

TROUT LAKE TOWNSHIP

PO Box 215
Trout Lake, MI 49793
906-569-3291(P)
906-569-3772 (F)

Supervisor: Helen Fischer
Clerk: Kathleen A. English
Treasurer: Pam Barrett
Trustee: Laurey Simpson
Trustee: John Clark

Township Board Meeting, February 12, 2019, Minutes, *Draft pending Board Approval March 12, 2019.*

Attendance: Nine (9)

Meeting called to order at 1833, by Supervisor Fischer, with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Board Members present: Helen Fischer, Kathy English, John Clark. Absent: Laurey Simpson and Pam Barrett. A quorum of the Township Board was in Attendance.

Supervisor Fischer made a motion, seconded by Trustee Clark, to approve the Trout Lake Township Board Meeting Minutes of January 08, 2019. Motion Approved Unanimously by the Board Members in Attendance.

Public Comments:

1. Mary Fischer Sharp reminded everyone of the Firemen's Fishing Derby, February 16, 2019, 0700 – 1600.
2. Supervisor Fischer distributed information about someone wanting to provide "broad band" service to the area. Discussion ensued. General consensus was that it was expensive providing minimal service. Information was given to Mr. Hillman to review. It was suggested that this person might come to a board meeting if there is enough interest.
3. Clerk English stated that the MTTP PAR plan people will be coming to the next meeting to review risk management issues facing the Township. This will be approximately an hour presentation with a questions/answers period.
4. Gary Mitchell stated he was talking with the person who owns the land where a cell tower is to be erected. The project has been postponed until spring related to weather conditions. It was suggested that the Township wait to see if the tower will provide adequate service.
5. Chari Fischer presented a project being explored by Rudyard related to building an assisted living/hospice center in Rudyard. There would be six (6) assisted living beds and one (1) hospice bed. This project would actually be managed by Superior Health Systems which is part of a corporation. Lengthy discussion ensued, related to emergency services, funding, management, state regulations, etc.

Clerk Report: Kathy English, Clerk

1. Clerk English reported that the Township was awarded a \$905.00 grant for backup cameras for the Ambulance & two (2) fire trucks. She thanked Mr. Thomas for the excellent writing of the grant. She also thanked Mr. Clark for his careful attention to cost effectiveness in this purchase as neighboring Townships requested three to four times the amounts for three (3) cameras!
2. Letter received from AT&T Metro Act Right of Way Permit requesting an extension of the Right of Way Permit which currently expires 4/30/2019. The extension will provide for a term ending on 4/30/2024. Supervisor Fischer made a motion, seconded by Trustee Clark, to approve the extension. Motion approved unanimously by the Board Members in attendance.
3. The USDA Rural Development loan annual statement has been received with the next payment due 4/01/2019. Clerk English reviewed the loan balance, amount of the principal and interest payments as stated on the annual statement. Clerk English requested approval to pay the loan payment, up to \$15,000.00, should the invoice not be received before the next Board Meeting. Supervisor Fischer made a motion, seconded by Trustee Clark, to make the payment up to \$15,000.00, should the invoice not arrive before the next Board meeting. Motion approved unanimously by the Board Members in attendance.
4. DEQ permit for ATC to conduct soil samplings through 2023. The majority of the samplings will occur in Trout Lake Township.
5. Park tree cutting update: Clerk English stated she received a phone call on February 6, 2019, during which a local man, not the person Supervisor Fischer stated she made the verbal contract with, was requesting payment for cutting the trees. During the telephone conversation, the Clerk was threatened five (5) times. The Sheriff's department has been notified. In addition, while the Clerk was trying to provide the update, a member of the public, the caller's wife, became vocal, waving a torn piece of paper in the air, stating she had a letter from the person with whom Supervisor Fischer purportedly verbally contracted. When the Clerk attempted to complete her update, the wife of the caller became more vocal. When the Clerk called for a point of order to the Supervisor, no action was taken by the Supervisor to control the meeting. Supervisor Fischer has submitted a letter delineating the "verbal contract" related to the cutting of the trees. According to the documentation received by the Clerk sixteen (16) trees were cut at a cost of \$60.00/tree totaling \$960.00. However, a letter received during the Board meeting assigning payment to Brian Belongie, now states that the cost is \$70.00/tree. Supervisor Fischer stated that the cost she "verbally" and in writing, made with Mr. Alexander was for \$60.00/tree. Motion made by Trustee Clark, seconded by Supervisor Fischer, to pay \$960.00 for the tree cutting, in accordance with the letter received from Supervisor Fischer.
6. Clerk English spoke to the process of hiring contractors to do work for the Township. In light of the significant issues outlined in item #5 above, no work will be contracted until the Clerk receives a W9, written contract and quote, as well as other legal information required by law. Had the tree cutting process been handled legally, as has been discussed numerous times in the past, the situation in item #5 would never have occurred. A policy will be forthcoming as well as a form that will have to be completed prior to any work being started.

