

STANTON TOWNSHIP BOARD
JULY 7, 2021
ELECTION COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Clerk/Kara Heinonen called the Election Committee meeting of the Stanton Township Board to order@5:30PM at the Stanton Township Hall. Committee members present: John, Lori, and Kara.

Kara **motioned** to approve the appointment of Election Inspectors for the July 7, 2021 State Primary Election. **2nd** by John. **Approved Unan.**

Precinct #1@Stanton Township Hall:

Roberta Dunstan (R) (CHAIRPERSON) (ALL DAY)
Colleen Dunstan (R) (ALL DAY)
Brenda Marttila (D) (SPLIT SHIFT)(AM)
Janie Haataja (R) (SPLIT SHIFT)(AM)
Mike Macino (D) (SPLIT SHIFT)(AM)
Barbara Wakeham (D) (SPLIT SHIFT)(PM)
Jean Hoskin (D) (SPLIT SHIFT)(PM)
Christina Hatman (R) (SPLIT SHIFT)(PM)

Precinct #2@Toivola Rec. Center:

Andy Imbrunnone (R) (CHAIRPERSON) (ALL DAY)
Charlene Johnson (D) (ALL DAY)
Faye Hirvi (R) (ALL DAY)
Cheryl Faller (D) (ALL DAY)

Alternates:

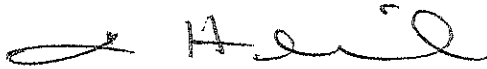
Mary Durocher (R)
Kathleen Green (D)

Receiving Board:

Kathleen Green (D)
Mary Durocher (R)

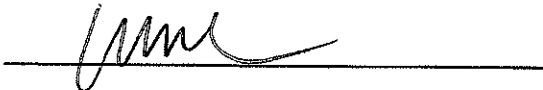
Motion to adjourn by Lori@5:43PM. **2nd** by Kara. **Approved Unan.**

Submitted by: _____



Kara Heinonen, Clerk

Approved by: _____



Lori Anderson, Treasurer

STANTON TOWNSHIP BOARD

JULY 7, 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. Roll call was taken. Board members present: Trustee/Mark Haataja, Trustee/Mike Pionke, Supervisor/John Mattila, Treasurer/Lori Anderson and Clerk/Kara Heinonen.

All present read over the meeting minutes from the June 2, 2021 monthly meeting and from the June 16, 2021 Wind Turbine Public Hearing meeting minutes. Mike **motioned** to approve the June 2, 2021 meeting minutes as read. **2nd** by Mark. **Approved Unan.** Lori **motioned** to approve the June 16, 2021 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 Kara. **Approved Unan.**

Kara presented Bills to be paid, adding one bill from the General Fund from Abe Supply(\$9.25)and two bills from the Kenner Dome Fund from TES Traverse Engineering Services, PC.(\$5,652.50)and John Coponen Construction, LLC.(\$63,270.81). Lori **motioned** to pay all bills as **amended.** **2nd** by Mike. **Approved Unan.**

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Kenner Dome Project: The doors will be done when they are received, as will the fencing. The rest of the outside work is completed. The dry hydrant was not moved as that needs a permit to be done.

Redridge Dam Project: We need a minor permit from EGLE. The bid process is starting but work will not begin until we hear from Tiffany. On Phase Three, the contractor needs bonding and paperwork before he can proceed. We are working with FEMA and Tiffany on paperwork.

Wind Ordinance: Our attorney was notified of how the public hearing went. The ordinance is still a rough draft and was done by comparing zoned and non-zoned ordinances. Do we want zoning?

Freda Sewer: The sewer system has had a few high levels, but the system is handling it and it is running well!

Agate Beach Park: The playground equipment is ordered and it came in under the grant amount so extra equipment was able to be bought.

Road Signs: Brian has been checking out the signs on this end of the township and wants to order stickers to put over faded signs. We will try this method on two signs and see how they work out. Mike

motioned to proceed with ordering stickers for the two faded road signs. **2nd** by Mark. **Approved Unan.** If anyone notices missing signs in the township, please call the township office to report them.

*Lori has run into people not wanting to pay when she goes to collect money from unpaid campers at Agate Beach Park Campground. If we got a constable in the township, could he/she enforce payment at the campground? Might this be a future possibility?

UPSET Letter: We received a letter from the Marquette branch of UPSET but we haven't received a local letter yet so this matter is tabled until we do.

Cemetery Ordinance: Mike **motioned** to amend the Cemetery Ordinance to reflect the rates as stated at the Budget meeting. **2nd** by Lori. **Approved Unan.**

*Kara will print all of the necessary meeting minutes and post them to the township website so it is up to date.

