

**STANTON TOWNSHIP BOARD**

**JANUARY 6, 2021**

**MONTHLY BOARD MEETING**

**@STANTON TOWNSHIP HALL**

Supervisor/John Mattila called the monthly meeting of the Stanton Township Board to order at 6:00PM at the Stanton Township Hall with the Pledge of Allegiance. Next roll call was taken. Board members present: Treasurer/Lori Anderson, Supervisor/John Mattila, Trustee/Mike Pionke, Trustee/Mark Haataja and Clerk/Kara Heinonen.

John presented the Meeting Agenda for approval. Mike **motioned** to accept the agenda as presented. **2nd** by Lori. **Approved Unan.**

All present read over the December 2, 2020 Monthly Meeting Minutes and the December 8, 2020 Special Meeting Minutes. Mike **motioned** to accept the monthly meeting minutes as read. **2nd** by Mark. **Approved Unan.** Lori **motioned** to accept the special meeting minutes as read. **2nd** by Mike. **Approved Unan.**

Lori read the Financial Statements. Kara **motioned** to pass the financial statements as read. **2nd** by Mike. **Approved Unan.**

Kara presented Bills to be paid. Lori **motioned** to pay all bills as amended. **2nd** by Mike. **Approved Unan.**

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**Old Business**

**Freda Sewer:** Per Operator Jim Morin...Water efficiency is good now, but Jim had 3 ½ hours worth of trouble on Christmas Eve with the system. Debris has become problematic and clogged a pump. This system does not screen for debris and people need to be aware of what they are putting into the septic system! The board gave Jim permission to hire people to help him whenever he needs the help and will likely increase his wages during the budget workshops next week. The

board also sees a need for a monthly sewer bill increase for Freda residents for system maintenance.

**Kenner Dome:** See attached email from John Paul Pietila of Traverse Engineering.

**Redridge Dam:** Mike and John will meet with Stan Vitton to get insight on dam work and to get an update on where things stand right now.

**Forest Management Plan:** Green Timber Consulting Forester, Inc. gave us a forest management plan for approval. During discussion it was suggested that we watch for high timber prices for future logging at the baseball field as it is ready to be logged. Agate Beach will be ready for logging in 2030 and the rest of the township properties are ready now or do not have enough acreage to log. John will sign the plan that was submitted to the board.

**Toivola Signage:** The County put up a STOP sign in Toivola free of charge. The DEAD END sign John requested must be approved in township meeting minutes for the County to proceed. John will send the approved Dec. 2, 2020 Meeting Minutes to the County.

**UPPCO Utility Franchise Agreement:** The township attorney saw no reason not to sign a utility franchise agreement with UPPCO, therefore Mike motioned for John to sign the franchise agreement with UPPCO & with up.NET with 0% fees at this time. 2nd by Mark. Approved Unan. The signing of the franchise agreements was approved on a **Roll Call Vote: 5 AYES 0 NAYS.** Kara will publish the the Stanton Township Franchise Ordinance No. 7 in the Daily Mining Gazette and the bill will be charged to UPPCO. She will follow all due procedures accordingly.

**Health Dept. Virtual Mtg:** Per Lori...No changes approved yet to the current code.

**Township Rinks:** The township rinks can be open to individual exercise. The Kenner Dome is open and necessary signs will be posted. Ryall Purdy will be the enforcer as the new rink manager. John will form an operating committee for the

Kenner Dome and he will ask Ryall Purdy, Dapper Ruohonen, Paul Ek, Marty Rajala and Pat Ovist to be on it.

**Budget Workshops:** Will be held on January 13<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> at 5:30PM. The meetings will be virtual according to your governors latest orders.

**Board of Review:** The board received a resolution request from Mary. Mike motioned to approve the **Authorization to Allow Local Residents to Protest in Writing to Board of Review Resolution 2021. 2nd** by Lori. **Approved Unan.** on a **Roll Call Vote: 5 AYES 0 NAYS.** Mary also gave the board the March BOR Meeting Schedule as follows: Monday, March 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> 2021 will be the Organizational Meeting. Then on Monday, March 8, 2021 from 3PM – 9PM and Tuesday, March 9, 2021 from 9AM – 3PM. Mary then said the BOR training will be virtual this year and by 2022, all BOR members must be certified to go to training. She will let Kara know the dates and who is attending so she can register them for the training with MTA.

**Windmills:** Will table until next meeting.

### New Business

**Virtual Meetings:** Do we need a ZOOM account for our future virtual meetings? We will need to license a webinar feature for more township control of the virtual meeting. Mike will look into this(what it will take and what it will cost).

**Budget Amendments:** John read a list of budget amendments to be implemented by Kara into the current budget. Lori motioned to approve the budget amendments as presented. **2nd** by Kara. **Approved Unan**(see attached).

