

January 11, 2023

A regular monthly meeting was held on January 10, 2023 at 2:30 p.m. All board members were present. There were 9 public attendees. Motion by Ketola, supported by Seppala to approve the agenda. All ayes. Motion carried. Motion by Kut, supported by Ketola to approve the regular monthly meeting minutes from December 13, 2022. All ayes. Motion carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS:** No public comments.

**PRESENTATIONS/COMMUNICATIONS/REPORTS:** Reviewed the Library minutes and financial statements from Director Evelyn Gathu.

Reviewed ICECA Report and 2022 Annual Report provided by Chamber Director, Zach Hautala.

Reviewed Public Notice State of Michigan Metallic Minerals Direct Lease Application from the DNR. A copy is available at the Crystal Falls Township.

**WATER SUPERINTENDENT/FOREMAN REPORT:** Reviewed the Water Superintendent's report for the month of December.

**FIRE CHIEF REPORT:** Reviewed the Fire Chief's report for the month of December.

**ZONING ADMINISTRATOR REPORT:** Reviewed the Zoning Administrator's report for the month of December.

**ASSESSOR REPORT:** Reviewed the Assessor's report for the month of December.

Discussion held on Department reports. Motion by Seppala, supported by Niemi to approve the Departmental reports as presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

**FIRE STATION UPDATE – BID UPDATE:** On hold until approval from Rural Development to bid the project.

**LIND ROAD CLEANUP UPDATE:** Todd Wloszczynski indicated last month work will slow down until road restrictions are lifted in the spring.

**MASTER PLAN UPDATES:** GEI is working on a draft, and it will be sent to the Planning Commission after completed.

**SPARK GRANT:** Applications have been submitted. The first round of awards is expected the week of January 30, 2023.

- i. Walking trail extension and parking: Applications submitted.
- ii. Gibson Lake Park upgrades: Applications submitted.

**SRF PROJECTS:** Reviewed report from Robb Anderson with GEI.

- i. Water: An Intent to Apply for a proposed Water System Improvements project was submitted.
- ii. Sewer: An Intent to Apply for a Sanitary Sewer Improvements project was submitted.

**HALL FLOOR:** Reviewed memo from Dave Grondin with Connor Sports Flooring. Hall rental may be on hold until after the floor is completed. Discussion held.

**BOARD OF REVIEW COMPENSATION – ALL EQUAL:** The Board of Review members have requested that each member be compensated at the same level as the other members with no differentiation for the chairperson. Discussion held. Motion by Niemi, supported by Kut to compensate all Board of Review members at the same level. Roll call taken. All Ayes. Motion carried.

**EGLE CORRESPONDENCE – WATER:** Reviewed the memo from a meeting between Supervisor Kenney and Water Superintendent, Randy Bucek to inform the Board of how each of the issues are being handled.

**FIRE COMMUNICATION EQUIPMENT GRANT APPROVAL:** Reviewed the 2023 Volunteer Fire Capacity Project Agreement. Discussion held. Motion by Kut, supported by Seppala to accept the 2023 Volunteer Fire Capacity Project Agreement and authorize Supervisor Kenney to sign on behalf of the Township. Roll call taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

**MDNR TRUST FUND GRANT:** Supervisor Kenney is requesting in the event our SPARK Grant requests are not approved to use the same project to request an MDNR Trust Fund Grant. Motion by Niemi, supported by Ketola to apply for the MDNR Grant once we know if unsuccessful on first round of the SPARK Grant. Roll call taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

**BUDGET WORKSHOP DATE:** Township Budget workshop will be held on January 31, 2023 at 8:30 a.m. at the Crystal Falls Township Hall.

**REVIEW OF BILLS/INVOICES EFT'S/PREPAID/MONTHLY:** Motion by Seppala, supported by Ketola to approve the Prepaid's in the amount of \$82,506.91, the Monthly's for \$15,704.50 and the EFT's for \$591.60 with a total of \$98,803.01. Roll call taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Mark Bromley informed the Board that the bridge on Idlewild Road is closed. Gerard Valesano from the City of Crystal Falls looking for follow up from last month on services between the City and the Township.

**Executive Session - Attorney Opinion:** Motion by Seppala, supported by Kut to convene into Executive Session to discuss Attorney Opinion on written legal opinion. Roll call taken. All ayes. Motion carried. Entered Executive Session at 3:09 p.m.

Motion by Seppala, supported by Kut to reconvene into regular monthly meeting. Roll call taken, All ayes, Motion carried. Executive Session was adjourned at 3:28 p.m.

**BOARD MEMBERS PRIVILEGE:** Treasurer Ketola regarding city bill.

**ADJOURN:** Motion by Ketola, supported by Seppala to adjourn the meeting. All ayes. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 3:55 p.m.

Diane LaChapelle/Deputy Clerk

February 2, 2023

A special Budget Workshop Meeting for the 2023/2024 fiscal year budget was held on Thursday, February 2, 2023 at 8:00 a.m. All board members were present. There were no public attendees. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss and set a budget for the 2023/2024 fiscal year. Discussion held. Trustee Joanne Seppala had to exit the meeting at 10:20. Discussions continued. Motion by Ketola, supported by Kut to adjourn the meeting. All ayes. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

Nancy Niemi/Clerk

February 15, 2023

A regular monthly meeting was held on February 14, 2023 at 2:30 p.m. All board members were present. There were 3 public attendees. Motion by Ketola, supported by Seppala to approve the agenda. All ayes. Motion carried. Motion by Kut, supported by Seppala to approve the regular monthly meeting minutes from January 10, 2023, Executive session minutes from January 10, 2023, and Budget Workshop meeting minutes from February 2, 2023. All ayes. Motion carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS:** No public comments.

**PRESENTATIONS/COMMUNICATIONS/REPORTS:** Reviewed the Library minutes and financial statements from Director Evelyn Gathu. Reviewed ICECA 2023 Strategic Plan and 2022 Financials provided by Chamber Director, Zach Hautala.

**WATER SUPERINTENDENT/FOREMAN REPORT:** Reviewed the Water Superintendent's report for the month of January.

**FIRE CHIEF REPORT:** Reviewed the Fire Chief's report for the month of January. Fire Chief, Steven Fabbri wanted the Board aware that he has ordered PFAS-free foam.

**ZONING ADMINISTRATOR REPORT:** Reviewed the Zoning Administrator's report for the month of January.

**ASSESSOR REPORT:** Reviewed the Assessor's report for the month of January.

Discussion held on Department reports. Motion by Seppala, supported by Niemi to approve the Departmental reports as presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

**FIRE STATION UPDATE – PROJECT BID UPDATE:** Currently waiting for Bids. Due February 22<sup>nd</sup> to the Township Hall.

- i. Logging proposal – VanOss Forestry: Wood to be removed without payment to the Township.

**LIND ROAD CLEANUP UPDATE:** Supervisor Kenney spoke to Todd Wloszczynski and work is still slow.

**MASTER PLAN UPDATES:** GEI sent the draft version to the Planning Commission. Meeting is scheduled for February 21, 2023.

**SPARK GRANT:** The first round of awards was unsuccessful for the proposed projects.

- i. Walking trail extension and parking: Unsuccessful.
- ii. Gibson Lake Park upgrades: Unsuccessful.