*Liminga Fire Dept. Pct#1 received a grant from the Portage Health Foundation for \$5,000 for Ice Rescue. The total cost of the project for Ice Rescue is \$12,000. The Liminga Fire Dept. Pct#1 won the CC Fireman's Tournament Championship...WAY TO GO!!!!

*Lori announced that tax bills are delayed and the county is at fault. She also said that Ryall Purdy(N. Canal Park Caretaker) will be gone until August so his sisters will take over his duties until then.

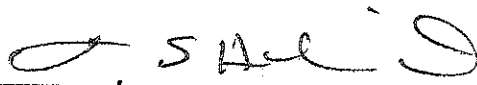
*John Mattila tendered his letter of resignation to the board and he is resigning as of July 8, 2021 for medical reasons. Thank-you, John, you will be missed!!

Public Comment Accepted.

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

The board meeting was re-opened at 7:10PM as the board had not motioned to accept John's resignation. Lori **motioned** to accept John's resignation regretfully. **2nd** by Kara. **Approved Unan.**

Kara **motioned** to adjourn the meeting at 7:11PM. **2nd** by Mike. **Approved Unan.**

SUBMITTED BY: 

KARA HEINONEN, CLERK

APPROVED BY: 

LORI ANDERSON, TREASURER

STANTON TOWNSHIP BOARD

JULY 13, 2021

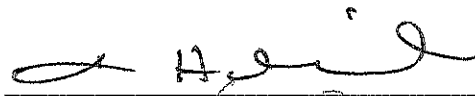
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

Trustee Mike Pionke called the Special Meeting of the Stanton Township Board to order at 9:00AM with the Pledge of Allegiance. Next roll call was taken. Board members present: Trustee/Mark Haataja, Trustee/Mike Pionke, Treasurer/Lori Anderson and Clerk/Kara Heinonen.

Mike started off the meeting by naming the candidates seeking the new supervisor appointment. Next the board asked the prospective candidates questions. After hearing the present candidates answers, Lori **motioned** to appoint Marty Rajala as the new township supervisor. **2nd** by Mark. Mike asked for approval of the new supervisor by a **ROLL CALL VOTE: 3 AYES 1 NAY.** Motion **APPROVED.**

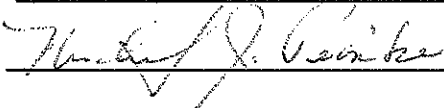
Lori **motioned** to adjourn the meeting at 9:35AM. **2nd** by Mark. **Approved Unan.**

SUBMITTED BY:



KARA HEINONEN, CLERK

APPROVED BY:



MIKE PIONKE, TRUSTEE

STANTON TOWNSHIP BOARD

AUGUST 4, 2021

MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES

Supervisor Marty Rajala called the Monthly Meeting of the Stanton Township Board to order at 6:00 p.m. at the Stanton Township Hall with the Pledge of Allegiance. Board members present: Treasurer/Lori Anderson, Supervisor/Marty Rajala, Trustee/Mark Haataja and Clerk/Kara Heinonen. Trustee/Mike Pionke came at 6:15PM as he was out on a fire dept. call at N. Canal Park.

Marty presented the Meeting Agenda. Mark **motioned** to approve the meeting agenda as presented. **2nd** by Kara. **Approved Unan.**

Kara presented the July 7, 2021 Stanton Township Election Committee Meeting Minutes. Lori **motioned** to accept the election committee meeting minutes as presented. **2nd** by Mark. **Approved Unan.** Next Kara presented the July 7, 2021 Monthly Meeting Minutes. Lori **motioned** to accept the monthly meeting minutes as presented. **2nd** by Mark. **Approved Unan.** Finally, Kara presented the July 13, 2021 Special Meeting Minutes. Lori **motioned** accept the special meeting minutes as presented. **2nd** by Kara. **Approved Unan.**

Next Lori read the Financial Statements. Kara **motioned** to accept the Financial Statements as read. **2nd** by Mark. **Approved Unan.**

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

Guest Comments Accepted.

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OLD BUSINESS:

Pickle Ball Update: Mark told the board that all of the materials are bought and the pickleball courts will be up & running soon.

Redridge Dam Phase II & III & Restoration Update: Is Phase II all paid for and has FEMA paid the township? This will be checked on. In Phase III, John Coponen Construction LLC was awarded the bid and pre-construction is done. Documentation will get done by Steve Wright and Stan Vitton. On Restoration, Phase III is in the works. Stan & J.P. Pietila are in charge of trying to capture the rest of the FEMA funds. It was also noted that we need to clear (dredge) the bottom pipes in the future.

Kenner Dome Project Update: This project should be complete right after Labor Day or after the materials come in, whichever is first.

