

November 11, 2009

A regular board meeting was held on November 10, 2009 at the Crystal Falls Township hall. All board members were present. There were 18 public attendees.

Motion by Dalpra, supported by Takala to approve the minutes from meetings October 13th and Special meeting on October 22nd. All ayes. Motion carried.

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

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 requirement.

Monthly water usage reports were sent to the City Foreman and the DEQ Water Division in Gwinn.

Public Works crew installed a buried phone line from the Twp Hall to the Public works building for the new phone networking system.

Gibson Lake Park water was shut off and lines were winterized.

18 feet of the heating systems steam pipe in the basement of the Twp. Hall was replaced due to rusted deteriorated pipe.

The 1996 Ford F-350 had an electrical short causing the truck to shut off. Tried to have the problem solved and fixed local but ended up having an Iron River business pick up the truck with a wrecker and repair it at their facility. A week later the main steering tie rod needed to be replaced.

Construction permits were posed at the entry of Gibson Lake Park. 42 hours were spent doing construction by the Public works crew. The construction consisted of the demolition of the men's restroom structure, several trees and picnic tables were removed and soil from the hill side on the south side of the park was used to fill in the low area at the picnic site.

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

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

Aecom Updates: Jeff Bal

Lesandrini noted that Jeff Bal was out of town and unable to attend the meeting. Lesandrini stated that he was in touch with Rob Anderson (AECOM) and the Wellhead meeting has been rescheduled for December. Lesandrini also stated the Gibson Lake Park planning will be finalized in December, which at that point will be forwarded on to the park committee for review.

SERVICE MASTER CLEANING SERVICE – WESTFAHL

Steve Tinti, Township Attorney stated that as the board is aware of the Township among other parties have been involved in a litigation regarding a sewer backup. Tinti stated that recently the parties had an opportunity to have a facilitated mediation and a tentative agreement had been proposed at that time. As a public body, Tinti stated, an individual board member is not able to commit the board and therefore brings it back to this body. Basically the matter would be dismissed with prejudice and without claim the Township of Crystal Falls would be contributing to the sum of \$7,500.00. Tinti noted that if the township wishes to go forward with that the board needs to make sure the budget allows that expenditure and or amend it. Tinti noted that the board needs to authorize the issuance of that payment as part of the global settlement of all claims that would involve all the multiple parties. Tinti stated that if the township would go forward with this, it would than result in a matter of several weeks, a document be filed at the court house in Crystal Falls, which would be a dismissal with prejudice of all claims that were brought or could have been brought under the facts or circumstances of all the parties involved.

Under the circumstances and the unique facts in this matter, it was Tinti's recommendations that the sum represents a fair and appropriate resolution to the matter. Motion by Kut, supported by Dalpra to approve the payment of \$7,500.00 to Service Master Cleaning Service. Roll call was taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

ABANDON ALLEY REQUEST – TINTI

Tinti stated that previously in 2004 a portion of this same alley had been abandon, and the requirements from the Township at that time stated that basically that all of the adjoining lot owners agree to it. After further discussion, a motion by Kut supported by Seppala to approve abandoning the parcel as long as the residents come back with documentation and all land owners agree to it. Roll call was taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

FIRE AUTHORITY 2010 PROPOSED BUDGET AND NEW PROPOSED CONTRACT:

Lesandrini stated that he had been in touch with the Mayor of Crystal Falls regarding setting up a joint meeting between Crystal Falls Township and City of Crystal Falls. Both parties are looking into early December. Lesandrini noted that this is quite urgent, because as of December 1, 2009 there is no budget in place with the Fire Authority. Lesandrini stated that his recommendation is to approve the first quarters budget amount. Motion by Dalpra, supported by Takala to approve the recommendation. Roll call was taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

AUDIT PROPOSAL:

Seppala stated at the last board meeting she felt that there was some discussion about Scott Kenney continuing to do the pre-audit, but no decision was made. Takala stated that he felt that he would like to see what other auditors would bid for a full audit, which would include the pre-audit. Lesandrini suggested bidding it both ways, with and without the pre-audit work, and the board agreed. Lesandrini stated that the bids will be sealed and opened at our January meeting.

TOWNSHIP HEALTH INSURANCE 2010

Lesandrini stated that Kut and Dalpra met with Fred Stoor, insurance rep from Blue Cross last week. Kut stated that what they did was take last years coverage and compared the figures with this years coverage and it showed a decrease in the amount that was being paid. Kut stated that this would be a saving of a little over \$2,400.00. Motion by Kut, supported by Dalpra to approve the new rate structure and payment in lieu of for the year 2010. Roll call was taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

PROPOSAL TO AMEND SECURITY DEPOSIT REGARDING LATE FEES – DALPRA

Dalpra stated if the resident makes their monthly payment after the due date without the penalty and interest added, this tends to cause a problem. Dalpra noted that if the resident does not pay the interest and penalty by the next billing cycle, the resident will be charged for a security deposit. Dalpra stated with speaking with the Utility Billing Clerk, a suggestion was made to extend the interest and penalty into the next billing cycle. After further discussion, the board decided to have Mr. Tinti review both the water and sewer ordinances and prepare a draft model for the board for the next meeting.

Motion by Kut, supported by Dalpra to pay the EFT's in the amount of \$738.00, prepaid's in the amount of \$21,044.26 and the monthly's in the amount of \$15,137.65. Roll call was taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Seppala, supported by Dalpra to adjourn the meeting. All ayes. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 5:25 p.m.

Joanne Seppala/Clerk