original counter offer of \$35,000.00 with full retroactive rates to the Township residents for this past year's cemetery agreement, but would consider keeping the \$30,000.00 open until the end of March.. Lesandrini stated that the Township originally budgeted \$30,000.00 for the cemetery agreement. Roll call was taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

NEW TRUCK BID:

After discussion was made on a new truck, Alexa had commented that he had checked on a used 1999 Ford Ranger that he thought would be sufficient for his use, but did not know if it was still available. A motion by Dalpra, supported by Kut to approve Alexa purchasing a used truck not to exceed the amount of \$6,000.00. Roll call was taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

BOARD MEMBERS SALARIES:

Lesandrini noted that there were no increases in the Board members salaries.

Seppala noted the automatic adjustment increase of 2.5 percent for the sewer rates, as stated in the Township ordinance will go into effect with the April bills.

Motion by Dalpra, supported by Kut to approve the Eft's in the amount of \$748.00, the Prepaids in the amount of \$20,657.07 and the Monthly's in the amount of \$8,520.26 with a total of \$29,915.33. Roll call was taken. All ayes. Motion carried..

Motion by Seppala, supported by Takala to adjourn the meeting. All ayes. Meeting was adjourned at 6:25 p.m..