**Computer Purchases:** John, Mary and Kara/Lori all need new laptops to conduct township business. Lori motioned to approve all laptop purchases needed to conduct township business. **2nd** by Mike. **Approved Unan.**

\*Lori will look into the process of getting a township credit card for purchases by the township.

\*John is going to change his email from his personal email account to a separate township email account.

\*The board approved the township joining Houghton County in having a Designated Assessor in case of emergency. Tom Novascone is the current county designated Assessor.

**Road Committee:** Mike and Mark will serve on the newly formed Road Committee. John will appoint more people to this committee with Mike and Mark. Their first committee assignment will be looking into road dust control in the township.

**Agate Beach:** Camp site locations need to be reviewed and there will be no electricity in 2021 for camp sites. It will be rustic camping only. Kara will post this on the township website.

**Public Comment Accepted.**

**Liminga Fire Dept. Pct#1...** We fully have up.NET now at the fire hall and at the township hall. Mike returned Charter/Spectrum equipment. There is a 1<sup>st</sup> Responder class next Monday, the 11<sup>th</sup> for in person training. They do need medical 1<sup>st</sup> responders if anyone is interested. The dept. received a monetary donation.

Kara **motioned** to adjourn the meeting at 8:08PM. **2nd** by Lori. **Approved Unan.**

**Submitted by:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Kara Heinonen, Clerk**

**Approved by:** \_\_\_\_\_ **John Mattila, Supervisor**

**STANTON TOWNSHIP BOARD**

**JANUARY 13, 2021**

**BUDGET WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES**

Supervisor John Mattilas called the Budget Workshop meeting of the Stanton Township Board to order at 5:45PM at the Stanton Township Hall with the Pledge of Allegiance. Board members present: Trustee/Mike Pionke, Supervisor/John Mattila, Treasurer/Lori Anderson, Trustee/Mark Haataja and Clerk/Kara Heinonen.

The first budget the board worked on was the Sewer budget. First, Sewer operator Jim Morin told the board how the sewer process works and steps needed to educate the residents using the sewer system on how clogs occur in the lines and pumps. The system needs pumping around every 3 – 5 years and this is the year that it needs pumping and will cost the township \$3,000. When Jim needs to clean out clogs in the system in the future, he will charge \$45/hr. Clean outs need two guys so both guys will get \$45/hr. Hence we need to put \$1500 additional in the budget for that reason. Jim asked if we can place an informative letter in with the tax bills on how the residents can keep the lines and pumps debris free and Lori said she would. The board gave Jim a raise from \$17.50/hr to \$20/hr. The board is also considering raising sewer rates but will address this at the regular township monthly board meeting on February 3, 2021. This budget will be finalized at the next budget workshop.

The next budget was the Liminga Fire Fund Pct#1 and Fire Chief Mike Pionke presented a draft budget for the board to discuss. The budget will be finalized at the next budget workshop.

The Toivola Fire Fund Pct#2 budget was next with John Mattila standing in for Fire Chief Gary Hoekstra. The budget was discussed and will be finalized at the next budget workshop.

Next up was the Road Fund budget and after discussion it was finished and turned over to the final budget workshop.

Last of all was the General Fund budget. A lot of input and discussion was done, with assistant Assessor Mary Durocher getting a raise from \$15.50/hr to \$20/hr and Cemetery Sextons going from \$225/burial to \$250/burial. This budget will also be finalized at the last budget workshop on January 20, 2021.

Mark **motioned** to adjourn the meeting at 8:06PM. **2nd** by Mike. **Approved Unan.**

Submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_ Kara Heinonen, Clerk

Approved by: \_\_\_\_\_ John Mattila, Supervisor

**STANTON TOWNSHIP BOARD**

**JANUARY 20, 2021**

**BUDGET WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES**

Supervisor John Mattila called the Budget Workshop Meeting to order at 5:35PM at the Stanton Township Hall with the Pledge of Allegiance. Board members present: Trustee/Mike Pionke, Supervisor/John Mattila, Treasurer/Lori Anderson, Trustee/Mark Haataja and Clerk/Kara Heinonen.

The board went over all budgets again, discussed each briefly and made any necessary changes. They came away with solid budgets for the Sewer Fund, the Road Fund, the Liminga Fire Fund, the Toivola Fire Fund and the General Fund.

Kara **motioned** to adjourn the meeting at 5:35PM. **2nd** by Lori. **Approved Unan.**

Submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_ Kara Heinonen, Clerk

Approved by: \_\_\_\_\_ John Mattila, Supervisor

**STANTON TOWNSHIP BOARD**

**FEBRUARY 3, 2021**

**BUDGET HEARING MEETING MINUTES**

Supervisor John Mattila called the Budget Public Hearing Meeting to order at 5:30PM at the Stanton Township Hall with the Pledge of Allegiance. Board members present: Treasurer/Lori Anderson, Supervisor/John Mattila, Trustee/Mark Haataja, Trustee/Mike Pionke and Clerk/Kara Heinonen.

