

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 12, 2018, Minutes, *Draft pending Board Approval July 10, 2018.*

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 was in Attendance.

Supervisor Fischer made a motion, seconded by Trustee Clark, to approve the Trout Lake Township Board Meeting Minutes of May 8, 2018. Motion Approved Unanimously by the Board Members in Attendance.

Adam Gandolfi, of the Municipal Underwriters Insurance Company reviewed the Township's Insurance Coverage plans. Clerk English inquired about coverage for use of Fire and Ambulance equipment for purposes other than Fire & Ambulance Runs, from a liability perspective. Mr. Gandolfi stated that the Township Board would need to approve any use of the Fire & Ambulance Equipment for liability coverage should there be an injury and/or accident perspective.

Public Comments:

1. Supervisor Fischer has been asked by a Taxpayer if they could borrow three (3) picnic tables for June 25th. Discussion ensued related to liability/release of liability waiver, having enough tables for use by Park patrons, etc. Consensus of the Board was that the tables should not be removed from the Park.
2. Supervisor Fischer stated that a person has contacted her related to cutting trees in the Park at a cost of \$25.00/tree. Discussion ensued as to whether there are trees that actually need to be cut, as on past occasions, several trees were cut down that did not need to be cut. In addition, the liabilities of cutting trees with campers in the area was discussed. It was recommended that should there be trees that actually need to be cut, the work should be done by a licensed, insured person. Supervisor Fischer will follow up.
3. Jean Beaudoin inquired as to the financial reports be available to the public. Clerk English distributed the reports.
4. Mary Fischer Sharp requested of the Township Board to pay for the liability insurance for the Fireworks at a cost of \$660.00. Motion made by Supervisor Fischer, seconded by Treasurer Barrett, to pay the liability insurance in the amount of \$660.00. Motion Approved Unanimously by the Board Members in Attendance.
5. Gary Mitchell inquired if there is interest in purchasing food, minnows, fish, etc., to stock Carp Lake. There is a privately owned fish hatchery in Watersmeet, Michigan, which is approved by the DNR, who provides this type of service. Discussion ensued. Supervisor Fischer stated she is awaiting information/paperwork from the fish hatchery. Gary Mitchell will follow up, obtain costs, process, etc.
6. Chari Fischer presented the issue of the Fire & Ambulance departments using the equipment for Township events/activities, such as parades, cleaning the streets/Township buildings, during ball tournaments for dust control, dust control at the Park, burning brush at the cemetery, bake sales, and bringing Santa Clause to the children's Christmas party. Clerk English made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Fischer, to approve these activities. Motion Approved Unanimously by the Board Members in Attendance.

Clerk Report: Kathy English, Clerk

1. Clerk English reported that she attended the FOIA education, sponsored by the Michigan State Police in Sault Ste. Marie on June 6, 2018. She stated the education was extremely informative and valuable. There are significantly more requirements, guidelines, laws governing this process. She thanked the Board for approving her attending!
2. Election Inspector Training and new equipment training will take place June 30, 2018, at 0900 at the Township Hall.
3. The Trout Lake Township Election Commission will meet on Tuesday, July 10, 2018, at 6:15pm for the purpose of appointing the Election Inspectors for the August 7, 2018 Primary Election.
4. Clerk English provided an update on the Fire Insurance Withholding Program. The purpose of opting into the program is to allocate a portion of fire insurance payment to the Township, to be held in escrow, until the damaged property is repaired/cleaned up. This is to prevent people from taking the insurance payments and abandoning the property creating a blight situation for the Township and placing the burden for cleaning up the blight on the Township taxpayers. Four (4) Board Members were opposed, one (1) Board Member in favor of opting into the plan. The request to opt into the plan was disapproved by consensus.
5. Clerk English clarified the ball park grant: There have been comments by a member of the community that the grant for improving the ball park came from Graymont, when in actuality it came from the Sault Tribe.
6. Clerk English recommended that the Township pursue putting up a cell tower, as no movement has been seen from the people/companies to date. Supervisor Fischer stated that there is no plan for a cell tower in the future from information she has received.
7. Clerk English requested a plan to utilize the grant money that was awarded from the Sault Tribe. Discussion ensued. She also recommended that the Pride Committee and Fire & Ambulance departments might contribute to this project as well. A member of the Pride Committee in attendance spoke up and stated that they only use the small pavilion once a year.
8. Clerk English presented information from the EUP Regional Planning & Development Commission, related to 2019 MCACA Minirant applications for projects occurring October 1, 2018 through September 30, 2019. The deadline for submission of the applications is August 3, 2018. The grants are designed for project support & professional or organizational development programs and focused on

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safety of public spaces. Discussion ensued, especially related to sidewalks, roads, and the Park. No interest was shown by the Board members in applying for these grants.

