



PENINSULA TOWNSHIP

13235 Center Road, Traverse City MI 49686

www.peninsulatownship.com

Township Board Special Meeting Minutes

January 25, 2022, 7:00 p.m.

Township Hall

1. **Call to Order** by Manigold at 7:00 p.m.
2. **Pledge**
3. **Roll Call** Present: Sanger, Bickle, Manigold, Chown, Achorn, Wunsch
Absent: Wahl
Also present: Township Planner Cram and Township Attorney Meihn
4. **Brief Citizen Comments (for agenda items only)**
Nancy R. Heller, 3091 Blue Water Road: why did this pickleball proposal come to the town board? The usual process would have the parks committee, planning, and then the town board become involved. My concern is that other residents have had potential funding opportunities and this is not the procedure that was followed.
Manigold: tonight the board will consider the proposal from Gourdie-Fraser to provide assistance in locating a site in Bowers Harbor Park for new pickleball courts. The parks committee will take the lead on this project and work with the citizens' group going forward.
Bickle: residents approached the township board with the proposal as well as a source for potentially funding. The parks committee will keep this project moving forward.
5. **Approve Agenda**
Bickle moved to approve the agenda as presented with a second by Wunsch. passed unan
6. **Conflict of Interest:** none
7. **Consent Agenda:**
 - A. Invoices (recommend approval)
 - B. Reports
 1. Grand Traverse Sheriff's Office Citation, Accident & Arrest Statistics for December 2021, Year to Date 2021, and Fourth Quarter Totals October–December 2021
 2. Poison Ivy Control and Trail Clearing in Central and Northern Peninsula Township for 2021
 3. Grand Traverse County Sheriff Daily Officer Summaries for December 2021
 4. Ordinance Enforcement Summary by Month for 2021
 5. Lighthouse Litter Report for 2021
 6. Michigan Historic Preservation Network annual monitoring report for the Dougherty House and surrounding historic property for 2021
 7. Peninsula Township Fire Department for December 2021 and Yearly Report for 2021
 8. Peninsula Community Library for January 2022
 - C. Minutes from January 3, 2022, Township Board Special Meeting and January 4, 2022, Township Board Special Meeting

- D. Old Mission Women's Club request to hold a barn sale May 20–21, 2022, at the Fowler historic barn at 6782 Center Road
- E. Request to appoint Becky Chown as official township board liaison to the parks committee with full voting privileges on that committee
- F. Correspondence
 - A. Grant Parsons
 - B. Alison Fredericksen
 - C. Nathanael Kepler and Ordinance Enforcement Officer David Sanger
 - D. Louis Santucci

Wunsch: regarding the email in the packet under correspondence from Louis Santucci, the township attorney confirmed that the clerk's response was entirely accurate.

Chown moved to approve the consent agenda with a second by Achorn.

Roll call vote: Yes-Sanger, Bickle, Manigold, Chown, Achorn, Wunsch **passed unan**

8. Business:

A. Presentation of Parks Funding Feasibility Study (LIAA) (a quorum of the parks committee may be present) **Matt Cowell of Land Information Access Association (LIAA):** gave a PowerPoint presentation on the Peninsula Township Parks Funding Feasibility Study (see PowerPoint and Capital Projects Communication Memo at end of minutes). Two public, in-person engagement meetings and a survey on the township website under Participate Old Mission are the next steps in moving the project forward. The dates of the public input sessions are February 22 and 23, 2022.

Milliken: will part of the state COVID money be used for the parks, which have seen increased usage during the pandemic?

Bickle: we need to be cautious as the state has not determined what the ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) money can be used for. Initially, this was going for broadband, sewer, water. Now how the money can be used is under review. The answer right now is maybe part of the money can go to parks. The board wants to make sure to allocate the money correctly once the state makes the determination of usage.

Achorn: a portion of that money should be going to parks. The township wants to stretch that money and connect the money to grants so we can fund bigger projects that may require matching funds.

Chown: I move that we receive this study [LIAA's Peninsula Township Parks Funding Feasibility Study], post it on the website for all residents to read, and allow the parks committee and LIAA to move forward with their plans for community engagement with a second by Bickle.