**SRF PROJECTS:** Discussion held.

- i. Sewer: Very unlikely successful in obtaining an SRF Grant for the Sewer System.
- ii. Water: Borderline for funding for the Water System improvements. Motion by Kut, supported by Seppala to approve GEI to do a proposal for preliminary engineering services for Crystal Falls Township water portion in the sum of \$15,000. Roll call taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

**MICHIGAN DNR TRUST FUND GRANT:** Reviewed proposal from GEI. Motion by Seppala, supported by Ketola to accept GEI proposal for 2023 DNR Recreation Grant Application Preparation with the cost of \$2,000 with an additional cost of \$200 - \$400 for a design review from SAIL. Roll call taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

**SALARIES RESOLUTIONS:** The salaries were based on Consumer Price Index with an increase of 7.1%. Discussion held. Motion by Ketola, supported by Seppala to increase wage for Supervisor to \$29,988.00. Roll call taken. Ayes: Kut, Ketola, Niemi, Seppala. Nays: None. Abstain: Kenney. Motion carried. Motion by Seppala, supported by Ketola to increase wage for Clerk to \$31,337.46. Roll call taken. Ayes: Ketola, Kenney, Kut, Seppala. Nays: None. Abstain: Niemi. Motion carried. Motion by Kut, supported by Seppala to increase wage for Treasurer to \$30,871.58. Roll call taken. Ayes: Niemi, Kenney, Seppala, Kut. Nays: None. Abstain: Ketola. Motion carried. Motion by Ketola, supported by Niemi to increase wage for Trustee Kut to \$4,819.50. Roll call taken. Ayes: Niemi, Kenney, Seppala, Ketola. Nays: None. Abstain: Kut. Motion carried. Motion by Kut, supported by Niemi to increase wage for Trustee Seppala to \$4,819.50. Roll call taken. Ayes: Kut, Niemi, Kenney, Ketola. Nays: None. Abstain: Seppala. Motion carried.

**IRON COUNTY LAKES AND STREAMS - MEMBERSHIP:** Discussion held. Motion by Seppala, supported by Ketola to continue the membership with Iron County Lakes and Streams Partnership. All ayes. Motion carried.

**JAWS OF LIFE PROPOSAL:** Reviewed estimate from Fire-Rescue Supply, LLC. Motion by Niemi, supported by Ketola to approve the proposal from Fire-Rescue Supply, LLC for the jaws of life in the amount of \$38,700. Roll call taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

**FIRE DEPARTMENT FUNDRAISING REQUEST:** Reviewed email from Fire Chief, Steven Fabbri. Discussion held. Motion by Kut, supported by Seppala to support the Crystal Falls Volunteer Firefighters' Association, Inc to apply for a special liquor license for the fundraiser. All ayes. Motion carried.

**FIRE PROTECTION AGREEMENTS:** Discussion held. Motion by Ketola, supported by Seppala to table the Mansfield and Crystal Falls Fire Protection agreements until the next meeting. All ayes. Motion carried.

**LOGGING CONTRACT:** Waiting for proposals to come through. The bids will go directly to VanOss Forestry.

**REVIEW OF BILLS/INVOICES EFT'S/PREPAID/MONTHLY:** Motion by Kut, supported by Ketola to approve the Prepaid's in the amount of \$41,801.06, the Monthly's for \$31,779.88 and the EFT's for \$591.60 with a total of \$74,172.54. Roll call taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Tom Bucek commented on parking lot for walking trail and the Fire Station Location.

**BOARD MEMBERS PRIVILEGE:** Supervisor Kenney wished everyone a Happy Valentine's Day.

**ADJOURN:** Motion by Ketola, supported by Seppala to adjourn the meeting. All ayes. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 3:45 p.m.

Diane LaChapelle/Deputy Clerk

March 15, 2023

A regular monthly meeting was held immediately following the Public Budget Hearing on March 14, 2023 at 2:33 p.m. All board members were present. There were 5 public attendees. Motion by Ketola, supported by Seppala to approve the agenda with an addition 11M.) Web Update. All ayes. Motion carried. Motion by Seppala, supported by Kut to approve the regular monthly meeting minutes from February 14, 2023. All ayes. Motion carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS:** No public comments.

**PRESENTATIONS/COMMUNICATIONS/REPORTS:** Reviewed the Library minutes and financial statements from Director Evelyn Gathu. Reviewed ICECA Report provided by Chamber Director, Zach Hautala.

**WATER SUPERINTENDENT/FOREMAN REPORT:** Reviewed the Water Superintendent's report for the month of February.

**FIRE CHIEF REPORT:** Reviewed the Fire Chief's report for the month of February.

**ZONING ADMINISTRATOR REPORT:** Reviewed the Zoning Administrator's report for the month of February.

**ASSESSOR REPORT:** Reviewed the Assessor's report for the month of February.

**TREASURER REPORT:** Supervisor Kenney and Board members thanked Treasurer Ketola for the report on the 2022 Property Tax Summary. Discussion held on Department reports. Motion by Seppala, supported by Kut to approve the Departmental reports as presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

**FIRE STATION UPDATE:** Supervisor Kenney reviewed. The Township did not receive any bids for the construction of the proposed Fire Station. GEI will be looking into other options. Reviewed an email from Gerard Valesano, City Manager. Supervisor Kenney will respond to his email.

**MASTER PLAN UPDATE:** Curt Stebic explained the Master Plan to the Board.

- i. Resolution: Reviewed. Motion by Kut, supported by Ketola to approve the resolution for the Board to adopt the Master Plan Update. Roll call taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

**TRUST FUND GRANT UPDATE:** Discussion held. A Public Meeting will be scheduled for March 28<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 a.m. to discuss the grant application submission.

**FIRE CONTRACTS:** Tabled.

**APPROVAL OF OPERATING MILLAGE RATE – NO CHANGE 4.75 MILLS + UP TO .95 MILLS FOR FIRE STATION DEBT SERVICE:** Discussion held. Motion by Ketola, supported by Kut to approve the millage rate of 4.75 mills for the upcoming Fiscal Year 2023-2024 and up to .95 mills for the fire station dept service. Roll call taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

**SALARIES AND WAGES:** Reviewed report. Motion by Seppala, supported by Kut to approve the salaries and wages as presented. Roll call taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

**SECTION 457 (B) PLAN CONTRIBUTION RESOLUTION:** Discussion held. Motion by Niemi, supported by Ketola to approve the Section 457 (B) Plan Contribution Resolution. Roll call taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

**BUDGET ADOPTION FOR 2023–2024 YEAR:** Motion by Ketola, supported by Seppala to adopt the budget with the Fire Department training change for 2023-2024 fiscal year. Roll call taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

**APPROVAL OF INVESTMENT DEPOSITORY FOR 2023-2024 YEAR:** Reviewed report. Motion by Seppala, supported by Ketola to approve The Crystal Falls Township Investment and Depository Designation Resolution. Roll call taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

**APPROVAL OF 2022-2023 BUDGET AMENDMENTS:** Motion by Ketola, supported by Kut to approve amendments to the 2022-2023 Operating Budget to the amount of all legal expenditures in each Township fund. Roll call taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

**FIRE DEPARTMENT APPLICATION:** Superior Kenney will ask Attorney Tinti to review.

**FIRE DISPATCH PROPOSAL:** Reviewed quote from Penguin Management, Inc. Discussion held. Motion by Kut, supported by Ketola to approve the use of eDispatch for a cost of \$1,327.00. Roll call taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

**FIRE EXTRICATION TRAINING REQUEST:** Reviewed invoice from MacQueen Emergency. Motion by Niemi, supported by Seppala to approve the 2-Day Extrication Training for the Firefighters. Roll call taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

**WATER IMPROVEMENTS – TOWNLINE:** Reviewed estimate from Kleiman Pump & Well Drilling, Inc. Discussion held. Motion by Seppala, supported by Kut to approve estimate from Kleiman Pump & Well Drilling, Inc. for the Townline Water System. Roll call taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

**GIBSON LAKE PARK REQUEST:** Reviewed request. Discussion held. Policy does not allow.

**FORESTRY CONTRACT:** Reviewed Timber Sale Agreement. Motion by Kut, supported by Ketola to authorize Supervisor Kenney to sign the Timber Sale Agreement with Shamco. Roll call taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

**WEB UPDATE:** Reviewed updating the Township website. Discussion held. No website update at this time.

**REVIEW OF BILLS/INVOICES EFT'S/PREPAID/MONTHLY:** Motion by Seppala, supported by Ketola to approve the Prepaid's in the amount of \$14,584.81, the Monthly's for \$22,496.03 and the EFT's for \$887.40 with a total of \$37,968.24. Roll call taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Tom Bucek thanked Board for fire dispatch proposal and fire extrication training request. Kim Nylund had questions regarding Fire Station site rebidding restrictions on the sites and the Fire Tower Road clearing project.