Copies of the proposed **2021-2022 Budget** were available to the public before the meeting. Supervisor/John Mattila gave a brief overview of each of the budgets being presented to all attending the meeting. After public discussion, the board agreed to approve each budget as presented by a roll call vote.

Kara **motioned** to approve the Liminga Fire Fund Pct#1 2021-22 Budget as presented. **2nd** by Lori. **Approved on a roll call vote: 5 AYES 0 NAYS.**

Mike **motioned** to approve the Liminga Fire Fund Pct#1 2021-22 Budget as presented. **2nd** by Kara. **Approved on a roll call vote: 5 AYES 0 NAYS.**

Mark **motioned** to approve the Toivola Fire Fund Pct#2 2019-20 Budget as presented. **2nd** by Kara. **Approved on a roll call vote: 5 AYES 0 NAYS.**

Lori **motioned** to approve the Road Fund 2019-20 Budget as presented. **2nd** by Kara. **Approved on a roll call vote: 5 AYES 0 NAYS.**

Mike **motioned** to approve the Sewer Fund 2019-20 Budget as presented. **2nd** by Kara. **Approved on a roll call vote: 5 AYES 0 NAYS.**

**Public Comment Accepted.**

Kara **motioned** to adjourn the meeting at 5:50PM. **2nd** by Mark. **Approved Unan.**

**Submitted by:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Kara Heinonen, Clerk**

**Approved by:** \_\_\_\_\_

**John Mattila, Supervisor**

**STANTON TOWNSHIP BOARD**

**FEBRUARY 3, 2021**

**MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES**

Supervisor/John Mattila called the monthly meeting of the Stanton Township Board to order with the Pledge of Allegiance at 6:00PM at the Stanton Township Hall. Board members present: Supervisor/John Mattila, Trustee/Mike Pionke, Trustee/Mark Haataja, Treasurer/Lori Anderson and Clerk/Kara Heinonen.

All present read over the January 6, 2021 Monthly Meeting Minutes. Lori **motioned** to accept the meeting minutes as read. 2nd by Mark. **Approved Unan.** Next all present read over the January 13, 2021 Budget Workshop Meeting Minutes. Lori **motioned** to accept the meeting minutes as read. **2nd** by Mike. **Approved Unan.** Finally, all present read over the January 20, 2021 Budget Workshop Meeting Minutes. Lori **motioned** to accept the meeting minutes as read. **2nd** by Mark. **Approved Unan.**

Lori read the Financial Statements. Kara **motioned** to approve the financial statements as read. **2nd** by Mike. **Approved Unan.**

Kara presented Bills to be paid with two being added. One from the General Fund(Daily Mining Gazette for \$98.10)and one from the Liminga Fire Fund(Emergency Medical Products for \$231.10). Mike **motioned** to approve all bills as **amended.** **2nd** by Mark. **Approved Unan.**

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**Township Windmill Project Update:** First on the agenda was Chris Moore of Circle Power, LLC. He spoke to the board about the windmills coming to Adams and Stanton Township. He said they are in the area now and moving forward with the wind project as the studies have all been completed. The project will include 12 windmills, four will be placed in Adams Township and 8 in Stanton Township. The windmills in Stanton Township will be located near the Rova & Larson Roads. The permits will be ready by the end of this year with construction slated to start in 2023. Each turbine base is 120 ft. by 120 ft. The height of the turbine is 575 ft. Fences will be erected around the windmills. The closest residents house is around 3,000 ft. from the nearest windmill and the transition line will go through the middle of the project. The board requested a sketch or



map of the windmill sites and Chris agreed to get them one. The personal property taxable value is \$1.4 million for the 1st ten years for the township and \$3.2 million for Houghton County. Adams Township will receive \$1.9 million and UPPCO will receive 40 megawatts. Wind power is the lowest cost power in Michigan and residents should benefit from it. The current locations are the best locations in each township for each windmill according to studies done beforehand. Circle Power, LLC. is following Adams Township Wind Ordinance as it is already in place and they will use local businesses for the project when construction starts.

**Freda Sewer Update:** Nothing new to report from operator Jim Morin. The township needs to raise the sewer rates or we will not have any money for maintaining the sewer before too long. The township would have to do a resolution to increase the rates so this will be tabled until the March board meeting.

**Kenner Dome Update:** There is nothing new to report and we don't have a committee in place yet as proposed. Lori will try to hire somebody to empty the garbage at the Dome as it is much needed.

