

**Republic Township Board  
February 26, 2015  
Regular Meeting Minutes**

**1. CALL TO ORDER:**

Supervisor Johnson called the meeting to order @ 7:00pm....All Board Members were present.

**2. SALUTE TO FLAG:**

**3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

Motion by Trustee Feldhusen to approve, seconded by Treasurer Koski, all in favor, motion carried.

**4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Minutes for January 22, 2015 Regular Board Meeting – Motion by Trustee Knapp seconded by Treasurer Koski, all in favor, motion carried.

**5. PAYMENT OF BILLS:**

Treasurer Koski made the motion to pay the bills, Trustee Feldhusen seconded the motion, all in favor, motion carried.

**6. PUBLIC COMMENT:**

**Keith Perry**  
**Fred Nannestad**  
**Frank Haslip**

**7. REPORTS:**

- a. **TRUSTEE KNAPP** – Nothing at this time
- b. **TRUSTEE FELDHUSEN**- Nothing at this time
- c. **CLERK BRANCHEAU** – Went to the MTA conference, took some classes and learned a lot.
- d. **TREASURER KOSKI** – Also went to the MTA Conference, took classes; learned a lot. Will be available Monday March 2, 2015 from 9am to 5pm for the last day to collect taxes.
- e. **ASSESSOR** – Tax roll is submitted
- f. **SUPERVISOR** – Nothing at this time.
- g. **DPW** – We have issues with the Water Filtration Plant, we suspect that it is the same calcification issue. We also have a break on M-95 at the Storage Units which is causing the tanks to lose water. We hope to fix the break on Friday the 27<sup>th</sup>, then attempt a clean up at the filter plant. The water is currently unfiltered, but is safe.
- h. **FIRE/AMBULANCE** – We have changed the entry door on the south side of the building to be the man door as opposed to the big roll up door.

- i. **BOAT LAUNCH** – Would like to upgrade the boat launch at the beach. We have other property and would like to discuss with the board the possibility of moving it, or adding another and will discuss with the DNR.

**8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

- a. **Mine Rail Line** - The survey will be done by March 17<sup>th</sup>.
- b. **Bank Trust Fund Grant Status**- Tabled
- c. **School Lake/Munson Park Grant** – Tabled”
- d. **Sewer Grant/Rate Increase** – Meeting with Duane Reid on March 3<sup>rd</sup>, has been cancelled, he will call us to reschedule. But he did request that we raise our sewer rates immediately to begin building up a repair/replace fund. Duane recommends an immediate \$2.00 rate increase effective April 1, 2015 with the new budget year. Motion by Supervisor Johnson, seconded by Treasurer Koski with the understanding that this will go towards the final numbers for required rate increases. **Roll Call Vote:**  
Supervisor Johnson  Aye -  Nay  
Treasurer Koski  Aye -  Nay  
Clerk Brancheau  Aye -  Nay  
Trustee Feldhusen  Aye -  Nay  
Trustee Knapp  Aye -  Nay  
**5 Ayes, 0 Nays, Resolution passes.**
- e. **Office Manager’s Report** – There was no report this month.

**9. NEW BUSINESS:**

- a. **Chlorine Pump Bids/Resolution**– We received two bids, one from CTW Corporation and one from Danielson Contracting. CTW Corporation out of DePere, WI was the low bidder. Motion to accept the bid from CTW Corporation for \$22,585.00. The Resolution was read into the minutes, motion to accept by Trustee Knapp, seconded by Trustee Feldhusen, **Roll Call Vote:**  
Supervisor Johnson  Aye -  Nay  
Treasurer Koski  Aye -  Nay  
Clerk Brancheau  Aye -  Nay  
Trustee Feldhusen  Aye -  Nay  
Trustee Knapp  Aye -  Nay  
**5 Ayes, 0 Nays, Resolution passes.**
- b. **Oasis Purchase**– The new contract reflects all monies owed to the Township, and reflects a Lease/Purchase. A general consensus of the Board is to present it to him to see if he is agreeable. Regardless, he must pay back the money he owes.
- c. **Assessment Roll Inspection** – will take place this summer for every assessment roll in the UP. Recommendations have been made to make sure all of our paperwork is in order particularly an Inspection of Records Policy. Motion to approve the submitted policy by Treasurer Koski, seconded by Trustee Knapp, all in favor, motion carried.
- d. **Poverty Exemption Guidelines** – There are Federal guidelines for Poverty Exemption for the tax roll, these should also be accepted. Motion to approve Resolution by Clerk Brancheau, seconded by Treasurer Koski. **Roll Call Vote:**

Supervisor Johnson  Aye -  Nay  
Treasurer Koski  Aye -  Nay  
Clerk Brancheau  Aye -  Nay  
Trustee Feldhusen  Aye -  Nay  
Trustee Knapp  Aye -  Nay  
5 Ayes, 0 Nays, Resolution passes.