**BOARD MEMBERS PRIVILEGE:** Clerk Niemi had questions about hall rental timeline without the new floor being done. Supervisor Kenney wanted the Board aware that the Board of Review was meeting 3 days due to an error in dates that were sent out on the assessment notice.

**ADJOURN:** Motion by Seppala, supported by Ketola to adjourn the meeting. All ayes. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 3:32 p.m.

Diane LaChapelle/Deputy Clerk



March 15, 2023

A Public Hearing for the 2023/2024 Budget was held on March 14, 2023 at 2:30 p.m. The purpose of the meeting was to review the property tax millage rate proposed to be levied to support the proposed budget and take public comments. All board members were present. There were 5 public attendees present. No public comment was offered. Motion by Niemi, supported by Seppala to adjourn the Public Hearing for consideration of the budget. Roll call taken. All ayes. Motion carried. The Public Hearing adjourned at 2:33 p.m.

Nancy Niemi/Clerk

March 28, 2023

A special meeting was held on Tuesday, March 28, 2023 at 8:32 a.m. at the Crystal Falls Township Hall. All board members were present. There was 1 public attendee.

The purpose of the meeting was to appoint members to the Recreation Committee, review and approve Grant Resolution for the Michigan Department of Natural Resources 2023 Trust Fund Grant Application Crystal Falls Township Heritage Trail Extension TF-23-0157.

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

**APPOINTMENT OF RECREATION COMMITTEE MEMBERS:** Discussion held. Motion by Kut, supported by Seppala to appoint three at-large members; Dave Grondin, Al Anderson and Chris Ponchaud and two Township Board Members; Jen Ketola and Nancy Niemi. Roll call taken.

Ayes: D. Kut, J. Seppala, S. Kenney

Nays: none

Abstain: N. Niemi, J. Ketola

Motion carried.

**TRAIL EXTENSION PROJECT/DNR TRUST FUND GRANT:** Robb Anderson from GEI explained the resolutions presented with local match proposals. Discussion held.

Discussion held on utilizing the balance of our ARPA funds to contribute towards our local match.

Motion by Seppala, supported by Kut to utilize the balance of the ARPA funds to contribute towards our local match. Roll call taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

**APPROVAL OF GRANT RESOLUTION:** Motion by Kut, supported by Seppala to adopt the Resolution of Authorization Michigan Department of Natural Resources 2023 Trust Fund Grant Application Crystal Falls Township Heritage Trail Extension TF23-0157 with local match proposal of 26% of total project cost as presented. Roll call taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** None

**BOARD MEMBERS PRIVILEGE:** D. Kut had questions regarding evasive species near the trail.

Motion by Ketola, supported by Seppala to adjourn the Special Meeting. All ayes. Meeting adjourned at 8:46 a.m.

Nancy Niemi/Clerk

March 28, 2023

A Public Hearing was held on March 28, 2023 at 8:30 a.m. at the Crystal Falls Township Hall. The purpose of the meeting was to obtain public input for the 2023 Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund Development Grant Application for the extension of the existing Non-Motorized Heritage Trail. All board members present. There was 1 public attendee present. No public comment was offered. Motion by Seppala, supported by Ketola to adjourn the Public Hearing. Roll call taken. All ayes. Motion carried. The Public Hearing adjourned at 8:32 a.m.

Nancy Niemi/Clerk



April 12, 2023

A regular monthly meeting was held on April 11, 2023 at 2:30 p.m. Nancy Niemi was absent. All other board members were present. There were 5 public attendees. Motion by Ketola, supported by Seppala to approve the agenda with no additions. All ayes. Motion carried. Motion by Kut, supported by Seppala to approve the Budget Hearing meeting minutes from March 14, 2023, regular monthly meeting minutes from March 14, 2023, Public Hearing meeting minutes from March 28, 2023 and Special meeting minutes from March 28, 2023. All ayes. Motion carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS:** No public comments.

**PRESENTATIONS/COMMUNICATIONS/REPORTS:** Reviewed the Library minutes and financial statements from Director Evelyn Gathu.

Reviewed ICECA Report provided by Chamber Director, Zach Hautala. Zach Hautala thanked the Board for its continued support and the Township's annual pledge.

**WATER SUPERINTENDENT/FOREMAN REPORT:** Reviewed the Water Superintendent's report for the month of March.

**FIRE CHIEF REPORT:** Reviewed the Fire Chief's report for the month of March. The E Dispatch is accessible to all department members and works well.

**ZONING ADMINISTRATOR REPORT:** Reviewed the Zoning Administrator's report for the month of March.

**ASSESSOR REPORT:** Reviewed the Assessor's report for the month of March.

Discussion held on Department reports. Motion by Seppala, supported by Ketola to approve the Departmental reports as presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

**FIRE STATION UPDATE:** Supervisor Kenney reviewed. Supervisor Kenney will be sending a letter of support to legislation for Senate Bill 0977.

**LIND ROAD CLEANUP UPDATE:** Supervisor Kenney spoke to Todd Wloszczynski and work is still slow until road restrictions are lifted.

**MDNR TRUST FUND GRANT UPDATE:** Supervisor Kenney is waiting to hear a response to the Township's request.

**FIRE CONTRACTS:** Tabled.

**FIRE DEPARTMENT APPLICATION:** The Fire Department application will be replaced by a Township employment application.

**LONG LAKE ROAD:** Reviewed email from Brad Toivonen with the Iron County Road Commission. Discussion held. Motion by Kut, supported by Seppala to approve the contract with Iron County Road Commission for the work and paving of Long Lake Road in the amount of \$266,517.02. Roll call taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

**MILLER CANFIELD REQUEST:** Discussion held. Motion by Kut, supported by Seppala to allow Miller, Canfield to represent WEPCO/UMERC in this legal matter that is requested. Roll call taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

**UPSET REQUEST:** Reviewed letter from D/Lt. Tim Sholander, UPSET Commander. Motion by Seppala, supported by Kut to enter into a contract with UPSET at a cost of \$1,000 for the year. Roll call taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

**CITY ANNEXATION:** Supervisor Kenney reviewed the discussion with the City Manager.

**REGULAR MEETING SCHEDULE:** Motion by Seppala, supported by Ketola to continue holding the regular Board meetings on the second Tuesday of each month beginning at 2:30 p.m. All ayes. Motion carried.

**REVIEW OF BILLS/INVOICES EFT'S/PREPAID/MONTHLY:** Motion by Kut, supported by Ketola to preapprove the monthly bills pending approval from the audit committee. Roll call taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Kim Nylund had questions regarding the Fire Contracts.

**BOARD MEMBERS PRIVILEGE:** Trustee Kut commented on the 2022 Rate Survey for water and wastewater. Supervisor Kenney addressed the non-agenda item in regard to a recent automobile accident and how to handle this.

**ADJOURN:** Motion by Ketola, supported by Seppala to adjourn the meeting. All ayes. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 3:08 p.m.

Diane LaChapelle/Deputy Clerk



May 3, 2023

A Special Meeting was held on Tuesday, May 2, 2023 at 8:00 a.m. All board members were present along with Attorney Tinti. There were no public attendees.

The purpose of the meeting was to review and discuss the confidential opinion of the Township Attorney. Motion by Ketola, supported by Kut to approve the agenda. All ayes. Motion carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS:** None

**EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR CONSIDERATION OF CONFIDENTIAL ATTORNEY'S OPINION:** Motion by Niemi, supported by Seppala to convene into Executive Session for the purpose of consideration of the Attorney's opinion. Roll call taken. All ayes. Motion carried. Entered Executive Session at 8:06 a.m. Motion by Niemi, supported by Ketola to close out of executive session. Roll call taken. All ayes. Motion carried. Motion by Kut, supported by Ketola to reconvene into Special Meeting. Roll call taken. All ayes. Motion carried. Executive Session was adjourned at 9:00 a.m.

