

June 16, 2009

A regular board meeting was held on June 9th at 5:00 p.m. There were 8 public attendees. Motion by Kut, supported by Dalpra to approve the minutes from April 21st meeting. All ayes. Motion carried. Motion by Seppala, supported by Takala to approve the agenda. All ayes. Motion carried.

ICRC ROAD MILEAGE:

Carl Sholander from ICRC presented the board with a synopsis of ideas for spending road millage dollars. Sholander stated that the voters approved a road mileage, which the road commission will begin collecting in January. Sholander is seeking input on how to best spend the money. Sholander stated that it totals about \$160,000.00 per year for township projects. Sholander noted that it is not enough to black top all of the roads, which cost about \$ 7.00 - \$8.00 a ton, but he said that they can look at other things such as dust control or putting liquid drying on the salt truck to wet the salt as it comes off from the equipment as they are putting salt on the road. Sholander stated that this doesn't however help the people in the township. Sholander stated that he was looking forward to the next meeting and public input. Sholander also suggested to get in touch with Mike Lahti, and Mike Prussi, who supports road commissions and they also realize that the road commission needs more funding. Sholander stated that you have elected a good road commission, even with our decline in funding we're cutting costs and have a net revenue this year. Sholander noted by shutting down the Iron River plant and moving operations to the Oss Road plant, we could save another \$40,000.00 each year. Takala stated that his concern is if the township is able to get some of this money, why can't we get an estimate on the work? Takala stated no matter what road project we want done, it still takes a long time to get an estimate on it. It would be helpful so the township knows how much money they can spend or even what the cost would be for the work. Takala stated that the township still has roads to this day that they have not received an estimate on. Sholander stated that typically according to Doug they don't know how much monies will be available until October or November. At which point, Sholander stated that then they start the task force meetings and try to get the estimates as to what projects are going to come out and what monies they have to work with. Sholander stated that it is very important for people to attend those task force meetings.

CEMETERY CONTRACT CITY OF CRYSTAL FALLS' UPDATE:

Lesandrini stated that the City budget for the cemetery is \$132,000.00, including a \$109,000.00 loss. Last year, the township's contract went from \$11,000.00 to \$21,000.00, with 16 township's burials last year. Lesandrini stated that he did not feel comfortable entering in a contract when there is no budget. The contract presented to the township for the upcoming year is \$42,000.00. After further discussion with the board and public, Kut made a motion, supported by Seppala not approve the cemetery contract for \$42,000.00. Roll call was taken. All ayes. Motion carried. Takala stated that he would like to give the City that option that they could still come back and work with us. Kut stated that they have not been in contact with the Township since the last meeting, which was on April 21st. After further discussion, Takala made a motion, supported by Dalpra that the township is still willing to work with the City and if they are willing to come back to the table and negotiate this current contract and look forward to another contact next year. Roll call was taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

AECOM CONTRACT PROPOSALS:

Jeff Bal, from AECOM stated that the township is going forward with the Wellhead protection grant application for next year. Bal stated that there was a Wellhead meeting last week. During that meeting it was discussed to go forward with a \$10,000.00 grant to help cover a good percentage of the legal cost, zoning meetings and some cost for educational material. Bal stated that he feels very confident that the township will get the grant. He stated that this is a 50/50 grant. The township will pay \$ 5,000.00 and the state will pay \$5,000.00. Motion by Kut supported by Dalpra to approve the proposal project from AECOM for the Wellhead Phase III. Roll call was taken. All ayes. Motion carried. Bal noted that the second project is Gibson Lake Park. The township received a \$179,000.00 grant for a new changing house, boat landing improvement, camping sites and improvement to other areas at Gibson Lake Park. Bal noted the township can do its in-kind work this Fall. Bal stated that he would bid out the work during the winter and the major construction will be done next Spring. Motion by Dalpra supported by Takala to approve the Gibson Lake project. Roll call was taken. All ayes. Motion carried. Bal stated that the third upcoming project is the water main replacement along US2, to coincide with an MDOT project. Bal noted if MDOT does the work, it will cost the township about \$60,000.00. - \$65,000.00. Bal commented, on the other hand Peterson & Sons who did the work for the township last year's water project can do it for about \$45,000.00. Bal noted because the water project has not been closed out, therefore the remaining \$10,000.00 in the account can be used to pay Peterson, and the balance can come from the water fund. Motion by Seppala supported by Takala to approve Peterson & Sons to do the work on US2 and also approving AECOM to have the contract. Roll call was taken. All ayes. Motion carried. Bal commented that he had met with Cathi Cole on the planning grant for the Industrial Park last Thursday. Cathi Cole was to have a meeting Monday, June 8th with the people in Lansing to decide on the township's letter of interest for the planning grant and she would get back to Bal to precede to the next step. Bal spoke with Cole on Tuesday and Cole stated that the committee approved a planning grant in the amount of \$29,710.00, which is half the cost. Bal stated that there were 3 requirements that must be met for final approval for the planning grant:

1. A strong likelihood that the study will result in the future job creation of which 51% or more of the jobs will be awarded to low/moderate income individuals.
2. A strong likelihood that the study will conclude that the proposed industrial park will have a positive impact on nearby low to moderate income communities.
3. A strong likelihood that the study will lead to the implementation of a project.

PUBLIC WORKS FORMAN'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 DEQ's standard requirements.

Monthly water usage reports were sent to the Mi DEQ and City water Dept.

Spring cleanup was completed with debris cleaned along the roadsides and the terrace raked and curbing swept along the south side of HWY US 2 from Oswald Street to Ski Hill road.

Employee Randy Bucek and I attended the 60th Annual Water Works Conference in Escanaba.

A sewer main on Harrison Avenue was televised by Bar Enterprises and then cleaned with the rodding machine removing close to a 5 gallon pail of roots in a 200 foot section.

Wellhead protection signs were installed along the roadways at point of entering the Lind and Townline aquifers.

New fire hydrants were installed in the Tobin Location on 2nd & 5th Street intersections.

All 630 township water meters were read using the auto radio read system.

PARPLAN REVIEW TOWNSHIP HANNUAL AGENCY:

An informational meeting was tentatively scheduled for June 18th at 10:00 a.m. Seppala stated that she would contact Mr. Hannula to find out if that time was opened for them, and would get back to the board to confirm.

PROPOSAL FROM COUNTY AND EDC:

Bill Leonoff Executive Director for Iron County Chamber office is looking for support from the local units of government to help support a full-time economic developer office. Leonoff stated that as of September Julie Melchori's position as MSU extension director and economic developer contract will come to an end. Leonoff commented that right now her position is funded 80% by MSU and 20 % by local sources. The EDC has worked out a proposal where the County funds 1/3 of that amount, the EDC funds 1/3 of that amount and the local units of government to fund the other 1/3. The total department cost is \$75,000.00, so each entity would fund \$25,000.00. Leonoff stated that the township's share would be about \$3,500.00 or \$2.00 per person. After further discussion a motion by Dalpra supported by Kut to approve the proposal from the County and EDC for one year. Roll call was taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

TOWNSHIP HALL HARDWOOD FLOOR MAINTENANCE:

Lesandrini stated that it has been about 10 years since the floors have been refinished. Lesandrini noted that we have a local person that had refinished the floors about 10 years ago and was interested in doing the job. The price has gone up \$200.00, which the cost now is \$1,000.00. Takala stated that he thought that it would only be fair to bid this out to the public. Motion by Kut supported by Dalpra to bid out the refinishing of the township hall floors. Seppala stated that she would run the ad for 2 weeks in the paper. Roll call was taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Kut, supported by Dalpra to approve the prepaid in the amount of \$17,105.00, the EFT in the amount of \$738.00 and the monthly in the amount of \$47,708.26 for a total of \$65,551.26. Roll call was taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Dalpra, supported by Takala to adjourn the meeting. All ayes. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Joanne Seppala/Clerk