

May 18, 2010

A regular board meeting was held on Tuesday, May 11, 2010 at 4:30 p.m. All board members were present. There were 16 public attendees present.

Motion by Takala, supported by Dalpra to approve the minutes from the meeting held on April 13<sup>th</sup>. All ayes. Motion carried.  
Motion by Seppala, supported by Kut to approve the agenda. All ayes. Motion carried.

#### PUBLIC WORKS FOREMAN'S REPORT: Terry Alexa

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.

Clean up was done at the Organic Waste Site twice.

Replaced a water service shut off valve at 2050 Hwy US-2.

Roadside clean up was done at West Harrison Avenue, Odgers Tobin Loc. Tobin Alpha Road, New Bristol Road, Lind Road, Hope Mine Road, Bortolini Road, Idlewild Road, Paint River Road, Power Plant Road and others.

Randy Bucek and I attended the 61<sup>st</sup> Annual U.P. Water Works Institute. Interesting topics at the seminar were News from the field by the DNRE staff, MI Section of AWWA Chair report, Aquatic Invasive Species in the Great Lakes, Pharmaceuticals in Drinking Water and of course the Hospitality Hour.

Logged 71 hours at the Gibson Lake Park removing tree stumps and landscaping.

Alexa stated that he was having problems with his cell phone. Lesandrini stated that he would be in touch with Verizon in Iron Mountain.

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

#### AWARD BIDS – GIBSON LAKE PARK AND UPDATES:

A motion by Dalpra, supported by Kut to award the Gibson Lake Park improvements project bid to Ponchaud Contracting in the amount of \$108,110.70. Roll call was taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

Rob Anderson (AECOM) presented the board with a brief synopsis of the Gibson Lake Project. Anderson suggested, because of the lower cost of the bid for a new changing house and pavilion, the Park Committee should come up with a list of additional projects to use up the grant money. Lesandrini suggested to Takala to put together a list (drawing or specs) and come up with prices, and then amend the agreement for more work. Lesandrini and Takala stated that they should be able to have the list by June 1<sup>st</sup>.

#### TRAIL NON-MOTORIZED PATHWAY:

Lesandrini stated that everything was on schedule for this project. Poles and street lights are being replaced.

#### CITY OF CRYSTAL FALLS CEMETERY CHARGES:

Kut stated that she reviewed the cemetery budget and rate structure. If the Township decided to go ahead with the agreement of \$21,165.76, Kut stated, our residents would be considered local. She said that she was impressed with how the City addressed the issue, bringing cost down considerably. Motion by Kut, supported by Seppala to approve going forward with the cemetery agreement. Roll call was taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

#### FIRE AUTHORITY UPDATE:

Lesandrini stated that he met with the Fire Authority on Monday. The Authority stated that they will need more money to get to June 11<sup>th</sup>. The Authority sent proposed budgets, stated Lesandrini, for the Board to review. Lesandrini stated that the amount that the Fire Authority is looking at is \$65,761.00 from May 5<sup>th</sup> through year ending November 30, 2010. Lesandrini stated that if the Board approves this recommendation, the funds will be coming from their checking account, money market, Mansfield and Mastodon Township fees. That would be for a one man – 40 hours work week, stated Lesandrini, and that would deplete the money from their accounts. Lesandrini stated that his recommendation would be that the Township would take over the Fire Authority 100 %, eliminating the Fire Authority, starting an Adhoc committee, set up a contract with the City, Mastodon and Mansfield Townships for four years. Lesandrini stated that our proposal would also include that the Township would take all the accounts and all equipment, with no buy out on the equipment. After the four years is up, Lesandrini stated, the City could come back at a 50% part of the cost of the Authority. If they decided not to come back as a partner, Lesandrini stated the Township would do another long-term contract. I would also recommend starting this June 1<sup>st</sup> and staying with 80 hours for two full time drivers, stated Lesandrini, until the August election and then reevaluate the issue. Lesandrini stated if the City refuses the Township proposal, they can operate it and the Township will become a customer of the City. Kut stated that she wanted to know what happened to the money that was approved in February, which was supposed to last until June 12<sup>th</sup>? June 12<sup>th</sup> is still 6 weeks away, commented Kut, so that makes me a little nervous because they are out of money. I'm sure there is a very good explanation, stated Kut, but I would still like to know. Steve Tinti (Township's Attorney) stated that he had been thinking of "action steps" if this is the way the Board wishes to go. Tinti stated that the Fire Authority would have to be formally terminated. Other issues would be to lease some space from the City to house trucks and equipment, and contract with the City and the other two Townships to provide services to them, stated Tinti. The Township's budget would have to be in place before any action can be taken, Tinti stated. You are creating a Crystal Falls Township Fire Department, stated Tinti, so they will become Township