Motion by Kut, supported by Ketola to appoint Supervisor Kenney and Clerk Niemi to represent the Township Board in a meeting with Fire Department Officers to discuss policy yet to be developed. All ayes. Motion carried.

**ACTION ON TOWNSHIP OPERATING POLICIES:** No action will be taken at this time as discussed in Executive Session.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** None

**BOARD MEMBER PRIVILEGE:** None

Motion by Ketola, supported by Seppala to adjourn the meeting. All ayes. Meeting adjourned at 9:21 a.m.

Nancy Niemi/Clerk

May 10, 2023

A regular monthly meeting was held immediately following the Public Hearing on May 9, 2023 at 2:43 p.m. All board members were present. There were 14 public attendees. Motion by Kut, supported by Seppala to approve the agenda with no additions. All ayes. Motion carried. Motion by Seppala, supported by Ketola to approve the regular monthly meeting minutes from April 11, 2023, Executive session minutes from May 2, 2023 and Special meeting minutes from May 2, 2023. All ayes. Motion carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS:** No public comments.

**PRESENTATIONS/COMMUNICATIONS/REPORTS:** Reviewed the Library minutes and financial statements from Director Evelyn Gathu.

Reviewed ICECA report and financial statements provided by Chamber Director, Zach Hautala.

**WATER SUPERINTENDENT/FOREMAN REPORT:** Reviewed the Water Superintendent's report for the month of April.

**FIRE CHIEF REPORT:** Reviewed the Fire Chief's report for the month of April.

**ZONING ADMINISTRATOR REPORT:** Reviewed the Zoning Administrator's report for the month of April.

**ASSESSOR REPORT:** Reviewed the Assessor's report for the month of April.

Discussion held on Department reports. Motion by Seppala, supported by Ketola to approve the Departmental reports as presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

**FIRE STATION UPDATE:** GEI will rebid the Fire Station Project in July/August of this year.

**MASTER PLAN ZONING MAP UPDATE:** Reviewed proposal for updates to the Township's Zoning Map from GEI.

- i. Consideration of Proposal: Motion by Kut, supported by Seppala to accept GEI proposal to update the Township's Zoning Map GL #101-722-900-000 in the amount of \$500. Roll call taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

**SPARK GRANT APPLICATION – TIER 7:** Review our application with GEI and resubmit prior to June 26<sup>th</sup> deadline. Discussion held.

**MICHIGAN EGLE SRF DRINKING WATER:** Discussion was held on the presentation that was presented by GEI during the public hearing.

- i. Consideration of resolution to approve plan and submit application: Motion by Seppala, supported by Kut to approve the project plan and submit the application and authorize Supervisor Kenney to represent the Township. Roll call taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

**MDNR TRUST FUND GRANT UPDATE:** Supervisor Kenney reviewed. Discussion held.

**FIRE CONTRACTS:** Tabled.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION – PROPERTY LITIGATION:** Motion by Niemi, supported by Ketola to convene into Executive session to discuss property litigation that the Township is currently involved in. Roll call taken. All ayes. Motion carried. Entered Executive session at 3:05 p.m.

Motion by Kut, supported by Seppala to close out of Executive session and reconvene into regular monthly meeting. Roll call taken. All ayes. Motion carried. Executive session was adjourned at 3:17 p.m.

Motion by Kut, supported by Seppala to proceed with the Township Attorney's opinion to hire law firm Dickinson Wright and contact them and authorize Supervisor Kenney to be the representative for the Township. Roll call taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

**CEMETERY AGREEMENT:** Reviewed agreement. Motion by Niemi, supported by Ketola to approve the Cemetery agreement with the City of Crystal Falls. Roll call taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

**GIBSON LAKE CAMPING RATES:** Motion by Seppala, supported by Ketola to maintain the camping rates at Gibson Lake Park the same as 2022 year. Roll call taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

**CONFIRM FIRE OFFICERS:** Fire Officers – 23/24 year: Confirmed Steven Fabbri – Chief, Kim Nylund – Assistant Chief, Jim Sartori – Captain, Tom Bucek – Training Officer, Dan Surface – Safety Officer, Brian Fabbri – Secretary/Treasurer. Motion by Niemi, supported by Ketola to confirm the officers as reported in the Fire Chief's report. Roll call taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

**REVIEW OF PRIOR MONTH BILLS/INVOICES EFT'S/PREPAID/MONTHLY:** Total amount \$170,202.31.

**REVIEW OF CURRENT BILLS/INVOICES EFT'S/PREPAID/MONTHLY:** Motion by Seppala, supported by Ketola to approve the prepaid's in the amount of \$174,540.48, the Monthly's for \$25,929.17 and the EFT's for \$591.60 with a total of \$201,061.25. Roll call taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Theresa Gasaway has concerns about the condition of the road to her house. Question on the revised Zoning Ordinance. Jim Brey stated he thought there was an agreement between Stambaugh Township and Crystal Falls Township. Jill Brey wondering how long the Township Supervisor has been in office.

**BOARD MEMBERS PRIVILEGE:** None.

**ADJOURN:** Motion by Seppala, supported by Ketola to adjourn the meeting. All ayes. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 3:44 p.m.



May 11, 2023

A Public Hearing was held on May 9, 2023 at 2:30 p.m. at the Crystal Falls Township Hall. The purpose of the hearing was to obtain public input for the proposed Crystal Falls Township Water System Improvements Project Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF). All board members present. There were 14 public attendees present.

A presentation of the project was presented by GEI Consultants, Will Toivonen and Robb Anderson. No public comment was offered. Motion by Seppala, supported by Ketola to adjourn the Public Hearing. Roll call taken. All ayes. Motion carried. The Public Hearing was adjourned at 2:43 a.m.

Nancy Niemi/Clerk

June 14, 2023

A regular monthly meeting was held on June 13, 2023 at 2:30 p.m. All board members were present. There were 8 public attendees. Motion by Seppala, supported by Ketola to approve the agenda with no additions. All ayes. Motion carried. Motion by Kut, supported by Seppala to approve the Public Hearing minutes from May 9, 2023, Executive session minutes from May 9, 2023 and regular monthly meeting minutes from May 9, 2023. All ayes. Motion carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS:** No public comments.

**PRESENTATIONS/COMMUNICATIONS/REPORTS:** Reviewed the Library minutes and financial statements from Director Evelyn Gathu. Reviewed ICECA report and financial statements provided by Chamber Director, Zach Hautala.

**WATER SUPERINTENDENT/FOREMAN REPORT:** Reviewed the Water Superintendent's report for the month of May. Supervisor Kenney congratulated Joe Brozak for passing the Drinking Water Operator Certification Exam.

**FIRE CHIEF REPORT:** Reviewed the Fire Chief's report for the month of May.

**ZONING ADMINISTRATOR REPORT:** Reviewed the Zoning Administrator's report for the month of May.

**ASSESSOR REPORT:** Reviewed the Assessor's report for the month of May.

Discussion held on Department reports. Motion by Niemi, supported by Ketola to approve the Departmental reports as presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

**FIRE STATION UPDATE:** GEI will rebid the Fire Station Project in July of this year.

- i. Bid Release – July 12, 2023
- ii. Bid Opening – September 25, 2023 @ 11:00 a.m. Motion by Kut, supported by Ketola to approve the Fire Station bidding process for Bid Release July 12, 2023 and Bid Opening September 25, 2023. Roll call taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

**LIND ROAD CLEANUP UPDATE:** Reviewed report from June 2023 on the Lind Road Project from Todd Wloszczynski.

**SPARK GRANT APPLICATION – TIER 7:** Discussion held.

**MICHIGAN EGLE SRF DRINKING WATER:** Reviewed information from GEI.

**MDNR TRUST FUND GRANT UPDATE:** Supervisor Kenney updated the Board. Motion by Kut, supported by Seppala to authorize Supervisor Kenney and a GEI representative to attend the scheduled meeting on August 16, 2023 to present the project to the Trust Fund Board and pay any associated expenses. Roll call taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

**FIRE CONTRACTS:** Reviewed recommended parameters. Discussion held. Motion by Seppala, supported by Ketola to accept City's offer at 2.75 special mills along with adding parameters as listed in the Supervisor's report and authorize Attorney Tinti to draft an agreement to present to the City. Roll call taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

Supervisor Kenney would like to meet with the Fire Chief before setting up a meeting with Mansfield Township to discuss their contract.