Roll call vote: Yes-Sanger, Bickle, Manigold, Chown, Achorn, Wunsch **passed unan**

B. Proposed donation of pickleball courts at Bowers Harbor Park (Manigold)

Manigold: Dawn Hemming and a group of citizens have sourced potential money to build up to eight pickleball courts in Bowers Harbor Park.

Bill Cantinella, 2600 Bowers Harbor Road: represents a group of about 65 residences who have a number of potential sources of funding for the pickleball courts. We are asking the township to help us select a potential site in Bowers Harbor Park as these grants are time sensitive. Molon Construction has agreed to do the work at a reduced cost (see proposed pickleball court project at end of minutes).

Bickle: here is an excellent example of public and private entities working together to provide a service requested by the residents. The board can help this along tonight by approving the Gourdie-Fraser work in selecting an appropriate site.

Chown: the grants require that the township assume the maintenance costs of the courts, so it would be helpful for the township to know those dollar amounts.

Wunsch moved that the Gourdie-Fraser contract be accepted as presented and we authorize this group to work with the park committee to secure the grants for the pickleball courts with a second by Bickle.

Roll call vote: Yes-Sanger, Bickle, Manigold, Chown, Achorn, Wunsch passed unan

C. Memorandum of Understanding for the April 2022 and April 2023 bonus payments for the Peninsula Township Fire Department (Achorn)

Achorn: read from fire chief's 2021 year-end report, which discussed the difficult year due to the pandemic and the importance of having a cohesive group of firefighters. There are five firefighters and two ambulances on duty every day. Representatives of the union approached Manigold at the beginning of the year regarding the fact that other townships in the area are paying more than Peninsula Township. We want to maintain and keep our excellent employees. A memorandum of agreement was worked out between a trustee subcommittee comprised of myself, Chown, Manigold, and the union.

Achorn moved that the Memorandum of Understanding with bonuses in April 2022 and April 2023 be accepted with a second by Bickle.

Roll call vote: Yes-Sanger, Bickle, Manigold, Chown, Achorn, Wunsch passed unan

D. Lagina family wedding request and "Special Exception Uses" language to include in the Peninsula Township Zoning Ordinance (Manigold)

Manigold: the language for special exception uses did not get sent to the planning commission by the end of last year. We want this to happen and this is a good example of its use.

Sanger: it used to be that a person could come to the zoning board of appeals and obtain a use variance as well as a dimensional variance. This provides a means by fixing a unique problem.

Manigold: it applied when Mapleton got gas pumps. We had to open up a use permit so the gas pumps and signage could go in. It was ridiculous to have to spend that amount of money and time getting it approved. We want to put in place something quick and easy. When this comes out of the planning commission, this is the type of special use exception it is aimed at. I would like the board to vote to send this to the planning commission.

Wunsch: we want to make sure this is vetted by legal. Decisions made by the zoning board of appeal may be precedent setting.

Manigold: the township attorney has drafted the language for the zoning ordinance special exception uses. I would like to approve this request as a one-time, non-commercial event.

Meihn: this is being turned over to the planning commission to include the special use exception in the zoning ordinance.

Sanger: one of the winery neighbors who filed a noise complaint against this winery last June was contacted. The neighbor had no issue with the event but did request notification of the hours.

Bickle moved to approve Marty Lagina's request for a family wedding on/at his winery property under limited special circumstances with a second by Sanger.

Roll call vote: Yes-Sanger, Bickle, Manigold, Chown, Achorn, Wunsch passed unan

E. Crain Systems Group Proposal Technology Upgrades (Manigold)

Bickle: gave a history of the server upgrades in 2013 and 2017. This new proposed upgrade is needed to remain current with security and performance recommendations.

Bickle moved to approve the Crain Systems Proposal for server upgrades with a second by Chown.

Roll call vote: Yes-Sanger, Bickle, Manigold, Chown, Achorn, Wunsch passed unan

Peninsula Township
Town Board Special Meeting
January 25, 2022 7:00 p.m.
Lola Jackson Recording Secretary

9. Citizen Comments

10. Board Comments

Manigold: I have been receiving emails from residents who are opposed to the Traverse City Triathlon saying the event is not owned locally anymore. The Bayshore Marathon, Cherry Festival run, and the triathlon are the three events held on the peninsula. The board will put this on the agenda for the next board meeting.

11. Adjournment

Wunsch moved to adjourn with a second by Bickle

passed unan

Adjournment at 8:07 p.m.