**Redridge Dam Update:** The future of the Redridge Dam for the township is daunting, at best. The owner of the dam must have the dam inspected by an engineering company and they must be bonded in case of dam failure. Stan will come up with a cost estimate for the township if we can own it as a significant hazard dam. John will call John Paul Pietila of Traverse Engineering Svcs. to find out if there is currently any plan to finish cleaning out debris from the pipes. He can also try to get John Coponen Contracting to come and finish the rest of the project. He will also ask about the stream level.

**Township Computer Update:** Mike motioned for Kara to immediately purchase a laptop computer from Up & Running in Houghton for she and Lori's use at the township hall. 2nd by Lori. Approved Unan. Their current laptop is on the brink of collapse.

**Road Sign Update:** Per John...the County will take care of the DEAD END road sign out in Toivola and it will cost the township \$100.

**Township Internet & Phone Update:** As the contact for up.NET Baraga Telephone, Mike motioned to sign the Franchise Agreement with them for 0%.

**2nd** by Lori. **Approved Unan.** Mike also told the board that the ZOOM meeting format for the virtual township board meetings will be tabled until next month.

**Toivola Ice Rink Update:** There is no ice yet at the Toivola rink so therefore there has been no flooding of the rink either.

**Road Committee Update:** John reported that there are 3 persons (Tim Nakkula, Andy Imbrunnone & Gary Hoekstra) from the south end of the township that are interested in being on the road committee. Mike told the board that Kevin Harju of the HoCo Road Commission will set up a meeting soon with our soon-to-be formed road committee and bids are going out tomorrow for Rauhala Rd and Harma Rd, which received flood damage in 2018.

**Agate Beach Park Update:** Nothing new to report.

**Cemeteries Update:** The grave diggers need an increase on what they make per burial and it was decided that the Cemetery Ordinance should also be amended to get rid of the weekend burial rate. Kara will send the amended ordinance to the local funeral directors.

\*Someone wanted to know what land the township owns in Freda and they can see this on our township map.

\*Another speed study was requested for the Houghton Canal by the Markham residences and Road Commission will take care of it once the snow has melted in the spring.

\*A resident also questioned if we could sell products derived from township land and the answer is no.

\*Lori **motioned** to adopt the Resolution for Poverty Exemption Income Guidelines and Asset Test 2021. **2nd** by Kara. **Approved Unan.**

### **Public Comment Accepted.**

The N. Canal Park gate needs to be locked since it hasn't been done yet this year. Lori will take care of this and whatever it entails and she is also looking into a new retirement company for the township. Lori is also looking into getting credit cards for township purchases through Superior National Bank. It was mentioned that our floor drains need to be watered as there is an unpleasant sewage smell in the hall lately. It was mentioned that you do NOT need a permit to get married at Agate Beach or N. Canal Park but that if you do you

cannot obstruct the public from attending your wedding in either place. Mary told the board that she needs to purchase stamps for assessing and would gladly purchase stamps for the treasurer and clerk at the same time. Kara will cut a check to the postmaster for this purpose.

\*Mike **motioned** that the township remain a member of KEDA and to pay the annual membership fee. **2nd** by Mark. **Approved Unan.**

Kara **motioned** to adjourn the meeting at 7:47PM. **2nd** by Mark. **Approved Unan.**

Submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_ Kara Heinonen, Clerk

Approved by: \_\_\_\_\_ John Mattila, Supervisor

**STANTON TOWNSHIP BOARD**

**MARCH 3, 2021**

**MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES**

Supervisor/John Mattila called the monthly meeting of the Stanton Township Board to order with the Pledge of Allegiance at 6:00PM at the Stanton Township Hall. Board members present: Supervisor/John Mattila, Trustee/Mike Pionke, Trustee/Mark Haataja, Treasurer/Lori Anderson and Clerk/Kara Heinonen.

John presented his meeting agenda to the other board members and Lori **motioned** to accept the agenda as presented. **2nd** by Mike. **Approved Unan.**

All present read over the February 3, 2021 Budget Hearing Meeting Minutes. Lori **motioned** to accept the meeting minutes as read. **2nd** by Mike. **Approved Unan.** Next all present read over the February 3, 2021 Monthly Meeting Minutes. Lori **motioned** to accept the meeting minutes as read. **2nd** by Mark. **Approved Unan.**

Lori read the Financial Statements. Kara **motioned** to approve the financial statements as read. **2nd** by Mark. **Approved Unan.**

Kara presented Bills to be paid with four being added. Two from the General Fund(both from Traverse Engineering), and two from the Toivola Fire Fund(Pomasl and plowing done by 4 individuals@Toivola Rec Center & Toivola Fire Dept.) Lori **motioned** to approve all bills as **amended.** **2nd** by John. **Approved Unan.**

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**Freda Sewer:** Per sanitation engineer Jim Morin...gallons used are lower this year than last year, due to fewer people using the system. We need a resolution to raise the sewer rates and John will get it ready for the April board meeting.