employees subject to the same rules, conditions and benefits of the Township employees. The Fire Authority has to terminate their MERS retirement plan and those post-retirement benefits will cease. The Township will have to cover liability and a proportionate cost of unemployment based upon the weeks involved in the last 52 weeks, stated Tinti, There is a lot of work to do to make sure our residents and the residents in the surrounding communities are provided with fire coverage, Tinti stated. Fletch Monningh (Fire Authority Board member) stated that he agreed, but there are a lot of inherent problems, so there will be issues to be resolved. Lesandrini stated with the millage election in August, we would build a budget and hold public meetings so everyone is aware of what is going on. Motion by Kut, supported by Seppala approving the Township of Crystal Falls form a Fire Department as a Township operation, extend a contractual basis coverage to the other units and terminate participation in the Fire Authority. Lesandrini stated that Mr. Tinti would draft a letter with all the proposals discussed at this meeting. Roll call was taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

#### RESOLUTION TO AMEND DISTRICT LIBRARY ORGANIZATIONAL PLAN AMENDMENT:

Lesandrini.stated that at the January board meeting, approval was given for the “ Library Organizational Plan Amendment.” Since then, the library attorneys have made some language changes. Motion by Seppala, supported by Dalpra to approve the “Resolution to Amend the District Library Organizational Plan”. Roll call was taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

#### RUNKLE LAKE HOME OWNERS REQUEST FOR PERMIT MONEYS:

Lesandrini stated that he had received a letter from Larry Bergwall, President of the Runkle Lake Association regarding the cost of the State permit of \$400.00 for treatment of the lake. After further discussion a motion was made by Kut, supported by Dalpra to approve payment of \$400.00 for the State permit. Roll call was taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

#### IRON COUNTY ROAD CONSTRUCTION BIDS:

Lesandrini stated that he met with the Road Commission. Discussion was made with the board that because there wasn't any money budgeted for roads this year, it was stated that \$ 5,000.00 from the windows and \$5,000.00 from chloride could be used towards the roads. After further discussion, a motion was made by Takala, supported by Seppala to approve the amount of \$27,829.95 to pave the last 2,000 feet of Fortune Lake Trail and to amend the budget for that amount also. Roll call was taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

#### RESOLUTION OF CHANGES OF WATER ORDINANCE:

Steve Tinti, presented the Board with the updated rates charges and terms of the resolutions. Tinti stated that the automatic adjuster cost is added, which was reviewed last month. One issue, Tinti stated, that was questioned was the 4,380 gallons to be changed to 4,400. After reading the bond ordinance, Tinti said, the Township is not free to change that base amount. A motion by Kut, supported by Seppala to approve the resolution of changes of the water system ordinance, which will include the 2.5% inflationary increase, which will go into effect when the August bills go out. Roll call was taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

#### RESOLUTION OF CHANGES OF SEWER ORDINANCE:

Tinti stated that the sewer ordinance already had an inflationary rate added into it. Motion by Dalpra, supported by Kut to approve the sewer system ordinance as submitted. Roll call was taken. All ayes. Motion carried. Motion by Dalpra, supported by Kut to approve the EFT's in the amount of \$738.00, the Monthly's in the amount of \$25,088.86 and the Prepaid's in the amount of \$45,636.38 with a total of \$71,463.24. Roll call was taken. All ayes. Motion carried. Motion by Dalpra, supported by Seppala to adjourn the meeting. All ayes. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 6:10 p.m.

Joanne Seppala/Clerk