**ANNUAL AUDIT IS UNDERWAY:** The Board was updated on the audit that is underway.

**ZONING BOARD – CURT STEBIC:** Curt Stebic would like reappointment for Craig Nelson and Dan Lato to continue on the Planning Commission and Zoning Board. Motion by Seppala, supported by Kut to reappoint Craig Nelson and Dan Lato on the Planning Commission and Zoning Board. All ayes. Motion carried.

**ESRI MAPPING SYSTEM:** Jim Waisanen presented reasons to switch from Mango Maps to the ESRI system for our GIS mapping. Motion by Kut, supported by Ketola to change from Mango Maps to ESRI system for approximate cost of \$2,000 to BS&A and to begin July 1, 2023. Roll call taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

**MTA DIRECTOR:** James Nankervis has been nominated as Board of Director for the Michigan Township Participating Plan. Motion by Seppala, supported by Kut to approve James Nankervis nomination for the seat on the Michigan Township Participating Plan Board of Director. All ayes. Motion carried.

**COMMUNICATION POLICY:** Supervisor Kenney read the recommended policy. Motion by Niemi, supported by Ketola to adopt the communication policy. Roll call taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION – PROPERTY LITIGATION:** Motion by Niemi, supported by Ketola to suspend regular session and to convene into Executive session for the purpose of two litigation files that are with the Tax Tribunal regarding personal property tax issues. Roll call taken. All ayes. Motion carried. Entered Executive session at 3:17 p.m.

Motion by Niemi, supported by Ketola to reconvene into regular monthly meeting. Roll call taken. All ayes. Motion carried. Executive session was adjourned at 3:40 p.m.

Motion by Niemi, supported by Ketola to authorize counsel to resolve UMERC matter entered into litigation to resolve double taxation of the same personal property. Roll call taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

**REVIEW OF CURRENT BILLS/INVOICES EFT'S/PREPAID/MONTHLY:** Motion by Kut, supported by Ketola to approve the prepaid's in the amount of \$241,928.89, the Monthly's for \$25,404.23 and the EFT's for \$591.60 with a total of \$267,924.72. Roll call taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** No public comments.

**BOARD MEMBERS PRIVILEGE:** Supervisor Kenney commented Long Lake Road paving is completed. He received thank you from citizen's for chloride roads.

**ADJOURN:** Motion by Seppala, supported by Kut to adjourn the meeting. All ayes. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 3:47 p.m.





July 12, 2023

A regular monthly meeting was held on July 11, 2023 at 2:30 p.m. Jen Ketola was absent. All other board members were present. There were 7 public attendees. Motion by Seppala, supported by Kut to approve the agenda as amended with eliminating 11C.) Executive Session – Property Litigation and add new items 6B.) Executive minutes – June 13, 2023 and 11D.) Public Works Truck Purchase. All ayes. Motion carried. Motion by Kut, supported by Seppala to approve the regular monthly meeting minutes from June 13, 2023 and Executive session minutes from June 13, 2023. All ayes. Motion carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS:** No public comments.

**PRESENTATIONS/COMMUNICATIONS/REPORTS:** Reviewed the Library minutes and financial statements from Director Evelyn Gathu.

- i. Resignation of Library Board Member/Advertise for New Member. Motion by Kut, supported by Seppala to advertise for replacement on the Library Board. Roll call taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

Reviewed ICECA report and financial statements provided by Chamber Director, Zach Hautala.

**WATER SUPERINTENDENT/FOREMAN REPORT:** Reviewed the Water Superintendent's report for the month of June.

**FIRE CHIEF REPORT:** Reviewed the Fire Chief's report for the month of June.

**ZONING ADMINISTRATOR REPORT:** Reviewed the Zoning Administrator's report for the month of June.

**ASSESSOR REPORT:** Reviewed the Assessor's report for the month of June.

Discussion held on Department reports. Motion by Niemi, supported by Seppala to approve the Departmental reports as presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

**TIMBER CUT REPORT AND PAYMENT – BROCK VANOSS:** Brock VanOss from VanOss Forestry Services gave a presentation on the timber cut that was recently completed. Supervisor Kenney and the Board congratulated him on becoming the Supervisor in Mansfield Township.

**FIRE STATION UPDATE:** Advertising for bids will be starting July 12, 2023. Bid opening is scheduled for September 25, 2023.

**LIND ROAD CLEANUP UPDATE:** Discussion held. Todd Wloszczynski is continuing to move forward.

**SPARK GRANT APPLICATION:** The applications have been resubmitted with supplemental information and will be awarded in September.

**MICHIGAN EGLE SRF DRINKING WATER:** Waiting for scoring to be released in August or September.

**MDNR TRUST FUND GRANT UPDATE:** Supervisor Kenney and Robb Anderson from GEI met with Merrie Carlock with MDNR regarding the Trail Extension Project. Supervisor Kenney contacted Iron County Road Commission to see if the bridge inspection can be moved up.

**FIRE CONTRACTS:** The City of Crystal Falls asked for item change 5b. Motion by Kenney, supported by Kut to adopt the language the city has proposed taking collections based on their tax collection cycle beginning December, January, February and conclude with final settlement. Such payments cover the past Township's fiscal year. Roll call taken. All ayes. Motion carried. Supervisor Kenney, the Clerk, and Fire Chief will meet with Mansfield Supervisor to review the Contract For Fire Protection Service.

**ESRI MAPPING:** Reviewed quote. Discussion held. Motion by Seppala, supported by Kut to approve up to \$3,150 for online service with BS&A system. Roll call taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

**LONG LAKE ROAD APPROVAL:** Reviewed statement from Iron County Road Commission. Motion by Kut, supported by Seppala to approve the final payment to the Iron County Road Commission for \$123,638.15. Roll call taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

**BUDGET AMENDMENT:** Amend budget item 246-901-980-002.

- i. Account 246-901-980-002 – Capital Outlay – Roads. Motion by Niemi, supported by Kut to amend budget item 246-901-980-002 from \$325,000 to \$401,897. Roll call taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

**FIRE EQUIPMENT GRANT:** Reviewed the MI Fire Equipment Grant Program Application.

**PUBLIC WORKS TRUCK PURCHASE:** Reviewed quotes from three truck dealers. Discussion held. Motion by Kut, supported by Seppala to approve the quote from Stateline for the 2024 Chevrolet Silverado 3500 HD 4WD Regular Cab 142" work truck. Roll call taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

**REVIEW OF CURRENT BILLS/INVOICES EFT'S/PREPAID/MONTHLY:** Motion by Seppala, supported by Kut to approve the prepaid's in the amount of \$74,482.86, the Monthly's for \$178,992.85 and the EFT's for \$591.60 with a total of \$254,067.31. Roll call taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Theresa Gasaway question about Zoning Ordinances. Gerard Valesano thanked the Board for getting the Fire Agreement completed.

**BOARD MEMBERS PRIVILEGE:** Supervisor Kenney shared an invitation for a pontoon tour on Chicaugon Lake from Iron County Lakes & Streams Partnership.

**ADJOURN:** Motion by Seppala, supported by Kut to adjourn the meeting. All ayes. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 3:21 p.m.



August 9, 2023

A regular monthly meeting was held on August 8, 2023 at 2:30 p.m. Joanne Seppala was absent. All other board members were present. There were 5 public attendees. Motion by Ketola, supported by Kut to approve the agenda with no additions. All ayes. Motion carried. Motion by Kut, supported by Ketola to approve the regular monthly meeting minutes from July 11, 2023. All ayes. Motion carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS:** No public comments.