Agate Beach Park Update: Structural repairs and power will be revisited but are tabled until the meeting next month in Agate Beach. Marty had a discussion with a deputy from the Houghton County Sheriff's Dept. about patrols at Agate Beach and found out that they are short staffed at the moment but will do as much as they can. The idea of a constable will be tabled until next month.

UPSET Update: Can we donate to UPSET? We need to ask MTA this question. If we can donate, we should donate to the Portage Health Foundation so it can be used locally. Marty will contact MTA for an answer.

Road Signs Update: Costs have been submitted and signs needed will be ordered.

Covid Relief Grant Update: The grant has been applied for (The application has been submitted) and the funding is through the State of Michigan. If it is approved, we are not sure what it can be spent on, but it can't be used for roads and we may not be able to pay down any debt with it. Only time will tell.

Township Computer Update: We are in investigation mode of the township board members needing their own laptops for township work instead of sharing.

Wind Turbine Update: The board received a letter from EGLE denying a permit to Circle Power for their proposed wind turbines which we are sure that Circle Power will appeal. The township has retained counsel. A 9 month moratorium ordinance has been drafted so that the board can poll all township residents on how they want the board to proceed on the wind turbine issue. We need to know if they are FOR or AGAINST industrial wind turbines. After we take the survey, we will take the proper steps to address this issue. Mark **motioned** to adopt the Moratorium Ordinance No. 8. **2nd** by Marty. **Approved Unan. ROLL CALL VOTE: 5 AYES 0 NAYS** Lori **motioned** to put the Zoning Ordinance No. 9 into effect. **2nd** by Mark. **Approved Unan. ROLL CALL VOTE: 5 AYES 0 NAYS** The idea to form a township planning commission is tabled for now. We will use the voter rolls to poll township residents. Mike **motioned** to do a mass mailing of township residents by sending a survey to every registered voter in Stanton Township. **2nd** by Kara. **Approved Unan.**

*Marty has plans to do a board salary comparison with other townships in the state through MTA.

Road Committee Update: The dust control is all done and the road projects are almost all done. Line painting on township roads will be ongoing.

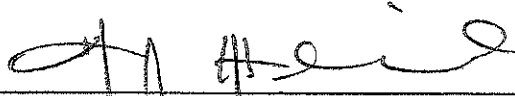
Fire Dept. Pct#1 Update: Per Fire Chief Mike Pionke...the dept. had a death of one of their members and hosted a benefit dinner, auction and bake sale to offset medical costs for the family.

Freda Sewer Update: Per Sanitation Engineer/Operator Jim Morin...no issues, the system is running really well!

Public Comment Accepted.

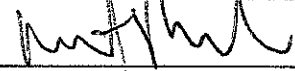
Mike **motioned** to adjourn the meeting at 7:30PM. **2nd** by Mark. **Approved Unan.**

SUBMITTED BY:



KARA HEINONEN, CLERK

APPROVED BY:



MARTY RAJALA, SUPERVISOR

STANTON TOWNSHIP BOARD

SEPTEMBER 1, 2021

MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES

@AGATE BEACH PAVILION

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

All present read over the August 4, 2021 Monthly Meeting Minutes. Lori **motioned** to accept the Monthly 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. Lori **motioned** to pay all bills as presented. **2nd** by Marty. **Approved Unan.**

Old Business

*The **Redridge Dam Project** through FEMA is paid up to date. **Redridge Dam Phase #3** is going very well and is ongoing with inspections by UPEA per Tim Purdy. The concrete is done and it's done very well! The structural steel is on schedule so far and should be done by now. The **Redridge Dam Phase #4** EGLE permits are being finished up and Stan is trying to capture FEMA funds for this phase of the project.

*The **Kenner Dome Project** is just about done as there are only a couple of doors left to hang and some fencing to put up. It should be completed by the next board meeting.

*Some of the township **road signs** have come in and some have been installed and some are still on order.

***UPSET Letter & Contact Update:** Tabled until Marty talks to MTA about it.

***Computer Update:** Marty contacted computer specialist Mike Richardson and would like the board to meet with him to discuss what our computer needs entail.

***Board Salaries:** Marty gave the board a print out on township board salary comparisons in the state of Michigan and it was decided that salaries will be discussed further at the annual township budget workshops in January.

***Wind Turbines:** We are awaiting the results from our wind surveys as the deadline for the surveys to be turned in is September 20, 2021. When the results are tallied we will proceed accordingly.

New Business

***Agate Beach Park:** The WUPHD sent the township a notice of issued that need to be resolved when they did their annual campground inspection. However, Lori and park caretaker Lenny Luoma have already taken care of the issues mentioned. The reinspection by health department is this Friday, September 4, 2021 at 9:00AM and we should be good to go. Camping will resume for the rest of the season as planned. Marty mentioned privatizing the campground for future use to avoid the problems we are having now with overflowing bathrooms and unruly behavior from some of the campers. The subject is tabled until public comment.