**Kenner Dome:** Per John Paul Pietila of Traverse Engineering...the bids came in for the project at the Kenner Dome. Mike **motioned** to accept the low bid by John Coponen Construction, LLC. for \$80,500. **2nd** by Lori. **Approved Unan.**

**Redridge Dam:** We have \$40,000 left. The pipes are plugged on intake. John Coponen Construction, LLC. did the surface debris but he would also be interested in looking in the pipes with a camera. John has a camera he can use. John Paul will get a land survey done on the dam in the spring. We need

to find out the elevation of the house downstream to see if it is in the flood plain. If it is not in the 200 year flood plain it would lower the risk of a flood. John will check on that at the same time and will talk to Hansen at EGLE.

**Zoom Account:** Per Mike...proposed is a plan with 100 participants for up to 30 hours at \$149.49 per year. Mike **motioned** to get a zoom account for the township. **2nd** by Kara. **Approved Unan.**

**Road Committee:** Nothing new to report. Mark will talk with Siler. Mike wants info from the county on our gravel base roads.

**Board of Review:** The organizational meeting is done. The meetings are no longer virtual, people can come in and meet face to face.

**Agate Beach:** Kara will post a public notice on the township website stating that there will be no electric service in the campground in 2021 and no camping on the lake side of the road as it will be day use only.

**Wind Ordinance:** Per John...We need a wind ordinance. Mark will work with John to put together an ordinance. It will be reviewed and should only take a couple of hours to do and will not be too costly. It will be on the agenda for our April meeting.

**Hazard Mitigation Plan:** Lori **motioned** to make a resolution to adopt the Houghton County 2020-2025 Hazard Mitigation Plan. **2nd** by Kara. **Approved Unan.** on a **ROLL CALL VOTE: 5 AYES 0 NAYS**

**Liminga Fire Dept. Pct#1:** Per Chief Mike Pionke...They are in the process of a claim with the Hannula Insurance Agency. MFR Class will be finished at the end of this month. The dept. submitted 3 FEMA apps this month. The quarterly Copper Country Firefighters Meeting will be held here in March.

\*The U.S. Census of Government is complete.

\*The board agreed to keep our township attorney as is.

\*Thoughts on short term rentals...no action taken.

\*Need a new road sign for Miller Rd as it was stolen.

**Public Comment Accepted.**

It was suggested that the Kenner Dome host a pickleball court in the spring/summer/fall. Mark can pursue a recreation grant through the Portage Health Foundation for this. Lori locked up the N. Canal Park and will open it back up by Mother's Day. She also told the board that taxes are settled.

Kara **motioned** to adjourn at 7:20PM. **2nd** by John! **Approved Unan.**

**Submitted by:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Kara Heinonen, Clerk**

**Approved by:** \_\_\_\_\_ **John Mattila, Supervisor**

**STANTON TOWNSHIP BOARD**

**APRIL 7, 2021**

**MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES**

Supervisor/John Mattila called the monthly meeting of the Stanton Township Board to order with the Pledge of Allegiance at 6:00PM at the Stanton Township Hall. Board members present: Supervisor/John Mattila, Trustee/Mike Pionke, Trustee/Mark Haataja, Treasurer/Lori Anderson and Clerk/Kara Heinonen.

John presented his meeting agenda to the other board members and Mike **motioned** to accept the agenda as presented. **2nd** by Mark. **Approved Unan.**

All present read over the March 2, 2021 Monthly Meeting Minutes. Lori **motioned** to accept the meeting minutes as read. **2nd** by Mike. **Approved Unan.**

Lori read the Financial Statements. Kara **motioned** to approve the financial statements as read. **2nd** by Mark. **Approved Unan.**

Kara presented Bills to be paid with two being added from the Liminga Fire Fund (NaturalNano & Jon Stone). Lori **motioned** to approve all bills as **amended. 2nd** by Mike. **Approved Unan.**

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Supervisor John Mattila started with guest comments and Fire Chief Garry Hoekstra mentioned that road side clean up in Toivola will be on Saturday, April 24, 2021 and that all are welcome to come help with that!

**Freda Sewer Update:** Per Sanitation Engineer Jim Morin...this is the 13<sup>th</sup> spring of the Freda Sewer system and it has been the best one so far. The system efficiency is 9-11 gallons a minute and a lot less electricity is being used. We need a resolution to raise the rates for the Freda Sewer System. Mike **motioned** to adopt a resolution establishing sewer rates and charges for the Stanton Township Freda Wastewater System. **2nd** by Lori. **Approved Unan** on a **Roll Call Vote: 5 AYES 0 NAYS.**

\*John mentioned that he is working on the Wind Ordinance and once he finishes it in the next week or so he will send it on to the township attorney for review. A public meeting on the ordinance will happen in the future.

