

April 18, 2011

A regular meeting was held on Tuesday, April 12, 2011 at 4:30 p.m. at the Crystal Falls Township Hall. All board members were present. There were 8 public attendees present. Motion by Dalpra, supported by Aho to approve the minutes from meetings held on March 14<sup>th</sup>, March 21<sup>st</sup> with corrections and March 24<sup>th</sup>. All ayes. Motion carried. Motion by Seppala, supported by Dalpra to approve the agenda with additions. All ayes. Motion carried.

Bill Leonoff, director of the Chamber of Commerce said "I'm here in response to a few months ago, the Township Board had some questions regarding the membership and the reason they would want to be a members". "Before I get to that" said Leonoff, "I would like to express the appreciation of the Chamber Board to the Township Board allowing us to have our bi-monthly meetings in the hall. We were scrambling for a place to meet and we appreciate the opportunity to use the facilities. We meet in Crystal Falls every other month." "First of all" said Leonoff, "what the chamber does is primarily an information source, handling out materials and brochures on various places and activities going on in the County. It offers phone books, maps, relocation materials, business referrals and a visitor's guide. It is involved in various local events such as the Rum Rebellion, Fungus Fest, UP Rodeo, and Run Your Bass Off Race. We also send out maps for the snowmobiler, committees and organizations, and also will host the annual Home Show and monthly Business After Hours get-togethers." Leonoff thanked the Township for their membership support. "Without it" said Leonoff "we would not be able to do the things that we do." Leonoff added that the money from the membership also helps in off-setting the mailings of the brochures and pamphlets.

#### PUBLIC WORKS FOREMAN'S REPORT:

Monthly water samples were collected from the Lind and Townline systems and brought to the Whitewater Lab in Amasa for bacterial testing. All samples met the MDNRE standard requirements.

Monthly water usage reports were tabulated and sent to the MDNRE in Gwinn.

Repaired a 6" water main break on the Townline System along Hwy 141 by the Gibson lake Park Road entrance.

Annual inspection of the backflow devices were inspected and a report was sent to the DNRE in Gwinn.

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

#### FIRE DEPARTMENT REVIEW AND DISCUSSION OF OPERATION:

Lesandrini stated that the firemen met the previous week and were voting on officers this evening.

Lesandrini said, "late in March the Township Board met and terminated one full-time position, that of the Fire Chief John Ahola, as of April 29, 2011." Lesandrini said, "the Township Board has to set a special meeting to discuss the goals and objectives for the fire department, for the Township in general, and for the Fire Chief. After further discussion, the Board decided to have the special meeting on Tuesday, April 26<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m. Also, on the agenda, stated Lesandrini, along with the Fire we will review Hannula's insurance packet, which is a substantial savings from last year.

#### CALENDAR OF DATES FOR ELECTIONS:

Lesandrini suggested to the Board to have the Township millage election in November. "this would give the Board time to show residents what the Board has done over the past five years. We are taking in less money, but doing more with it. I know we are all taxed to death, but we need to run this Township. If it fails, garbage collection, road maintenance, street lights and cemetery will all be gone. We may as well close the office up, except for the utility bills to be sent out." said Lesandrini. Lesandrini noted that even if

our millage is defeated, residents will still be responsible to pay other taxes.

Aho noted that residents need to put things in perspective. "Look at what you are paying in taxes, like income tax, gas tax, consumer taxes, without benefits, compared to what you are getting for your township taxes" said Aho.

#### CITY OF CRYSTAL FALLS CEMETERY AGREEMENT:

Lesandrini stated that the cemetery agreement stated that commencing April 1, 2011 and ending March 31, 2012 the sum of \$5,875.78, which sum shall entitle any resident of the Township of Crystal Falls to the cemetery facilities of the City of Crystal Falls. Motion by Kut, supported by Dalpra to approve the sum of \$5,875.78 for the cemetery agreement with the City of Crystal Falls. Aho stated that he would like to see an accounting of how the time is spent at the cemetery. Lesandrini noted that Gerard Valesano is the only full-time city employee at the cemetery now, which is why the cost are down. Seppala stated that she would call Tara and see if she can supply the Township with a snapshot of the cemetery operation. Roll call was taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

#### QUOTATIONS FOR NEW SERVER (TECK SOLUTIONS)

Motion by Seppala, supported by Kut to approve the amount of \$5,687 for a new back-up server for the computers. Roll call was taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

#### FOREST PARK SUMMER RECREATION PROGRAM:

Motion by Dalpra, supported by Kut to approve the amount of \$2,237 for the Forest Park Community School summer recreation program. Roll call was taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

#### 2011 CALCIUM CHLORIDE (DUST CONTROL ON GRAVEL ROADS)

Lesandrini stated that he was planning on using a calcium chloride program again this summer for dust control on some of the gravel roads. Lesandrini stated that last year he used 10 loads on 26 miles, but plans to do only seven or eight loads this year. "I am worried", said Lesandrini, "about spending the money and then not passing the millage". Aho offered to research and make some calls to see if we can get a better price or better product.

#### ZONING AND PLANNING BOARD PROJECTS:

Lesandrini stated that some of the ideas, and a lot of the projects that this board comes up with, should be sent to the Zoning and Planning Board, to come up with a plan to implement them.

Lesandrini stated that there are some experts on that Board and that this Board should take advantage of their expertise. "I already have a list of projects" said Lesandrini. Board agreed.

#### STATE PARK DEER LAKE CAMPGROUNDS:

Lesandrini stated that the State sent a letter saying it will no longer operate the Deer Lake campground, offering its operation to the Township. Lesandrini said, "There are rustic campsites and a boat landing up there, and I know someone who would be willing to act as a caretaker." After further discussion, Lesandrini stated that he would look in this matter, and report back to the Board.

#### SPRING CLEAN-UP:

Motion by Seppala, supported by Kut to approve Saturday May 14<sup>th</sup> and May 21<sup>st</sup> as designated days for Spring Clean-up from 8:00 – 12:00 noon. Roll call was taken. All ayes. Motion carried. Lesandrini noted that we will no longer be accepting TV's or computers. An ad will run in the paper notifying residents of the dates, times and list of what item will be accepted and not accepted.

Motion by Dalpra, supported by Kut to approve the EFT's in the amount of \$2,062.00, Monthly's in the amount of \$12,694.73 and the Prepaid's in the amount of \$76,096.92, totaling \$90,853.65. 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 6:15 p.m.

Joanne Seppala/Clerk