

REPUBLIC TOWNSHIP

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July 28, 2011
Regular Board Minutes

1. CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting of July 28, 2011 was brought to order by Supervisor Gary Johnson with all officers present with Steve Koski connected by Skype. Jill Rankinen, temporary clerk, was also present.

2. SALUTE TO FLAG:

3. NEW CLERK, OATH OF OFFICE:

Faye Mattila, Treasurer read the oath of office to Marilyn Brancheau.

4. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:

Two additions under New Business – B. Roof needed. C. Money needed for membership to Michigamme Lake Organization.

5. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

Motion was made by Tom Feldhusen and seconded by Faye Ann Mattila to accept June 23, 2011 minutes. It was passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Faye Mattila and seconded by Gary Johnson to accept June 29, 2011 minutes. It was passed unanimously.

Motion was made by

Steve Koski and seconded by Tom Feldhusen to accept July 1, 2011 minutes. It was passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Tom Feldhusen and seconded by Gary Johnson to accept July 17, 2011 minutes. It was passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Tom Feldhusen and seconded by Steve Koski to accept July 21, 2011 minutes. It was passed unanimously

6. PAYMENT OF THE BILLS:

Motion was made by Faye Mattila and seconded by Gary Johnson to accept payment of bills. It was passed unanimously

7. PUBLIC COMMENT: three minutes per speaker, 15 minutes total.

Commissioner Debbie Pellow spoke about how a recall is a good thing when the allegations are true. She also pointed out how a recall does cost the tax payers quite a bit of money. One should make sure that all the facts are true before filing one. Ms. Pellow also stated how she respected Supervisor Gary Johnson.

8. REPORTS:

A. Trustee Steve Koski –

B. Trustee Tom Feldhusen –

C. Clerk – Supervisor Gary Johnson read the following aloud:

The audit firm of Anderson, Tackman and Company, PLC has found problems with our accounting system that will cause our audit costs to be higher than originally than budgeted.

First, when our accounting system was converted from Fund Balance to QuickBooks in December 2010; all the separate funds (as legally required by the Michigan Department of Treasury) were combined into one fund. Because of this, the QuickBooks software will have to be setup again with the proper fund accounting.

Second, when the accounting system was converted the ending Fund Balance Software amounts as of December 31, 2010 do not agree with the QuickBooks December 31, 2010 amounts. Because of this, the audit firm has to reconcile the differences between the two, before they can actually start auditing the accounting records.

Third, when the accounting system was converted and the funds were merged, the legally required individual funds no longer balance. The audit firm will now have to determine what has caused this difference and correct them, before they can actually start auditing the accounting records.

The additional costs cannot be determined at this time, because of the unknown reconciling issues that need to be addressed. There may be one or two simple issues or multiple complex issues that will be found during the reconciliation processes listed above.

The audit firm will be back the week of August 8th to hopefully finish the reconciling process, the audit and properly setting up the QuickBooks software.

D. Treasurer –

E. DPW/Fire/Ambulance –

F. Assessing: Township discussion on inspection report -

9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

A. Water line grant.

i. Update by Project engineer. If any.

ii. Invoices to be paid, if any.

B. Sewer upgrade grant –

C. Charging for fire dept response for highway accidents

**FIRE RUN CHARGE ORDINANCE
ORDINANCE # 72811**

An ordinance to establish charges for fire department services under Public Act 33 of 1951, as amended (Compiled Law 41.801, etc) and to provide methods for collection of such charges and exemptions there-from:

THE TOWNSHIP OF REPUBLIC, MARQUETTE COUNTY, ORDAINS:

Section 1: Purpose

The within ordinance is adopted for the purpose of providing financial assistance to the township in the operation of a fire department from those receiving direct benefits from the fire protection service. It is the further purpose of this ordinance to provide for partial funding of the fire department operation which remains, in part, and at-large governmental expense based upon the general benefits derived by all property owners within the township from the existence of a township fire department and its availability to extinguish fires within the township and perform other emergency services.

Section 2.: Charges

The following charges shall hereafter be due and payable to the township from any of the following enumerated services from the township fire department:

- A. Vehicular accidents, charge of \$ 400.00
- B. Automobile/truck fires, charge of \$ 400.00

Section 3: Time for payment of run

All of the forgoing charges shall be due and payable within 60 days from the date the service is rendered.

Section 4: Exemptions

The following properties and services shall be exempt from the foregoing charges:

- A. False alarms
- B. Fires caused by railroad trains which are the specific statutory responsibility of railroad companies;
- C. Fires involving township buildings, grounds, and/or property, and
- D. Fire service performed outside the jurisdiction of the township under a mutual aid contract with an adjoining municipality.

Section 5: Collection of Sevices.

The Township Clerk shall issue the billing, upon notification from the Fire Chief with all pertinent information about the run.

Section 6: Non-Exclusive Charge

The foregoing rates and charges shall not be exclusive of the charges that may be made by the township for the costs and expenses of maintaining a fire department, but shall only be supplemental thereto. Charges may additionally be collected by the township through general taxation after a vote of the electorate approving the same or be a special assessment established under the Michigan statures pertinent thereto. General Fund appropriations may also be made to cover such additional costs and expenses.

Section 7: Multiple Property Protection

When a particular service rendered by the township fire department directly benefits more than one person or property, the owner of each property so benefited and each

person so benefited where property protection is not involved shall be liable for he payment of the full charge for such service hereinbefore outlined. The interpretation and application of the within section is hereby delegate to the township fire chief subject only to appeal, within the time limits for payment, to the township board and shall be administered so that charges shall only be collected from the recipients of the service.

Section 8: Severability

Should any provision or part of the within ordinance be declared by any court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid or unenforceable, the same shall not affect the validity or enforceability of the balance of this ordinance which shall remain in full force and effect.

Section 9: effective date

This ordinance shall take effect immediately upon publication. All ordinances or part of ordinances in conflict herewith are repealed.

Moved by Faye
Seconded by Tom To adopt this Fire Run Charge Ordinance
Roll Call Vote: Ayes 5
Nays 0

The Supervisor declared the Ordinance approved on a 5 Ayes to 0 Nays

D.

10. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Extra office staffing for one month – Due to the audit and bookkeeping records not matching we may need extra staffing for up to 2 months before our new clerk, Marilyn Branchaeu will take over.

Motion was made by Steve Koski and seconded by Tom Feldhusen to continue the extra help and get the books correct before the new clerks takes over. It was passed unanimously

B. Roof need on Munson Park Pavilion –

Motion was made by Steve Koski and seconded by Faye Mattila to put this out on bids. It was passed unanimously

C. Money fee for membership for Michigamme Lake Organization – Motion was made by Gary Johnson and seconded by Tom Feldhusen to pay the \$25.00 fee to become members so that the township will know what is happening. It was passed unanimously

11. PUBLIC COMMENT:

No comment

12. ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 7:37PM.

Written by Temporary Clerk Jill Rankinen