**Kenner Dome:** Nothing new to report.

**Zoom Video Communication:** Nothing new to report.

**Redridge Dam Update:** An extension was requested in January of 2020 on Phase I and Phase II so hopefully we will have until August of 2022 for completion, as pipes still need to be checked and cleaned out. On April 28, 2021@8AM bids go out for Phase III. John Paul Pietila of Traverse Engineering will do the land survey that needs to be done and the quarterly report needs to be completed for Phase III.

**Road Committee Update:** John & Mike met with county engineers to see what kind of projects they can do and what money is available. It is \$7,000 per mile for dust control. The road committee will have a special meeting on Tuesday, April 13, 2021 at 6:30PM at the Stanton Township Hall. Kara will put the notice on the township website.

**BOR Update:** Per Mary...Everything is turned in and done.

**Road Sign Update:** John will call Brian to see if he has noticed any road signs that are missing on this end and he will check on the other end of the township himself.

**Agate Beach Update:** We need to order signs for the Agate Beach Campground and Park. Lori will order 10 signs from Designotype. The grant for the playground was submitted to the Portage Health Foundation by Susan Mattila.

**Houghton County Recreation Authority Update:** Do we want to join this entity that keeps the trail system running smoothly in Houghton County? Tabled until the next meeting.

**Covid Relief Update:** We do not yet know what it is designated for or what it can be spent on yet, if we get covid relief funds. We will wait and see.

**Kenner Dome Update:** Can we have a pickleball court at the Kenner Dome? Tabled until the next meeting.

\*It was brought to the boards attention that there is a Scrap Tire Grant available through the Lake Superior Watershed. We will discuss again at the next meeting.

**Public Comment Accepted.**



Fire Dept. Pct#1 NFR class is over and everyone passed. There will be 4-5 new first responders soon! Firefighter#2 class is just about over and they will have 4 new firefighters when it's done! Also, the new floor is in and complete in the fire hall...woooo! The floor at the fire hall AND at the township hall need waxing. Fire Chief Mike Pionke will look into this. He also mentioned that the fire hall needs copy paper. The township will order 2 cases for the fire hall when they order 10 cases for the township hall from E. B. Holman School. It will come in in August of 2021.

\*The township has hired Rukkila & Negro and Associates to be the township's new auditor.

\*Lori will send a letter and a resolution out with the next sewer bills. John will send Lori the letter to send out.

\*N. Canal Park is open for the season!

Mike **motioned** to adjourn the meeting at 7:09PM. **2nd** by Lori. **Approved Unan.**

Submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_ Kara Heinonen, Clerk

Approved by: \_\_\_\_\_ John Mattila, Supervisor

STANTON TOWNSHIP BOARD

MAY 5, 2021

MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES@

TOIVOLA RECREATION CENTER

Roll call was taken. Supervisor/John Mattila called the monthly meeting of the Stanton Township Board to order with the Pledge of Allegiance at 6:00PM at the Toivola Recreation Center. Board members present: Supervisor/John Mattila, Trustee/Mike Pionke, Trustee/Mark Haataja, Treasurer/Lori Anderson and Clerk/Kara Heinonen.

John presented his meeting agenda to the other board members and Mike **motioned** to accept the agenda as presented. **2nd** by Lori. **Approved Unan.**

All present read over the meeting minutes from the April 7, 2021 monthly board meeting. Lori **motioned** to accept the meeting minutes as **corrected**. **2nd** by Mike. **Approved Unan.**

Lori read the Financial Statements. Mike **motioned** to approve the financial statements as read. **2nd** by Mark. **Approved Unan.**

Kara presented Bills to be paid, with one being added from the General Fund by Traverse Engineering Services for the Redridge Dam survey in the amount of \$1,142.50. Lori **motioned** to pay all bills as **amended**. **2nd** by Mike. **Approved Unan.**



**Kenner Dome Update:** John Paul Pietila of Traverse Engineering gave the board an update on the current Kenner Dome Project. After listening to what needs to be done at the Dome, Kara **motioned** to change to plywood instead of cyclone fencing along the side boards. **2nd** by Mark. **Approved Unan.** Next Mike **motioned** to paint replacement doors for the Dome. **2nd** by Lori. **Approved Unan.** Finally, Lori **motioned** to pay the Erico bill for lighting when it comes in. **2nd** by Mark. **Approved Unan.**

**Wind Ordinance Update:** The proposed wind ordinance is being reviewed by the township attorney. There will be a University of Michigan ZOOM Presentation (Informational Meeting) pertaining to this on May 19, 2021 from 6:30PM – 8:30PM on line. WUPPDR is the host. Information concerning this meeting and how to connect will be posted on the township website. The township will have to hold a Public Hearing in the future to decide if we want to accept or reject the ordinance.