**PRESENTATIONS/COMMUNICATIONS/REPORTS:** Reviewed the Library minutes and financial statements from Director Evelyn Gathu. Reviewed ICECA report provided by Chamber Director, Zach Hautala. Zach Hautala updated the Board on the MI-HOPE Grant Program – WUPPDR. Shared memo to Fire Department from City of Crystal Falls. Supervisor Kenney complimented the Fire Department as well.

**WATER SUPERINTENDENT/FOREMAN REPORT:** Reviewed the Water Superintendent's report from the month of July.

**FIRE CHIEF REPORT:** Reviewed the Fire Chief's report from the month of July. Supervisor Kenney informed the Board that two firefighters were injured while fighting the recent structure fire.

**ZONING ADMINISTRATOR REPORT:** Reviewed the Zoning Administrator's report from the month of July.

**ASSESSOR REPORT:** Reviewed the Assessor's report from the month of July.

Discussion held on Department reports. Motion by Ketola, supported by Kut to approve the Departmental reports as presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

**LIBRARY BOARD MEMBER:** Received two applications. Discussion held. Motion by Kut, supported by Ketola to approve Eric Malcore to the Library Board for Crystal Falls Township. Roll call taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

**FIRE STATION UPDATE:** Discussion held.

- i. Building Material Alternatives. Robb Anderson from GEI informed the Board about potential alternate construction types for the Fire Station. Motion by Kut, supported by Ketola to make an addendum to allow for alternative options from existing bid specifications. Roll call taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

**LIND ROAD CLEANUP UPDATE:** No updated report from Todd Wloszczynski. Supervisor Kenney will touch base with him.

**SPARK GRANT APPLICATION:** No update.

**MICHIGAN EGLE SRF DRINKING WATER:** Discussion held.

**MDNR TRUST FUND GRANT UPDATE:** Supervisor Kenney and Robb Anderson from GEI will be attending the MDNR Trust Fund Board meeting this month.

**FIRE CONTRACT - MANSFIELD:** Due to scheduling conflicts, Supervisor Kenney, the Clerk, and Fire Chief have not been able to meet with Mansfield Supervisor to review the Contract For Fire Protection Service.

**RUNKLE LAKE ASSOCIATION – MILFOIL REQUEST:** Reviewed information from Jay Gore, President of Runkle Lake Association. Discussion held. Motion by Kut, supported by Ketola to approve \$372.00 and \$122.00 a total of \$494.00 for Milfoil litigation at Runkle Lake. Roll call taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION – PROPERTY LITIGATION:** Motion by Niemi, supported by Kut to suspend regular session and convene into Executive session for the purpose to discuss litigation ending in the Tax Tribunal. Roll call taken. All ayes. Motion carried. Entered Executive session at 3:12 p.m. Motion by Kut, supported by Ketola to reconvene into regular meeting. Roll call taken. All ayes. Motion carried. Executive session was adjourned at 3:45 p.m.

Motion by Ketola, supported by Niemi to direct Attorney Tinti to proceed with suggested paths forward in the litigation which was discussed in Executive session. Roll call taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

**REVIEW OF CURRENT BILLS/INVOICES EFT'S/PREPAID/MONTHLY:** Motion by Kut, supported by Ketola to approve the prepaid's in the amount of \$35,624.09, the Monthly's for \$157,525.70 and the EFT's for \$591.60 with a total of \$193,741.39. Roll call taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** No public comments.

**BOARD MEMBERS PRIVILEGE:** Trustee Kut impressed with road signs on Hwy 141 from Public Works Department. Treasurer Ketola would like to have Public Works find someone to clean the carpet in the Township Office.

**ADJOURN:** Motion by Ketola, supported by Kut to adjourn the meeting. All ayes. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 3:56 p.m.

Diane LaChapelle/Deputy Clerk

September 12, 2023

A regular monthly meeting was held on September 11, 2023 at 2:30 p.m. All board members were present. There were 2 public attendees. Motion by Ketola, supported by Seppala to approve the agenda with no additions. All ayes. Motion carried. Motion by Kut, supported by Ketola to approve the regular monthly meeting minutes from August 8, 2023 and Executive session minutes from August 8, 2023. Roll call taken. Ayes: Kut, Ketola, Niemi, Kenney. Nays: None. Abstain: Seppala. Motion carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS:** No public comments.

**PRESENTATIONS/COMMUNICATIONS/REPORTS:** Reviewed the Library minutes and financial statements from Director Evelyn Gathu.

Reviewed ICECA report and financial statements provided by Chamber Director, Zach Hautala.

Reviewed Summer Recreation letter from Forest Park Community Schools.

Reviewed Fire Equipment Grant Award from Kevin A. Smith, Deputy Treasurer Sate and Local Finance Michigan Department of Treasury.

**WATER SUPERINTENDENT/FOREMAN REPORT:** Reviewed the Water Superintendent's report from the month of August.

**FIRE CHIEF REPORT:** Reviewed the Fire Chief's report from the month of August.

**ZONING ADMINISTRATOR REPORT:** Reviewed the Zoning Administrator's report from the month of August.

**ASSESSOR REPORT:** Reviewed the Assessor's report from the month of August.

Discussion held on Department reports. Motion by Seppala, supported by Ketola to approve the Departmental reports as presented. All ayes.

Motion carried.

**PLANNING BOARD APPOINTMENT:** Reviewed email from Pat Quinn. Motion by Kut, supported by Seppala to appoint Pat Quinn to the Zoning and Planning Board. Roll call taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

**FIRE STATION UPDATE:** Bid opening is scheduled for September 25, 2023 at 11:00 a.m. The site has been logged and cleared.

**LIND ROAD CLEANUP UPDATE:** Reviewed report from Todd Wloszczynski. Discussion held. Supervisor Kenney will touch base with Todd to get an inventory count.

**SPARK GRANT APPLICATION:** No update.

**MICHIGAN EGLE SRF DRINKING WATER:** No update.

**MDNR TRUST FUND GRANT UPDATE:** Supervisor Kenney and Robb Anderson from GEI attended the MDNR Trust Fund Board meeting on August 16, 2023. Robb Anderson from GEI gave a presentation.

**FIRE CONTRACT – MANSFIELD PROPOSAL AND CONTRACT APPROVAL:** Reviewed contract. Motion by Seppala, supported by Kut to approve the contract as drafted by Mr. Tinti for renewal of the Fire Contract with Mansfield. Roll call taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

**AUDIT REPORT:** Discussion held. Motion by Kut, supported by Ketola to accept the audit report that was received from Barry Gaudette, CPA. All ayes. Motion carried.

**FURNACE BIDS – DUE AUGUST 17:** Discussion held. Bids will be reviewed at September 25, 2023 Special meeting.

**FIRE STATION BID OPENING – SEPTEMBER 25, 2023 – SPECIAL MEETING?:** There will be a Special meeting on September 25, 2023 at 11:00 a.m. for bid openings.

**IRON COUNTY HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN:** Reviewed the Iron County Hazard Mitigation Plan. Motion by Ketola, supported by Niemi to adopt the Resolution of the 2023 Iron County Hazard Mitigation Plan. Roll call taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

**CLERK EDUCATION AND TRAVEL – BS & A & ELECTION TRAINING:** Discussion held.

i. 101-215-860-000 - \$500

ii. 101-215-805-000 - \$150

Motion by Kut, supported by Seppala to adjust the budget and approve the travel, education, and dues requested by the Clerk. Roll call taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

**FIRE PENSION CONTRIBUTION:** Reviewed MERS report.

**FIRE PREVENTION WEEK – OCT 8 – 14:** Reviewed ad. Motion by Niemi, supported by Ketola to approve advertisement in the Report for Fire Prevention Week. Roll call taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

**FIRE CADET PROGRAM:** Reviewed letter from Steven Fabbri, Fire Chief. Discussion held. Motion by Seppala, supported by Ketola to approve the implementation of the Fire Cadet Program for the Fire Department upon approval from the insurance company. Roll call taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

**REVIEW OF CURRENT BILLS/INVOICES EFT'S/PREPAID/MONTHLY:** Motion by Kut, supported by Ketola to approve the prepaid's in the amount of \$28,284.27, the Monthly's for \$26,204.78 and the EFT's for \$887.40 with a total of \$55,376.45. Roll call taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** No public comments.