- e. **Employee Pay Raise Resolution** – All hourly employees get a \$.25 per hour raise effective 04/01/2015 (new budget year). Motion by Treasurer Koski, seconded by Clerk Brancheau. All in favor, motion carried.
- f. **Sale of Lot # 36-** Our employee, Drew Greipentrog would like to build a garage and we have a vacant lot across the street from his house that he would like to purchase. Suggest that we use the same figure that we recently sold another lot for that is comparable. That amount is \$450.00 and we sold it to John Ulrich. Motion by Supervisor Johnson to approve the sale, seconded by Treasurer Koski, all in favor, motion carried.
- g. **Interest Rate Reduction** – The current interest charges are very high; 6%. They are given a full year to pay, yet they are still being charged monthly interest. The interest never seems to stop. Would like to lower the interest to 3% to help these folks to get rid of these balances. Also to allow anyone who wishes to pay their bill in full during the year that the balance showing on their bill is all they pay and any further interest accrued is forgiven. Motion by Treasurer Koski, seconded by Clerk Brancheau. **Roll Call Vote:**  
Supervisor Johnson  Aye -  Nay  
Treasurer Koski  Aye -  Nay  
Clerk Brancheau  Aye -  Nay  
Trustee Feldhusen  Aye -  Nay  
Trustee Knapp  Aye -  Nay  
5 Ayes, 0 Nays, Resolution passes.
- h. **Van Riper Campground** – They wish to have support for a MNRTF grant application for a large playground they wish to put in. Motion by Treasurer Koski, seconded by Trustee Feldhusen, all in favor, motion carried.
- i. **Pickup Truck Purchase** – All bids are pre-vetted by the State of Michigan. After looking at what was available starting with the least expensive and working our way up to what would meet our needs (the Ford has an E-85 engine, these have power and torque issues, the Dodge motor does not have the horsepower), the GMC was next. With the options we requested and with a couple of others as well. The total is \$26,550.00 (if Gary’s math is correct). There will be a “NO-SMOKING” policy. Motion by Treasurer Koski, seconded by Trustee Feldhusen, all in favor, motion carried.
- j. **FOIA Appeal** – We have received an appeal for rejection of providing Attorney – Client privileged information, we received a response from the attorney. The board has to either accept your appeal and give you the letter you requested, or deny your appeal on the basis of Attorney-Client privilege. Motion by Treasurer Koski, seconded by Clerk Brancheau, to provide only a copy of the Attorney’s response letter to the Appeal denying the appeal.

- k. P.C. By-Laws** – The Planning Commission has amended their By-Laws with the assistance of the MTA. The Planning Commission has amended them based on their needs at the moment. Motion to accept the new By-Laws by Trustee Knapp, seconded by Trustee Feldhusen; until such time as they can revise them again based on the MTA’s suggested format all in favor, motion carried.
- l. P.C. Operational Plan** – The Planning Commission has also adopted an Operational Plan which gives a more clear outline of how responsibilities and duties should be carried out. In paragraph seven (7), there needs to be a change in the wording, it should read “Capital Improvement Plan”. Motion by Treasurer Koski, seconded by Clerk Brancheau, all in favor, motion carried.
- m. Electrical Work for Post Office** – Motion by Trustee Knapp to move forward on the Post Office, but to have the contractor eliminate the Tube shields for the lights, seconded by Trustee Feldhusen, all in favor, motion carried. The switch for the EMS building generator. Trustee Knapp has suggested that the “Auto-On” switch be changed to only run the bare necessities which would then not over burden the generator. However, more information is needed. Trustee Knapp moved that this be tabled until more information is acquired. The consensus of the Board agreed; so tabled
- n. Roberts Filter Contract** - \$4,668.00 per year for them to come in once per year to inspect the water filtration plant to assist in heading off any serious issues. This Contract is for two years. Motion by Treasurer Koski, seconded by Trustee Feldhusen, all in favor, motion carried.
- o. Township Crest** – Clerk Brancheau has suggested some time ago that the Township have its own crest. It came up again at the MTA conference this year, so Clerk Brancheau and Treasurer Koski decided to enlist the help of Stacy Davis to create a crest to represent Republic Township. Motion to make this Republic Township’s formal crest by Treasurer Koski, seconded by Clerk Brancheau, all in favor, motion carried.
- p. Handicapped Door Openers** – Tabled by consensus of the Board.

**10. PUBLIC COMMENT:**

**Marilyn Helmila**  
**Sandy Travis**  
**Fred Nannestad**  
**Keith Perry**

**11. BOARD MEMBER COMMENT: None**

**12. ADJOURNMENT:** Supervisor Johnson Adjourned the meeting @ 8:13pm

Sworn and Subscribed to by:

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Marilyn, Brancheau, Clerk

Date