**Freda Sewer Update:** Jim replaced the faulty pump and it is working well. Jim may be able to fix the faulty pump for backup. Lori will send out a list to all sewer users of what **IS NOT** acceptable to flush down the toilet!!

**Redridge Dam Update:** The project is in the 3rd phase and UP Engineering has the bid packages out. The walk through with the contractors was last week to explain the 3rd phase, which entails repairing the concrete and steel beam. On another note, out of the four pipes running through the dam; only two are unplugged. The contractors will try to figure out the best way to clean them out as we still have phase 2 money left to work with. Stan Vitton is working with the contractors. The survey is done. It was determined that the memorial is on private land and we need to determine who owns it.

\*Mike signed the township up for a ZOOM account so we now have one.

**Road Committee Update:** Concerning dust control...private individuals can request dust control from the township and they will get money deducted from their bill if they do. They need to give their name and request dust control and they pay the township. Then we pay the Houghton County Road Commission a lump sum. There is a minimum length and width on a road in order for the county to do dust control. Lori **motioned** for the township to do dust control where needed up to the total amount of \$35,000. **2nd** by Kara. **Approved Unan.** There will be another road committee meeting next week and the info. will be posted on the township website when the date is decided. Road signs that are needed in Stanton Township Precinct#2 (Heikkinen School Rd., Church Rd. and Misery Bay Rd.) will be ordered and we will have Ryall Purdy check precinct#1 for missing signs and order accordingly.

**Agate Beach Park Update:** Park signs that were ordered have been picked up and will be put up. The Lake sites will be day use only. We have received the playground grant that Susan Mattila applied for (THANK YOU SUSAN!!!!!!) and we can begin installing playground equipment at the beginning of August. The color of the set is negotiable but it will be received faster if no particular color is preferred! The set will be put up by volunteers in the community.

**Houghton County Recreation Authority Update:** Tabled until more information is gathered.

**Pickle Ball Update:** Lori **motioned** to buy two pickle ball nets for the Kenner Dome and two pickle ball nets for the Toivola Rec Center. **2nd** by Mark. **Approved Unan.**

**Scrap Tire Grant Update:** A scrap tire grant is available through the Superior Watershed. Shall we try it up in Toivola first and see how it goes? Mike **motioned** to get scrap tire pick up in Toivola. **2nd** by Lori. **Approved Unan.**

\*It was mentioned that Representatives McBroom & Markkanen are having a roundtable event on May 7, 2021 from 8:30AM to 9:30AM and it is being held at the Portage Health Foundation. The address of the event is: 400 Quincy St. Hancock, MI 49930. If you plan to attend, please let the Portage Health Foundation know ahead of time.

**Fire Dept. Pct#1 Update:** Per Fire Chief Mike Pionke...they will be having a Live Fire Training this Saturday.

\*Per Clerk Kara Heinonen...there WILL be an election in August this year, courtesy of Houghton County Medical Care Facility.

**Public Comment Accepted.**

The board will look into campground improvements at Agate Beach Park. Also, road side clean up in Toivola is May 15<sup>th</sup> for anyone interested!

Kara **motioned** to adjourn the meeting at 7:05PM. **2nd** by Mike. **Approved Unan.**

**Submitted by:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Kara Heinonen, Clerk**

**Approved by:** \_\_\_\_\_ **John Mattila, Supervisor**

**STANTON TOWNSHIP BOARD**

**JUNE 2, 2021**

**MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES**

Supervisor John Mattila called the monthly meeting of the Stanton Township Board to order at 6:00PM at the Stanton Township Hall with the Pledge of Allegiance. Board members present: Trustee/Mark Haataja, Trustee/Mike Pionke, Supervisor/John Mattila, Treasurer/Lori Anderson and Clerk/Kara Heinonen.

All present read over the May 5, 2021 Monthly Meeting Minutes. Lori **motioned** to approve the meeting minutes as read. **2nd** by Mike. **Approved Unan.**

Lori read the Financial Statements. Mike **motioned** to pass the financial statements as read. **2nd** by Mark. **Approved Unan.**

Kara presented Bills to be paid, with five bills being added. The one from the General Fund is for Superior Service (Ball Field) for \$125.00. The other four are from the Liminga Fire Fund Pct#1. The first is for Superior Nat'l Bank (Loan Pymt) for \$11,067.46, the second is for Emergency Medical Products (FR Supplies) for \$711.47, the third is for Oshkosh Fire & Police (equipment repair) for \$164.77, the fourth is for Jon Stone (reimb. for supplies, training & equipment)

for \$834.61. Lori **motioned** to pay all bills as **amended.** **2nd** by Mike. **Approved Unan.**

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\*First off, the board decided Kara should order a handicapped portable toilet for Agate Beach Park and a regular portable toilet for the boat launch.

