

**Munising Township Regular Board Meeting Minutes
October 2, 2023 7:00 p.m. – 8:34 p.m.**

Roll Call:

Board Members Present: Supervisor Lisa Howard, Clerk Patty Willson, Treasurer Carmon Decet, Trustee Selina Balko, and Trustee Jolene Hetherington. Board Members Absent: None. Also present: Bob Balko, Bob and Stephanie Helsel, Matt Watkeys, Kathy Reynolds, Devin Olson, Zoning Administrator Kathleen Lindquist, and Brice Burge (Munising Beacon).

Supervisor Howard opened our October 2, 2023, meeting at 7:00 p.m. leading us with the pledge.

Public Comment:

Playground improvements look great!

Approval of Minutes:

Moved Hetherington/seconded Balko to **approve minutes of September 5, 2023 Township Board regular meeting**. Motion carried. Moved Decet/seconded Balko to **approve minutes of September 7, 2023 Township Board special meeting**. Motion carried.

Clerk's Correspondence/Report:

Received the 2023 Tax Rate Request Form L-4029 for Munising Township. Received an email from Alger County Chamber of Commerce/Greater Munising Bay Partnership requesting support. Received two bids regarding the cemetery expansion project. Preventative maintenance was done on our voting equipment. The minutes from the Planning Commission's September 13 meeting are included in your packets.

Supervisor's Correspondence/Report:

Received notice from Charter Communications regarding network and channel changes. Received notice from UPPCO that Asplundh Tree Expert Co will be pruning trees along overhead lines in Munising Township. Received a request from Alger County Department of Veterans Affairs about Operation Green Light that we light our building green from November 6 – 12. They are also having a Community Service Award Banquet on Saturday, November 11. Veterans and one guest are invited to attend. Received an email from Michigan Department of Civil Rights that they are investigating a complaint against the township. Fencing is installed around the south end of the playground. There is beaver activity in the west Cox Pond. The hall/fire department lost water on Tuesday. There was a crack in the submersible pump. A big thank you Harold and Ken Swajanen for coordinating and working to get it replaced. We had 104 vehicles, 15 recyclers at the landfill, and two roll-offs from Shingleton on Fall Clean-Up Day.

Requested Items:

- A. Alger Conservation District/City of Munising – Land Acquisition: Matt Watkeys and Devin Olson discussed and proposed the City's land acquisition of 370 acres (80 acres of Munising Township).
- B. Alger Chamber of Commerce/GMBPED – Kathy Reynolds: Present and provided update.
- C. Zoning Administrator: Present, submitted report and provided update.
- D. Assessor: Not present but provided written update.

Unfinished Business:

- A. American Rescue Plan Funds: Moved Decet/seconded Hetherington to **support Alger Parks and Recreation Department (APRD) in the amount of \$5,000 using ARPA funds**. Carried. Moved Hetherington/seconded Balko to **approve allocated ARPA funds totaling \$255,223.56, which includes Munising Township Hall parking lot – \$106,500, playground improvements - \$62,583.56, ballfield stair replacement - \$9,900, boardwalk repairs - \$61,240, Mather Elementary School playground - \$10,000, and APRD - \$5,000**. Carried. Moved Howard/seconded Balko to **allocate the remaining \$49,008.28 ARPA funds towards the 911 signs**. Carried.
- B. Cemetery Property Logging - Bids: Moved Hetherington/seconded Willson to **accept two bids**. Carried. Howard read aloud the bids from Seaberg Enterprise and Gerou Excavating, and the Board discussed. Moved Decet/seconded Hetherington to **award cemetery expansion project to Seaberg Enterprise for \$56,900 with contract written by Township attorney covering scope of work, end date of July 1, 2024, and insurance coverages**. Carried.
- C. Grand Island Township: Remove from agenda. Grand Island Township found a clerk and deputy clerk.

New Business:

- A. Alger Conservation District/City of Munising – Land Acquisition: Moved Balko/seconded Decet to

support moving forward with the land acquisition and withdrawal fees associated with removing the lands from Commercial Forest. Carried.

- B. Support for Alger County Chamber of Commerce/Greater Munising Bay Partnership: Moved Willson/seconded Balko to **support the Chamber in the amount of \$5,000.** Carried.
- C. Road Bond Payment: Moved Willson/seconded Howard to **pay principal and interest in the amount of \$147,596.25, due on November 1.** Carried.
- D. Basketball Court Cracks: Board discussed getting on 2024 schedule for recommendation to patch cracks or recoat.
- E. Purchase of Jane Ahlborn Painting: Board consensus to pass but thank you!

Committee/Policy Reports: None.

Fire Department:

Present, submitted report and provided update.

Public Comment: None.

Treasurer's Report:

Balance Savings (08/31/23): \$405,411.97. Receipts: \$14,228.42. Disbursements: \$46,246.52. Balance Savings (09/30/23): \$373,393.87. Balance Fire Truck Millage Account: \$82,114.16. Balance Road Millage Fund: \$247,627.09. Balance Road Improvement Fund: \$21,997.15. Balance Road Bond Account: \$1,046.87. Balance General Fund: \$5,598.77. Balance CD – Embers: \$200,000.00. Balance CD – Embers/FTMillage: \$150,000.00. Balance Savings – Embers: \$5.00.

Pay Bills:

Moved Hetherington/seconded Balko, to **pay bills with checks numbered 9517 – 9572.** Motion carried.

Next Meeting:

Next regular monthly meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 6, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. at the Munising Township Hall.

Adjournment:

Moved Willson/seconded Hetherington to **adjourn.** Carried. Meeting adjourned at 8.34 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by Patty Willson, Clerk

Patty Willson, Clerk

Lisa Howard, Township Supervisor