

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, June 13, 2017, Minutes, *Draft pending Board Approval July 11, 2017.*

Attendance: Fifteen (15)

Meeting called to order at 6:30pm, by Supervisor Fischer, with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Board Members present: Helen Fischer, Kathy English, Pam Barrett, John Clark, Laurey Simpson. A quorum of the Township Board is present.

Supervisor Fischer made a motion, seconded by Trustee Clark, to approve the Trout Lake Township Board Meeting Minutes of May 9, 2017, and the Trout Lake Township Budget Committee meeting of May 9, 2017, as written. Motion Approved Unanimously by the Board Members in Attendance.

Public Comments:

1. Mary Fischer-Sharp publically thanked John Eby for the new Cemetery sign!
2. Mary Fischer-Sharp reported the new benches and picnic tables for the minipark have been placed. Thank you to the great work of Dave Sharp and Bruce Spencer!
3. Mary Fischer-Sharp requested to build a new pump house, trench a water line, and place a spigot near the big tree at the minipark. The work would all be done by Fred Dutton & Dave Sharp voluntarily. This was approved by consensus.
4. Mary Fischer-Sharp stated that the Ball Tournaments will start Friday, June 30th, and run through Monday.
5. Questions related to the date and times selected for the July 4th events were discussed.
6. Mary Fischer-Sharp requested the Township pay for the insurance for the Fireworks, which is \$400.00. This was approved by Supervisor Fischer.

Unfinished Business:

1. Supervisor Fischer reported the water pump at the Park was replaced at a cost of \$6,000.00, which requires an amendment to the Budget. She presented several options as to where this money could be obtained. Clerk English presented that as the Park budget was \$40,000.00 for 2016-2017, therefore, there should be enough money in the 2016-2017 Park budget to cover the expense. However, when salaries and unemployment costs are added to the Park expenses, the total is \$47,463.50, leaving a deficit of (\$7,463.50) for the 2016-2017 fiscal year. There are additional dollars available as well in other line item budgets. Clerk English presented several discrepancies in the proposed 2017-2018 budget as presented. No income is reported for the Fire Department and Ambulance Corp. Some line items appear to be over budgeted based on actual expenses, Cemetery and Assessor expenses are not budgeted, etc., which were discussed at length. Clerk English presented correction numbers for the line items in question. She will give a report to Supervisor Fischer.
2. Supervisor Fischer reported that "brine was ordered and will be done in the next week."
3. Tower update: Supervisor Fischer stated that the "wetlands were approved, and tower should go up on Wieman property, and programmed by Verizon."

Clerk Report: Kathy English, Clerk

1. Clerk English presented the recommended MTA Principles of Governance Resolution for approval. Clerk English made a motion, seconded by Trustee Clark, to adopt the MTA Principles of Governance Resolution as presented:

Roll Call Vote:	Supervisor Fischer	Yes
	Clerk English	Yes
	Treasurer Barrett	Yes
	Trustee Clark	Yes
	Trustee Simpson	Yes

Motion Approved and Resolution adopted unanimously by the Board Members present.
All Board Members signed the resolution.

2. Clerk English reported that a check in the amount of a \$3,000.00 grant has been received and deposited from the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians. Apparently, this was submitted for work on the Ball Park. Several suggestions were made as to how the money could be used, including, painting the fence, replacing and adding to the benches, planting grass, replacing the backstop, etc. Mark Beaudoin and Stanley Ellis have volunteered to till the field, level, and plant grass seed.
3. Clerk English reported there will be an election August 8, 2017, for the renewal of Senior Citizens Services millage.
4. Clerk English was handed a letter by Trustee Clark, addressed to Supervisor Fischer, dated May 16, 2017, from the Department of Health and Human Services for the prorated fee for the Ambulance vehicles' licensure. The Township has been waiting for this letter for over a month, and which is due June 30th to avoid late fees upwards of \$300.00. Clerk English asked why this had not been submitted in May, to which Supervisor Fischer stated she did not know what to do with it. Clerk English stated, that going forward, she will be opening all mail of this nature to avoid nonpayment and/or the incurrence of unnecessary late fees.

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5. Clerk English stated that going forward, any bills/requests for reimbursement, etc., submitted after the Monday morning at 9:00am, prior to the Board meeting, will be processed in the following month.
6. The issue of radios not functioning for the volunteer Firemen was brought to Clerk English's attention by concerned Firemen. They are looking into acquiring new radios (4) which may cost \$5,000.00. Clerk English requested this amount be added to the Fire Department Budget.
7. Clerk English reported that a concern was presented to her related to election of the Fire Chief and Ambulance Corp Captain. Apparently, practice is that the men and women of these departments elect the Fire Chief and Ambulance Corp Captain, which then needs to be submitted to the Board for Approval. Reportedly, there has not been an election for several years. Trustee Clark will present the issue at the next Fire Department and Ambulance meetings.

