

PENINSULA TOWNSHIP

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Town Board Regular Meeting Minutes

April 9, 2019

7:00 p.m.

Corrections Made May 7 and May 23, 2019 by Clerk Becky Chown

1. **Call to Order:** by Supervisor Manigold at 7:00 p.m.
2. **Pledge**
3. **Roll Call:** Bickle, Wahl, Sanger, Wunsch, Achorn, Chown, and Manigold
4. **Brief Citizen Comments:**
Harold David Edmondson, 12414 Center Rd., expressed concern about paying the legal fees for Sally Akerley and Christina Deeren (under business item 3). Read and submitted letter to be added to the minutes. (Letter is attached per Mr. Edmondson's request.)
Manigold: asked Mr. Edmondson if he turned Ms. Akerley into the prosecuting attorney's office.
Edmondson: said he was.
5. **Approve Agenda:**
Manigold asked that the Old Mission Women's Club's request for a raffle license resolution and application be added to the consent agenda.
Moved by Wunsch to approve the agenda as amended, seconded by Bickle.
Roll call: **Passed unan**
6. **Conflict of Interest:** none
7. **Consent Agenda:**
 1. Invoices (recommend approval)
 2. Reports
 - A. Fire department for March, 2019
 - B. Ordinance violation summary though March, 2019 (Sanger)
 3. Appoint Dave Sanger as town board representative to master plan steering committee
 4. Signage request from Old Mission Peninsula Historical Society
 5. Request from the Old Mission Women's Club for a raffle license resolution and application**Moved by Wunsch to approve the consent agenda as amended, seconded by Bickle.**
Roll call: **Passed unan**
8. **Business**
 1. **Permission to use township hall for Carolyn Johnson Lewis memorial**
Moved by Wahl to approve the use of the township hall for this event, second by Wunsch.
Passed unan
 2. **Appointment of master plan steering committee (Mielnik):** removed from the agenda by Manigold

3. Approval of settlement payments to S. Akerley, C. Deeren, and S. Piehl and payment to Alward, Fisher, Rice, Rowe, & Graf (Meihn)

Meihn: explained that we've been dealing with issues for some time that include the appropriate pay of overtime by the former clerk to Susan and Christina. Also included are complaints of bullying and hostile work environment that existed between Sally, Christina, and the clerk. This board has resolved as required under the Department of Labor the wages that were not paid. There was a suggestion that if the board was inclined, it would also compensate these ladies who had to hire an outside attorney to assert their rights, which have been determined to be appropriate. The board was advised that this compensation would be only under the condition that a release and settlement agreement were signed between all parties involved, which would include the former clerk. For reasons unknown to me, all three of these individuals are unwilling to engage into a settlement agreement. At this point there is not finalization of this issue.

Meihn also explained that due to his recent illness, the draft easement for Oosterhouse has not been finalized. Explained that Santucci has also agreed to this easement. Once this is signed, it will be filed immediately and then a new land division will be done.

Meihn also updated the board on newly discovered issues in the clerk's office. These include late filings of the 941s in 2018 along with penalties and interest that have accrued against the township. Not sure if these have been paid as of yet; will provide the board with an update and assessment.

Meihn explained that he has worked through a good contract with Matt McDonough on the PDR contract.

Moved by Wunsch to remove the approval of settlement payments item from the agenda, seconded by Wahl.

Passed unan

4. HSRA resolution (Meihn): removed from the agenda by Manigold

5. PDR audit contract (Meihn)

Moved by Wahl to approve the PDR contract with Matt McDonough, seconded by Sanger.

Roll call:

Passed unan

6. Resolutions for wage adjustments for supervisor, clerk, and treasurer (Manigold)

Manigold: received letter from Mrs. Hoffman with some concerns; wages were reviewed. By going through the union contract with the fire department, the board learned it needs to be competitive with other townships in the area.

Bickle: review of other townships showed that our wages are below the averages for these positions.

Board discussion on this issue.

Moved by Wahl to approve Resolution 2019-04-09 No. 1 to increase the supervisor's salary annually to \$54,000.00, seconded by Wunsch.

Roll call: Wunsch-yes, Achorn-yes, Bickle-yes, Sanger-yes, Wahl-yes, Chown-yes, Manigold-abstained. **Passed 6-0**

Moved by Wahl to approve Resolution 2019-04-09 No. 2 to increase the clerk's salary annually to \$54,000.00, seconded by Wunsch.

Roll call: Wunsch-yes, Achorn-yes, Bickle-yes, Sanger-yes, Wahl-yes, Chown-abstained, Manigold-yes. **Passed 6-0**

Moved by Wahl to approve Resolution 2019-04-09 No. 3 to increase the treasurer's salary annually to \$54,000.00, seconded by Wunsch.

Roll call: Wunsch-yes, Achorn-yes, Bickle-abstained, Sanger-yes, Wahl-yes, Chown-yes, Manigold-yes. **Passed 6-0**

7. Consider new part-time employee for fire department (Gilstorff)

Gilstorff: submitted a letter to bring on new part-time person, Cameron Hesselink, from the Petoskey area.

Moved by Manigold to approve hiring Cameron Hesselink, seconded by Wunsch.

Roll call: **Passed unan**

8. Consider approval to purchase new tanker (Gilstorff)

Gilstorff: went out for bids for a new tanker after making two presentations on this. Two bids were received and opened in the presence of the supervisor, clerk, and treasurer on March 14th. Reviewed and discussed bids that were submitted with the board.

Moved by Bickle to approve the supervisor to execute the necessary documents pertaining to the fire vacuum tanker not to exceed \$346,030.00 (three hundred forty-six thousand and thirty dollars), seconded by Wunsch.

Roll call: **Passed unan**

9. Bowers Harbor Park soccer special event application request (Manigold)

Manigold: explained this will be a two-tier approval with the new parks committee. Spanish soccer league has been playing at the field every Sunday. This has been a good relationship as they have taken good care of the park.

Jaredo, 13185 Center Rd., the league representative, talked about the program and getting people involved. Two years ago, they stopped playing on the peninsula due to the lack of participants. This would run from May to August. The people involved in this league are seasonal workers and college students.

Moved by Wunsch to approve the special event application request contingent on the parks ~~committee's~~ board approval, seconded by Wahl.

Roll call: **Passed unan**

9. Citizen Comments:

Nancy R. Heller, 3091 Blue Water Rd., very happy to see the soccer players return to the peninsula. Township board and parks committee are responsible for bringing the park up to snuff. Repeated what she has stated in past meetings: please speak into your microphones, as this will be important for people who are not present to be able to get information from this meeting.

10. Board Comments:

Meihn: gave update on handbook; committee will get the last draft by the end of the week.

Manigold: gave update on the property for the new fire department.

11. Adjournment:

Moved by Wunsch to adjourn, seconded by Sanger.

Passed unan

Adjournment: 8:58 p.m.