**BOARD MEMBERS PRIVILEGE:** Trustee Kut had questions about the floor in the hall, the roof, and the security system. Trustee Seppala commented about fall cleanup, which is on Saturday, October 7, 2023 from 8 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Supervisor Kenney stated he sent a letter to GFL and WM about proposal for garbage. Treasurer Ketola had questions about markings outside the Township building and other areas nearby.

**ADJOURN:** Motion by Ketola, supported by Seppala to adjourn the meeting. All ayes. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 3:22 p.m.

Diane LaChapelle/Deputy Clerk

September 26, 2023

A Special Meeting was held on Monday, September 25, 2023 at 11:00 a.m. Board members present were Scott Kenney, Jen Ketola, Diane Kut and Nancy Niemi. Absent was Joanne Seppala.

The purpose of the meeting was to open Fire Station bids received and consideration of furnace and air conditioning bids for the Township office building. Motion by Kut, supported by Ketola to approve the agenda. All ayes. Motion carried. There were no public comments on the agenda items.

**FIRE STATION BID OPENING:** Bids were opened and reviewed. The bids opened were from Howard Immel, Inc. for \$2,471,846.96, Roy Ness Contracting & Sales, Inc. for \$2,716,000.00 and Moyle Construction with a bid of \$3,149,240.00. The bids were referred to GEI Consultants to review and report back to the Board at the Township Board monthly meeting on October 10, 2023 at 2:30 p.m.

**FURNACE/AIR CONDITIONER PROPOSALS:** Reviewed proposals received from Lortie Plumbing & Heating for \$9,844.22 and Simbob Heating and Cooling for \$10,400.00 for a single stage efficient furnace and air conditioning unit. Discussion held. Motion by Kut, supported by Ketola to accept the bid from Lortie Plumbing and Heating for \$9,844.22. Roll call taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** No public comments were made.

**BOARD MEMBERS PRIVILEGE:** No comments were made.

Motion by Ketola, supported by Niemi to adjourn the meeting. All ayes. Meeting adjourned at 11:13 a.m.

Nancy Niemi/Clerk

October 11, 2023

A regular monthly meeting was held on October 10, 2023 at 2:30 p.m. All board members were present. There were 5 public attendees. Motion by Seppala, supported by Ketola to approve the agenda with no additions. All ayes. Motion carried. Motion by Kut, supported by Seppala to approve the regular monthly meeting minutes from September 11, 2023 and Special meeting minutes from September 25, 2023. All ayes. Motion carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS:** No public comments.

**PRESENTATIONS/COMMUNICATIONS/REPORTS:** Reviewed the Library minutes and financial statements from Director Evelyn Gathu.

Reviewed ICECA report and financial statements provided by Chamber Director, Zach Hautala.

Reviewed Michigan Participating Plan from Lori Burton.

**WATER SUPERINTENDENT/FOREMAN REPORT:** Reviewed the Water Superintendent's report from the month of September.

**FIRE CHIEF REPORT:** Reviewed the Fire Chief's report from the month of September.

- i. Cadet Program Info: Supervisor Kenney would like Attorney Tinti to review before getting it implemented.

**ZONING ADMINISTRATOR REPORT:** Reviewed the Zoning Administrator's report from the month of September.

**ASSESSOR REPORT:** Reviewed the Assessor's report from the month of September.

Discussion held on Department reports. Motion by Ketola, supported by Seppala to approve the Departmental reports as presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

**FIRE STATION UPDATE:** Three bids received. Discussion held.

- i. Report on Bids: Robb Anderson with GEI reviewed base bid tabulation.
- ii. How do we proceed?: Supervisor Kenney will get together with Fire Department to get ideas on how to reduce prices.

**LIND ROAD CLEANUP UPDATE:** No updated report from Todd Wloszczynski.

**SPARK GRANT APPLICATION:** Did not receive the grants.

**MICHIGAN EGLE SRF DRINKING WATER:** Unlikely that the project will be funded for this year.

**MDNR TRUST FUND GRANT UPDATE:** Receiving results in October.

**FIRE EQUIPMENT GRANT:** The Township has submitted the application for reimbursement for fire fighter equipment. The grant deadline has been extended to December 31, 2023.

**FAMILY GLITCH AMENDMENT – EMPLOYEE HEALTH INSURANCE:** IRS approved a change authorizing our employees to participate in the Healthcare exchange. Motion by Kut, supported by Seppala to adopt the Resolution to adopt the Amendment to Additional Election Change Pursuant to IRS Notice 2022-41. Roll call taken. All ayes. Motion carried. Reviewed Employee Health Insurance plans from 44North. Discussion held. Motion by Ketola, supported by Kut to renew current Health Insurance Plan proposed by 44North effective December 1, 2023. Roll call taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

**ASTREA LOCAL FRANCHISE AGREEMENT:** Reviewed request. Motion by Seppala, supported by Ketola to adopt the Franchise agreement on a nonexclusive basis pending Attorney Tinti's approval for the CCI Systems Agreement. Roll call taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

**LP GAS TANKS:** Supervisor Kenney will look at options for LP gas tanks. Discussion held.

**REVIEW OF CURRENT BILLS/INVOICES EFT'S/PREPAID/MONTHLY:** Motion by Seppala, supported by Ketola to approve the prepaid's in the amount of \$80,346.05, the Monthly's for \$56,649.43 and the EFT's for \$591.60 with a total of \$137,587.08. Roll call taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Tom Bucek had a question about whether it is possible to look at a new site for the Fire Station that could reduce the cost.

**BOARD MEMBERS PRIVILEGE:** Supervisor Kenney no election for November 2023. Trustee Kut wondering about any updates on the hall floor and the roof.

**ADJOURN:** Motion by Seppala, supported by Ketola to adjourn the meeting. All ayes. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 3:31 p.m.



November 15, 2023

A regular monthly meeting was held on November 14, 2023 at 2:30 p.m. All board members were present. There were 10 public attendees. Motion by Ketola, supported by Seppala to approve the agenda with no additions. All ayes. Motion carried. Motion by Seppala, supported by Kut to approve the regular monthly meeting minutes from October 10, 2023. All ayes. Motion carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS:** No public comments.

**PRESENTATIONS/COMMUNICATIONS/REPORTS:** Reviewed the Library minutes and financial statements from Director Evelyn Gathu.

Reviewed ICECA report and financial statements provided by Chamber Director, Zach Hautala. Zach Hautala updated the Board on the Iron County Housing Development between the City of Crystal Falls and S.C. Swideski.

Reviewed Michigan PAR Plan Recommendations from Lori Burton, Risk Manager.