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

1. Taxes will be mailed in the near future.

Ambulance Service Report: John Clark, Ambulance Corp Captain

1. Two (2) runs during the month of June, 2017.
2. Mr. Clark tested the 911 phone service for a resident, who reported issues with accessing 911 services. He found everything to be working well.
3. The step is fixed on the Ambulance.
4. Mr. Clark requested a check to purchase candy for the 4th of July.
5. Mr. Clark attended the PSRO meeting on 6/12/2017.
6. No Training occurred for the Month of June, 2017. Mr. Clark, Shelly McGowan, & Stefanie Clark have renewed their EMT licenses.
7. An application of interest to join the Ambulance & Fire departments, however, due to the distance of his place of residence to Trout Lake, Mr. Clark will not pursue adding this person to the departments.
8. Reportedly, there are a couple of people who have expressed interest in joining the Ambulance service.
9. Anyone interested in taking an MFR or EMT Class can contact John Clark on his cell phone 906.203.062.
10. The Ambulance service is still in desperate need of people! Clerk English inquired as to whether there have been any work sessions to brainstorm how to get people for the Ambulance Corps and Fire Department. He stated there has not. Clerk English stated that this needs to be a priority if the services are to survive and serve the Citizens of the Township.

Fire Department Report: John Clark, Fire Chief.

1. One (1) run for June, 2017.
2. The pile of brush has been burned at the Cemetery. The pile at the park was so wet, it would not burn, therefore, will need to be hauled.
3. The pumper and the tanker were taken to the Park for practice and drafting. Apparently, the packing on the pump of the Tanker is not as it should be, therefore, Mr. Clark called R&R Fire Truck repair for an estimate to repair the pump and replace the dump valve gasket, which was \$275.84, plus travel and per diem fees. Motion made by Clerk English, seconded by Treasurer Barrett to repair the truck. Motion Approved Unanimously by the Board Members present.
4. Mr. Clark requested to purchase air line connectors for the Tanker to be able to keep the air brakes charged.
5. One (1) request received from an individual to join the Fire and Ambulance Departments, however, due to the distance of his place of residence to Trout Lake, Mr. Clark will not pursue adding this person to the departments.
6. Mr. Clark requested a check for \$200.00 for the purchase of candy, hot dogs, and supplies for the 4th of July.
6. 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.
7. Mr. Clark still 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. Absent, Report given by Supervisor Fischer

1. Ms. McLean attended a hearing on May 23, 2017, which went well.
2. Buitenhuis property assessment appears to be resolved.
3. There are two (2) property owners concerned about their Homestead exemption status, both originating in 2015. One (1) will be corrected in July. The other property owner had been granted the exemption in 2015, however, they did not receive the exemption in 2016, which created a significant impact financially for them. No answer from Ms. McLean as to the reason for this. Lengthy discussion ensued related to responsiveness of the Assessor to property owners' concerns/problems, with no resolution.

Park Report: Helen Fischer, Supervisor.

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1. The paint and swim rope & buoys have not been purchased to date. The paint was not available as presented, and the swim rope & buoys were upwards of \$1,000.00. Lengthy discussion ensued. Tim Barrett will pursue the purchases. Trustee Simpson will pick up the paint at Sherwin Williams in the Soo on Thursday.
2. Water tower filters were cleaned.
3. Dock has to be dredged. Awaiting permit from the DEQ. Supervisor Fischer stated she contacted the road commission, who stated they do not do that type of work.
4. Reportedly, there are three (3) electrical hook ups at the park that do not seem to be functioning properly. Supervisor Fischer will contact Rudyard Electric for a quote.
5. Park Attendant Faulkner requested to have the Septic System pumped. She will call Mr. Clean.

New Business:

1. Supervisor Fischer requested the hiring of a vendor to seal coat the Township Hall Parking Lot. Lengthy discussion ensued related to the actual need for seal coating. Clerk English has heard from four (4) people that seal coating does not repair the issues, it just makes it “look nice” for a short period of time. Two (2) bids were received. Supervisor Fischer made a motion, seconded by Trustee Simpson, to award the contract to Mark Beaudoin for \$2,815.00. Motion Approved four (4) yes votes, one (1) no vote by the Board Members present.

Motion made by Supervisor Fischer, seconded by Treasurer Barrett, 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 8:06pm.*

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathleen A. English
Trout Lake Township Clerk