9. Insurance coverage issues were discussed, as Mr. Gandolfi stated that the Township could double its liability coverage for \$1,600. Issue will be presented at the next Board Meeting.
10. The issue of pending legislation related to Assessors was discussed. Clerk English asked Ms. McLean to speak to the issue. Apparently, Townships are writing letters to their representatives and requested a letter be sent on behalf of Trout Lake Township.

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

1. Treasurer Barrett investigated the finding in the Financial Audit report related to having funds in some of the Township Accounts in excess of the FDIC insured amounts of \$250,000.00. She will contact the bank to arrange to move some of the funds into another accounts to assure the Township Funds are insured to the full extent. Motion made by Trustee Simpson, seconded by Trustee Clark to approve this action. Motion Approved Unanimously by the Board Members in Attendance.

Ambulance Service Report: John Clark, Ambulance Corp Captain

1. One (1) run for the Month of May, 2018.
2. John Clark attended the PSRO meeting on June 11, 2018. He stated going forward, the meeting will be held every other month, starting in August 2018.
3. The Ambulance Inspection by the State passed for renewal of the license and the license has been received.
4. Abby DuRussell has successfully completed the EMT class. She will need to retake the national test at this time. This test can be taken two (2) more times.
5. Whitefish is looking to put on an MFR class this fall which is only 80 hours of class time. Anyone interested should call John on his cell phone (906)230-0621 or email him at troutlake01@yahoo.com. He will let Whitefish know a head count.
6. 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 May, 2018.
2. The fire hoses have been received.
3. The door to the old fire hall will need to be repaired as it appears someone tried to kick it in. The frame is broken and loose on the wall. Mr. Clark has pictures should we need to submit it to the Insurance Company.
4. 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.
5. 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. As of 6/12/2018, some permits are being issued, with restrictions after 6:00pm.

Tax Assessor Report: Carol McLean, Assessor

1. Ms. McLean stated the Correctional BOR will meet July 17, 2018 at 11:00am at the Township Hall.

Park Report: Helen Fischer, Supervisor.

1. Supervisor Fischer recommended that the prices at the park be increased to \$28.00/sites 68, 77, 78, 80, 81/per night where the electrical service was upgraded to accommodate the large motorhomes. It was recommended that all other sites, where the electric was not upgraded be increased to \$25.00/site/night. Motion made by Supervisor Fischer, seconded by Trustee Simpson to approve the increase in fees as of July 15, 2018. Motion Approved Unanimously by the Board Members in Attendance.
2. C. Faulkner stated that large motorhomes cannot get into/fit into the sites where the electrical service was upgraded. Clerk English stated that the purpose of the grant request and upgrade of the electric was specifically to attract and accommodate large motorhomes. No response was offered as to how, or why, this occurred. A member of the public became very angry and vocal with Clerk English related to the Park. The person continued to be angry and vocal, and finally exited the meeting when Clerk English stated she would call the police if he continued in this manner.
3. Supervisor Fischer suggested that the balance of the Graymont grant, \$1,500.00, be used to repair or change lights on the sign at the minipark, with an estimate price of \$1,137. Clerk English stated that as this was not part of the grant plan, Supervisor Fischer would need to get approval from Graymont. Discussion ensued. Supervisor Fischer stated she will contact Graymont related to utilization of the left over dollars.
4. C. Faulkner requested approval to have the septic cleaned out. No motion was made.
5. C. Faulkner requested that both Park employees work Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, July 6, 7, 8, 2018, during the Fourth of July events that weekend. Supervisor Fischer approved the request.
6. C. Faulkner requested an additional dumpster be obtained for the ball park area over for July 6, 7, 8, 2018.
7. A member of the public inquired as to why the 3rd section of dock has not been installed. C. Faulkner stated that due to the high water levels, the 3rd section of dock floats and twists.
8. Supervisor Fischer stated that the proposed light poles for the Park would cost \$21,000 each, of which three (3) would be required. Dredging, etc., related to installation of the poles would be the Township's responsibility. This issue was dropped.

Unfinished Business: No unfinished business was presented.

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New Business:

1. Supervisor Fischer has been in contact with the brining company. She would be riding with the company person to assure the appropriate roads would be brined. This would be scheduled for this week. Motion made by Supervisor Fischer, seconded by Treasurer Barrett to approve proceeding with brining the roads. Motion Approved Unanimously by the Board Members in Attendance.

Motion made by Supervisor Fischer, seconded by Trustee Clark, 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 2027.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen A. English
Trout Lake Township Clerk