Treasurer's Report: Pam Barrett, Treasurer, Absent. Financial Report received.

Ambulance Service Report: John Clark, Ambulance Corp Captain

1. Three (3) runs for the Month of January and February, 2019, to date.

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2. Mr. Clark attended the PSRO meeting February 11, 2019. He reported there will be updated protocols come out soon. In addition, there are new items, provided on a grant from the State, and which will be recommended on the trucks starting 3/1/2019, including a newborn heating mattress and newborn thermal hat. Costs in the future are unknown.
3. Mr. Clark reported that the application and background check for Dustin MacKeller, who lives in Strongs has been completed and approved for the Fire Department and Ambulance Service. He is a licensed EMT-Paramedic, however, he would still have to run as a Basic provider.
4. Mr. Clark reported on the successful PAR Plan grant of \$905.00, for the purchase of three (3) back up cameras for the Ambulance and two (2) Fire Trucks. He thanked Mr. Thomas for writing the successful grant application. Mr. Mitchell inquired as to installation, to which Mr. Clark stated they are wireless and he will be able to install them himself.
5. Mr. Clark stated his printer is broken, therefore, he is unable to print the run reports he needs to submit. He has proposed the purchase of an Epson Workforce ET-4750 eco tank system at a cost of 349.00. The eco tank reportedly will last for two (2) years, printing fourteen (14) thousand black/white pages and 11,200 color pages, which is approximately the cost of thirty (30) ink cartridges currently in use, equating to approximately 80% cost savings. The cost would be split between the Fire and Ambulance Departments. Supervisor Fischer made a motion, seconded by Clerk English to purchase the printer as stated. Motion approved unanimously by the Board Members in attendance.
6. Mr. Clark reported that an emergency purchase of a battery for the LifePak 500 AED, has been received and installed. Cost was \$365.00.
7. Mr. Clark is looking to see if there is any interest in an MFR class. Anyone who may be interested should contact Mr. Clark on his cell phone 906.203.0621 or by email troutlake01@yahoo.com.
8. The Ambulance service is still in desperate need of people! Please contact John Clark on his cell phone 906.203.0621.

Fire Department Report: John Clark, Fire Chief.

1. One (1) run for the month of January and February, 2019, to date.
2. Mr. Clark reported that OES is putting in a grant through the Forest Service for pagers and portable high band radios for anyone who has Forest Service coverage. Our Fire Department is on the list and therefore, would receive four (4) minitor pagers and three (3) radios.
3. Mr. Clark reported that Firemen's Fishing Derby will be held on February 16, 2019. They have a lot of prizes & good food, and are looking forward to a good turnout again this year.
4. See report on the printer situation under the Ambulance Report #5.
5. Mr. Clark made a plea for anyone willing and wanting to join the Fire Department. Must be 18 years of age and older, and any gender. Please contact Chief Clark at 906 203 0621.
6. Mr. Clark encourages everyone who is looking to burn debris to log onto WWW.DNR.STATE.MI.US/BURNPERMITS The website has color coded maps designating if burning is permitted.

Tax Assessor Report: Carol McLean, Assessor

1. Ms. McLean delineated the BOR meeting dates for 2019. BOR members are Jean Beaudoin, Robert Mowery, and David Hillman. An alternate still needs to be found.
2. Ms. McLean, submitted her letter of resignation, effective April 30, 2019. She recommended that the Board post the position as soon as possible.

Park Report: Helen Fischer, Supervisor. No Report presented.

Unfinished Business: No Unfinished Business presented to the Board

New Business: No New Business presented to the Board.

Motion made by Supervisor Fischer, seconded by Clerk English, to pay the bills as submitted by Clerk English. Motion Approved Unanimously by the Board Members in Attendance.

Motion made by Supervisor Fischer, seconded by Trustee Clark, to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 1925.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen A. English
Trout Lake Township Clerk