**Redridge Dam Update:** John will contact Stan to ask if we can use leftover funds from Phase I & Phase II for Phase III of the Redridge Dam Project. Lori **motioned** to award John Coponen Contracting the contract and for John to give it to them after he hears back from FEMA. **2nd** by Mark. **Approved Unan.** on a **ROLL CALL VOTE: 5 AYES 0 NAYS.**

**Kenner Dome Project:** Nothing new to report.

**Alternative Energy Ordinance Update:** This subject is tabled until we hear from Chris. Some board members still need to listen to the webinar. Kara will post the YouTube video concerning wind turbines to the township website after the meeting.

**Freda Sewer Update:** The sewer system is working extremely well! A list of things that can't be flushed down the system will go in the next sewer bills.

**Road Committee Mtg Update:** The township sent all of the dust control applications to the County. Mike says he will be adding some more to that list (see attached email). So far dust control will be applied to Blue Top Cabin Rd. (the whole road) and Larson Rd, Agate Beach Rd. and Lakeview Rd. to N. Rd. to Heikkinen School Rd. This includes the original 5 miles agreed upon for \$35,000. The additional 6.6 miles will be for dust control and to stabilize the roads. Mike **motioned** to add the additional mileage to the road plan for this year. **2nd** by Mark. **Approved Unan.** Next Mike **motioned** to go to the County to see if they can do an additional .5 miles of Coles Creek Rd. between Harma Rd. and S. Superior Rd. as quoted by the County already. **2nd** by Mark. **Approved Unan.** on a **ROLL CALL VOTE: 5 AYES 0 NAYS.**

**Agate Beach Park Update:** The building electric has been hooked up. Signage will be put up as soon as possible. We are waiting to see what happens with the Playground Grant. Lori **motioned** to spend up to \$5,000 additional from the General Fund for playground equipment. **2nd** by Kara. **Approved Unan.** Park Caretaker Lenny Luoma told the board that the Health Dept. is going to be doing their five year inspection and John will be present for that. He will ask questions as to how many sites we can have and if we could open old lots from the seventies for more dispersed sites. Lenny will continue to work with the health dept. on getting water samples and sending them in.

**Houghton County Authority Update:** Tabled until a future meeting.

\*It was noted that John will send Kara information to order pickleball equipment.

\*It was also noted that the township board will be holding a Wind Turbine Public Hearing on Wednesday, June 16, 2021 at 6:00PM and that the board will be taking comments.

**Toivola Cemetery Update:** It was noted that anything done in the Toivola Cemetery must follow the Cemetery Ordinance.

**UPSET Update:** John will talk to Roy Britz about the request for a contract with the township to find out if it is legal for us to sign a contract with UPSET.

**PUBLIC COMMENT ACCEPTED.**

It was brought to the boards attention that Stanton Township Cemetery Ordinance needs to be amended to reflect NO weekend and holiday burial rate hikes and that burials are the same rate for RESIDENTS and NON-RESIDENTS at \$350.

It was mentioned that the Liminga Fire Dept. Pct#1 has been awarded a grant in the amount of \$12,000 for more training in Ice Rescue. Also, the Copper Country Firefighters

Tournament will be held on June 26, 2021 in Twin Lakes. Mike also volunteered to get an Amazon account for the township so we won't have to pay tax or shipping on items purchased. Lastly, the fire dept. has purchased a shipping container.

Lori mentioned that she could use help from local people to patrol the Agate Beach Campground for the campers who are not paying.

Lori **motioned** to adjourn the meeting at 7:30PM. **2nd** by Kara. **Approved Unan.**

**Submitted by:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Kara Heinonen, Clerk**

**Approved by:** \_\_\_\_\_ **John Mattila, Supervisor**

**STANTON TOWNSHIP BOARD**

**JUNE 16, 2021**

**WIND TURBINE PUBLIC HEARING**

**SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES**

Supervisor John Mattila called the Wind Turbine Public Hearing to order at 6:00PM at the Liminga Fire Hall with the Pledge of Allegiance. Roll call was taken. Board members present: Trustee/Mark Haataja, Trustee/Mike Pionke, Supervisor/John Mattila, Treasurer/Lori Anderson and Clerk/Kara Heinonen.

Supervisor John Mattila welcomed all attending the hearing and told them how the hearing would proceed. He also said that the board appreciated all who participated in filling out a wind turbine survey prior to the meeting. He then mentioned that if there was anyone present who had not filled out a survey to please do so.

**Public Comment Was Accepted.**

After all public comment was accepted, Mike **motioned** to adjourn the meeting at 7:05PM. **2nd** by Lori.  
**Approved Unan.**

Submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_

Kara Heinonen, Clerk

Approved by: \_\_\_\_\_

John Mattila, Supervisor