**WATER SUPERINTENDENT/FOREMAN REPORT:** Reviewed the Water Superintendent's report from the month of October.

**FIRE CHIEF REPORT:** Reviewed the Fire Chief's report from the month of October.

**ZONING ADMINISTRATOR REPORT:** Reviewed the Zoning Administrator's report from the month of October.

**ASSESSOR REPORT:** Reviewed the Assessor's report from the month of October.

Discussion held on Department reports. Motion by Seppala, supported by Kut to approve the Departmental reports as presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

**FIRE STATION UPDATE:** Reviewed Change Order No. 1 Potential Savings Request. Motion by Kut, supported by Seppala to approve work completed. Future associated cost not to exceed \$25,000. Roll call taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

**MICHIGAN EGLE SRF DRINKING WATER:** Unsuccessful in retaining the Michigan EGLE SRF Drinking Water Grant.

**MDNR TRUST FUND GRANT UPDATE:** Received the final scoring, but not the announcement of grant awards.

**LP GAS TANK RENTALS – GENERATORS:** Reviewed invoice from Krist Oil. Will look into buying tanks in the future.

**MASTER PLAN UPDATE:** Curt Stebic was present. He stated the process went rather smoothly with no constructive criticism from the public. The final version should be sent to the Planning Commission later this week. Reviewed Township Board Resolution. Motion by Seppala, supported by Ketola to approve and adopt the Resolution as presented. Roll call taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

**FIRE DEPARTMENT CADET PROGRAM:** Discussion held. Motion by Kut, supported by Seppala to adopt the implementation of the Cadet Program. Roll call taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

**FIREWALL UPGRADE:** Teck Khor from Guide Star gave a presentation on a proposal regarding an upgrade to our firewall and security system. Motion by Kut, supported by Ketola to approve the firewall portion upgrade proposal from Guide Star. Roll call taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

**UTILITY BILLING:** Problem in Utility Billing System was discovered with Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp's account.

Discussion held. Motion by Kut, supported by Seppala to approve back billing from Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp in the amount of \$828.33 for a 3 month period. Roll call taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

**REVIEW OF CURRENT BILLS/INVOICES EFT'S/PREPAID/MONTHLY:** Motion by Seppala, supported by Ketola to approve the prepaid's in the amount of \$103,657.40, the Monthly's for \$24,896.00 and the EFT's for \$591.60 with a total of \$129,145.00. Roll call taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Mary Dumitru regarding barking dog ordinance in Michigan. Mark Bromley questioned if any update from Highline Internet was received by the Township.

**BOARD MEMBERS PRIVILEGE:** Supervisor Kenney wished good luck to the FP Girl's Volleyball team. Compliments to the staff, players and administration at the school. Good luck to Hunters and Happy Thanksgiving.

**ADJOURN:** Motion by Seppala, supported by Ketola to adjourn the meeting. All ayes. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 3:39 p.m.

Diane LaChapelle/Deputy Clerk





November 30, 2023

A Special Meeting was held on Thursday, November 30, 2023 at 9 a.m. Board members present were Jen Ketola, Joanne Seppala, Scott Kenney and Nancy Niemi. Absent was Diane Kut, although she was connected via phone but not able to vote on any motion. There were 2 public attendees.

The purpose of the meeting was to review the contract award for the Fire Station and discuss the sale of the Ford Ranger. Motion by Seppala, supported by Ketola to approve the agenda. All ayes. Motion carried. There were no public comments on the agenda items.

**Fire Station-contract award:** Robb Anderson from GEI was present. Reviewed letter submitted by GEI. Discussions held. Motion by Niemi, supported by Seppala to approve the Notice of Award to Howard Immel, Inc. for the construction of the Fire Station including the contingencies noted in the letter of November 28, 2023 from GEI. Roll call taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Seppala, supported by Ketola to authorize Supervisor Kenney to sign the Notice of Award and change order No. 1 and other related documents on behalf of the Township. Roll call taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

**Sale of Ford Ranger:** Reviewed offer received. No bids had been received in previous advertisements for the sale of the Ford Ranger. Discussion held. Motion by Seppala, supported by Ketola to authorize the sale of the Ford Ranger as is, where is to D.J. Rasner for \$600.00. Roll call taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

**Public Comments:** No public comments were made.

Board Member Privilege: Supervisor Kenney expressed thanks to the Crystal Falls Fire Department and their Building Committee for their time and input.

Motion by Seppala, supported by Ketola to adjourn the meeting. All ayes. Meeting adjourned at 9:20 a.m.

Nancy Niemi, Clerk

December 13, 2023

A regular monthly meeting was held on December 12, 2023 at 2:30 p.m. All board members were present. There were 3 public attendees. Motion by Kut, supported by Seppala to approve the agenda with no additions. All ayes. Motion carried. Motion by Seppala, supported by Ketola to approve the regular monthly meeting minutes from November 14, 2023 and Special meeting minutes from November 30, 2023. All ayes. Motion carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS:** No public comments.

**PRESENTATIONS/COMMUNICATIONS/REPORTS:** Reviewed the Library minutes and financial statements from Director Evelyn Gathu.

Reviewed ICECA report and financial statements provided by Chamber Director, Zach Hautala. Zach Hautala updated the Board on the Iron County Housing Development between the City of Crystal Falls and S.C. Swideski.

**WATER SUPERINTENDENT/FOREMAN REPORT:** Reviewed the Water Superintendent's report from the month of November.

**FIRE CHIEF REPORT:** Reviewed the Fire Chief's report from the month of November. Chief Fabbri and other members would like to thank the Township for all the hard work and support toward the new Fire Hall.

**ZONING ADMINISTRATOR REPORT:** Reviewed the Zoning Administrator's report from the month of November.

**ASSESSOR REPORT:** Reviewed the Assessor's report from the month of November.

Discussion held on Department reports. Motion by Ketola, supported by Seppala to approve the Departmental reports as presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

**FIRE STATION UPDATE:** Robb Anderson from GEI stated they are working on finalizing Change Order #1 which will reduce costs to get within the budget.

**MDNR TRUST FUND GRANT UPDATE:** Trust Fund Board meeting is on December 13<sup>th</sup>. Will find out after this date if the Township was awarded the grant.

**FIRE DEPARTMENT CADET PROGRAM:** Supervisor Kenney and Chief Fabbri had a phone conversation to discuss the Cadet Program. Motion by Niemi, supported by Ketola to compensate the Cadets at \$14 per hour and reimburse for book purchases. Also, compensate the trainers at the training rate. Roll call taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

**EGLE DEFICIENCY REPORT:** Supervisor Kenney is coordinating with Randy and EGLE to ensure that the deficiencies are corrected, and the recommendations are appropriately followed up on. Discussion held.

**GARBAGE TRUCK:** Discussion held. The Township is not going to proceed with the purchase of a truck at this time but would like to allow the analysis process to be completed on whether to continue picking up the garbage or use a contracted service.

**TMF SUPPORT GRANT – WATER:** Reviewed grant information from EGLE. Discussion held. Motion by Kut, supported by Ketola to authorize GEI to prepare a TMF Support Grant application on behalf of the Township. Roll call taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

**HOLIDAY GIFT CERTIFICATES TO EMPLOYEES:** Motion by Seppala, supported by Ketola to approve the purchase for a \$25 gift certificate from Crystal Fresh Market to Utility Billing Clerk, Deputy Treasurer, Public Works Foreman, Public Works Employees, Assessor, Zoning Administrator, Garbage Truck Driver, and Fire Chief. Roll call taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION – PENDING PROPERTY TAX LITIGATION:** Motion by Niemi, supported by Seppala to suspend regular session and convene into Executive session for the purpose to discuss Pending Property Tax litigation. Roll call taken. All ayes. Motion carried. Entered Executive session at 3:23 p.m.

Motion by Niemi, supported by Ketola to reconvene into regular meeting. Roll call taken. All ayes. Motion carried. Executive session was adjourned at 3:36 p.m.

Motion by Niemi, supported by Ketola to not accept the proposal set forth by Great Lakes Gas per recommendation from Attorney Ryan Shannon and Attorney Steven Tinti. Roll call taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

**REVIEW OF CURRENT BILLS/INVOICES EFT'S/PREPAID/MONTHLY:** Motion by Kut, supported by Ketola to approve the prepaid's in the amount of \$22,617.45, the Monthly's for \$25,935.95 and the EFT's for \$591.60 with a total of \$49,145.00. Roll call taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Mary Dumitru wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

**BOARD MEMBERS PRIVILEGE:** Supervisor Kenney stated Tom Bucek has offered to do CPR training for the staff. He wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Board members thanked GEI for the meat and cheese tray and wreath for Christmas.

**ADJOURN:** Motion by Seppala, supported by Kut to adjourn the meeting. All ayes. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 3:42 p.m.

Diane LaChapelle/Deputy Clerk

