

Approved 12/16/20

WATERSMEET TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
SPECIAL MEETING  
December 4, 2020  
9:00 AM  
[www.watersmeet.us](http://www.watersmeet.us)

The (virtual) special meeting was called to order by Supervisor Rogers at 9:00 a.m.

Members Present: Mike Rogers, Paul Kempainen, Alan Piel, Peter Lievense, and Julie Mathiesen

Members Absent: None

Others in attendance: Ryan Leuzzo, Watersmeet Police Chief and Zoe Coleman, virtual meeting moderator.

Appearances/Public Comments: None.

Agenda Changes/Approval: The purpose of the meeting was to approve the hire of a part-time police officer. With the full Board present, it was suggested three items be added to the agenda: 1) Recognize Angie Brownell as Deputy Treasurer; 2) Expunge an uncollectable Water/Sewer Bill; 3) Distribution of Lac Vieux Desert Title V grant funds. Peter Lievense moved to approve the agenda as modified, seconded by Alan Piel. Roll call vote: Mike Rogers – yes, Paul Kempainen – yes, Peter Lievense – yes, Alan Piel – yes, Julie Mathiesen – yes. Motion carried.

Special Business to Consider: Part-time Police Officer – Chief Leuzzo indicated he would like to hire Collin D’Antonio as a part-time officer. Mr. D’ Antonio has graduated from the Police Academy, is MCOLES certified and currently working for the Iron River Police Department as a part-time Officer. He has an application submitted to the Michigan State Police Academy. Once accepted, he may no longer be available to work for the Township, but that would be March 2021 at the earliest. Motion by Alan Piel to hire Mr. D’Antonio, seconded by Peter Lievense. Discussion followed. Clerk Mathiesen noted the pay rate offered to Mr. D’Antonio should be included in the motion. Alan Piel rescinded his original motion, then restate to move that the Township hire Mr. D’Antonio at the rate of \$20/hour. Peter Lievense seconded. Roll call vote: Peter Lievense – yes, Paul Kempainen – yes, Mike Rogers – yes, Alan Piel – yes, Julie Mathiesen – yes. Motion carried.

Old Business: None

New Business:

1. Deputy Treasurer – Paul Kempainen indicated his former deputy, Maureen Kersten, decided to retire. He has selected Angela (Angie) Brownell as his new deputy. While the selection of deputy does not need to be approved by the Board, it does need to formally recognize the selection in order for the banks to grant signature authority to Ms. Brownell. Motion by Alan Piel, with a second by Paul Kempainen to recognize Angie Brownell as the new deputy treasurer. Roll call vote: Paul Kempainen – yes, Mike Rogers – yes, Alan Piel – yes, Julie Mathiesen – yes, Peter Lievense – yes. Motion carried.
2. Expunge water/sewer debt - Treasurer Paul Kempainen explained there is an outstanding water/sewer bill that cannot be collected. The bill belongs to Don Klingman who passed away in a house fire earlier this year. The fire destroyed the home and the lot is now vacant. Motion by Paul Kempainen with a second by Julie Mathiesen to expunge the bill for account 0076, in the amount of \$173.23. Roll call vote: Paul Kempainen – yes, Mike Rogers – yes, Alan Piel – yes, Julie Mathiesen – yes, Peter Lievense – yes. Motion carried.

3. LVD Title V Grant Agreement – Supervisor Rogers recently signed an agreement to accept the award of \$20,000 from the LVD Tribe, distributed from a CARES grant received by the Tribe. The grant agreement stipulates the monies are to be used for first responder supplies and equipment and an ATV and trailer and needs to be spent by December 31, 2020. There was some discussion as to how the funds should be distributed between the fire and police departments, based on the history of the funding requests and the language in the agreement. Clerk Mathiesen stated there should be an equal distribution between the fire and police departments, specifically a new snowmobile for the Fire Department (quoted price of \$9100) and an ATV (quoted price of \$9473.00) for the Police Department. No quote was available for an ATV trailer. Supervisor Rogers indicated he was unaware of the need for a new snowmobile and felt the monies should only go toward an ATV and trailer. After some discussion, Paul Kemppainen moved to use the funds from LVD to first purchase the ATV and trailer, with the remainder applied to the cost of the snowmobile. If necessary, additional funds would be taken from the Fire Department budget to cover extra costs for the sled. Alan Piel seconded. Roll call vote: Paul Kemppainen – yes, Mike Rogers – yes, Alan Piel – yes, Julie Mathiesen – no, Peter Lievense – yes. Motion carried.

There being no further business, motion was made by Alan Piel to adjourn, seconded by Peter Lievense. Roll call vote: Paul Kemppainen – yes, Mike Rogers – yes, Alan Piel – yes, Julie Mathiesen – yes, Peter Lievense – yes. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:15 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Mathiesen, Clerk