

PENINSULA TOWNSHIP

13235 Center Road, Traverse City MI 49686

www.peninsulatownship.com

Township Board Regular Meeting Minutes

September 8, 2020, 7:00 p.m.

Township Hall

1. **Call to Order:** by Supervisor Manigold at 7:00 p.m.
2. **Pledge**
3. **Roll Call:** Manigold, Bickle, Chown, Sanger, Wahl, and Wunsch
Absent: Achorn
4. **Brief Citizen Comments (for agenda items only):**
Nancy R. Heller, 3901 Bluewater Rd.: inquired on the lease with the DNR; asked for clarification on who is paying for theoretical services such as dog bags and cleaning potential portable units. Also requested clarification on an invoice from Baird, Cotter, & Bishop regarding bank reconciliations in preparation for an audit.
Bickle: clarified that the bill from Baird, Cotter, & Bishop was for services that had been the duty of a former employee to prepare for the audit and that they also contract with this entity for payroll services. The lease with the DNR has not been signed by the township at this time.
5. **Approve Agenda**
Moved by Wunsch to approve the agenda as presented, seconded by Wahl.
Passed unan
6. **Conflict of Interest:** none
7. **Consent Agenda:** any member of the board, staff, or the public may ask that any item on the consent agenda be removed and placed elsewhere on the agenda for full discussion
 1. Invoices (recommend approval)
 2. Reports
 - A. Peninsula Township Fire Department for July and August 2020
 - B. Grand Traverse Sheriff's Office Citation, Accident, & Arrest Statistics Second Quarter Totals (April-June 2020), June 2020, July 2020, and August 2020
 - C. Lighthouse Litter Pickers for July and August 2020
 - D. Peninsula Township Ordinance Enforcement Officer for June and July 2020
 3. Extend terms for Peninsula Township Planning Commission members Donna Hornberger and Al Couture until August of 2023
 4. Request from Peninsula Township Fire Department Chief Fred Gilstorff to support the Grand Traverse County ballot proposal to consider a local 911 surcharge of up to \$2.50 per device/month through 2027
 5. Minutes from July 7, 2020, township board special meeting; July 14, 2020, township board regular meeting; and July 16, 2020, Election Commission Meetings (recommend approval); and September 1, 2020, township board special meeting
 6. L-4029 winter millage rates
 7. Assessing Reform Memorandum from Assessor Sally (Akerley) Murray
 8. Correspondence
 - A. Thomas J. Bensley, Grand Traverse County Sheriff
 - B. Randy and Paulette Kloes
 - C. Ron Rohloff

- D. Hannah Matthews
- E. Jane Garret
- F. Robert Tucker
- G. Steve Trippe
- H. Grand Traverse County Road Commission to Bluff Road resident Gary Popovits
- I. James Raphael
- J. Fred Gilstorff, Peninsula Township Fire Chief

**Moved by Wunsch to approve the consent agenda as presented, seconded by Sanger.
Roll call: Passed unan**

8. Business:

1. Update on Kelley Park (Manigold)

Manigold: we held a public meeting last year involving a grant for the Haserot Boat launch. During public comment, it was requested that the boat launch be moved to Kelley Park so that Haserot could remain a swimming beach and not a combined boat launch/swimming area. The township worked with members of the DNR to see if Kelley Park could be gifted back to the township in order for a launch to be established. Kelley Park was purchased through the DNR Trust Fund, which paid 25% of the value of the land in order to obtain the property. It was determined that the DNR could not lease Kelley Park back to the township without a lease agreement. A lease was created that included the use of a motorized boat launch, but when it came back for signatures, it was discovered that “motorized launch” had been removed from the agreement and in place was approval of a carry-down launch for non-motorized boats only. Township Attorney Greg Meihn and Manigold spoke to the attorney from the DNR regarding the change. They were informed that a boat launch would not be approved for this location. This does not resolve the issues with the boaters and swimmers all being on one beach at Haserot. The township will look to obtain additional property for a new boat launch. Residents wish to retain Haserot as a swimming beach only. The encroachment on the Hyslop property by the current dock is problematic as is repairing the damage that was caused last November by a storm that twisted the dock. The rising water levels have created additional issues with Haserot Beach and Kelley Park by creating a wetlands area and lessening the beach frontages. If the township could reach an agreement with the DNR to lease the property for a launch site, a ramp would be installed and paid for and maintained by the township.

Wunsch: suggested reaching out to elected officials for assistance.

Manigold: the township should contact representative Wayne Schmidt to see if we can secure some assistance with moving the project forward.

2. Clarifying directive for a PUD (planned unit development) – Bella Vue (Mielnik)

Manigold: stated that they have had other applicants with the same request before the board in the past. Applied for a special use permit for a project on less than the required acreage for a new development, which needs township board approval before it can be applied for through the planning commission.

Moved by Chown that the township board request that the planning commission proceed with review of a concept plan to be submitted to the board along with preliminary findings that a PUD on this site be appears to be suitable and reasonable compared with conventional development. A final plan and findings would be subsequently prepared and approved by the planning commission before final action by the township board, seconded by Sanger.

Roll call: Passed unan

3. Resolution to reject the Grand Traverse County Road Commission's 2020 road millage renewal (Manigold)

Manigold: read into the minutes the resolution to be submitted to the road commission. See attached document.

Moved by Manigold to approve the resolution to the Grand Traverse County Road Commission, seconded by Wunsch.

Roll call: Passed unan

9. Citizen Comments:

Jane Boursaw, 12875 Bluff Rd.: asked if the lease with Kelley Park could be brought back to the DNR Trust Fund board for additional discussion and possible approval of a launch site.

Manigold: there were concerns with dredging at Kelley Park due to the previous use of the property and a buried gas tank that supplied fuel to a pump that had been located at the end of a dock. The DNR Trust Fund had left it up to the previous township board to decide where to place the dock, and it was decided years ago to move it to Haserot. A grant was applied for and approved to improve the dock at Haserot but not accepted as the residents did not want the dock to remain at Haserot. The DNR is not able to gift Kelley Park back to the township because of the money involved. Kasey Mahoney, director for the DNR, was working with the township to secure the lease agreement.

Josey Ballenger, TCAPS Board of Education candidate: lives in Garfield Township and has attended regular TCAPS board meetings for more than two years. Is campaigning on classroom trust and creating benchmarks within the district. Wants the public to be more aware of how the schools are performing and to minimize budget cuts. Has created Facebook and Instagram pages and can be found at joseyballengerfortcaps.com.

Dan Leonard, former planner for Peninsula Township: thanked the board for its consideration of the project being presented to the planning commission.

10. Board Comments:

Manigold: informed the board that the township will seek an opinion from the attorney general's office regarding control of M-37 being changed from MDOT to the Grand Traverse County Road Commission.

Meihn: the board can authorize the township attorney to write the letter to the attorney general's office requesting an opinion regarding the shifting of control from MDOT to the road commission for the scenic heritage highway and Bluff Rd.

The board agreed to have Attorney Meihn move forward with a letter to the attorney general's office for an opinion. (No motion was required.)

11. Adjournment:

Moved by Bickle to adjourn, seconded by Wahl.

Passed unan

Final adjournment: 8:48 p.m.