***Semco:** Marty is working with SEMCO to get natural gas service extended out to all township areas. It is still in the planning stage, but we have a commitment from SEMCO to get the project in the initial planning phase.

***Cable companies:** Marty is working with the cable companies to get fiber optic cable extended out to more areas of the township. Currently, most of the township is on some sort of inconsistent repeater or slow phone line.

***Road Committee:** Per Mike Pionke and Mark Haataja...the township's road projects are all done and they will start planning for next years projects.

***Liminga Fire Dept. Pct#1:** Per Fire Chief Mike Pionke...This year the department responded to 37 calls and of those calls 24 were EMS and 13 were fires. Mike also said that a gentleman from the Insurance Service Office is coming to do an inspection of the fire department. By doing this the insurance rates may actually improve for the department. Mike said there is a Live Fire Training on September 29, 2021 and that the hydrant was repaired at the Kenner Dome. Mike also said he will be attending a 911 Advisory Committee Meeting on September 15, 2021.

***Freda Sewer Update:** Nothing new to report as Jim has it all under control!

***Toivola Fire Dept. Pct#2:** Nothing new to report.

***Mark mentioned that the pickleball courts are painted and up and running at the Kenner Dome but a divider net still needs to be purchased. Mike motioned for Mark to purchase a divider net for the pickleball court at the Kenner Dome. 2nd by Mark. Approved Unan.**

Public Comment Accepted.

It was mentioned that the new playground equipment purchased for the Agate Beach Park is delayed for shipping until September 17, 2021 and it takes about a week and a half in shipping time so it will not be arriving until the first week in October.

It was mentioned that the Agate Beach permanent privies are not ADA accessible so they will need to be extended to be accommodate this regulation.

It was mentioned that the Heikkinen School Rd. sign needs to be put back up by the County.

Mark will order equipment for pickleball at the Toivola Rec Center.

It was mentioned that the calcium chloride that was put down on the roads this spring/summer was swell!

A group of enthusiastic Agate Beach/Toivola residents said they would form a committee to address the problems at Agate Beach Park and to find ways to resolve them as a way to avoid privatization. The Agate Beach Park Committee formed consists of these members: Steve Pakkala, Nicole Kempainen, John Mattila, Shannon Hiltunen, Dave Turcotte and Ben Naasko.

Mike motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:33PM. 2nd by Mark. Approved Unan.

SUBMITTED BY:



KARA HEINONEN, CLERK

APPROVED BY:



MARTY RAJALA, SUPERVISOR

STANTON TOWNSHIP BOARD

OCTOBER 9, 2021

MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES

Supervisor Marty Rajala called the Monthly Meeting of the Stanton Township Board to order at 6:00 p.m. at the Stanton Township Hall with the Pledge of Allegiance. Board members present: Treasurer/Lori Anderson, Supervisor/Marty Rajala, Trustee/Mike Pionke and Clerk/Kara Heinonen. Trustee/Mark Haataja was not in attendance.

Kara presented the September 1, 2021 Monthly Meeting Minutes. Lori **motioned** to accept the monthly meeting minutes as presented. **2nd** by Mike. **Approved Unan.**

Next Lori read the Financial Statements. Mike **motioned** to accept the Financial Statements as read. **2nd** by Kara. **Approved Unan.**

Next Kara presented Bills to be paid. Kara asked the board for approval to attend the annual Clerk's Retreat on zoom and to pay the bill. Mike **motioned** to approve Kara attending the Clerk's Retreat meetings on zoom and to pay the bill. **2nd** by Marty. **Approved Unan.** Kara then added Pay Estimates from Erico (\$434.50) and John Coponen Construction LLC (\$21,298.05) for the Kenner Dome Project. The next bill Kara added was for the Redridge Dam Rehab Project Completion Payment Application for John Coponen Construction, LLC. in the amount of \$183,060. Mike **motioned** to transfer money from the ICS account to the General Fund checking account to pay John Coponen Construction, LLC. \$183,060. **2nd** by Marty. **Approved Unan.** Lori **motioned** to pay all bills as **amended.** **2nd** by Mike. **Approved Unan.**

Guest Comments Accepted.

J. P. Pietila from Traverse Engineering gave the board an update on the Kenner Dome Project...they are getting pricing on netting (Township will purchase) for behind the nets at the dome and Coponen will put them up. The snow doors are done and he will put those up too.

Tim Purdy told the board that the steel is the only thing left to be done at the Redridge Dam so the project is nearing completion. We are waiting on the transfer of money between project #3 and project #2 which needs approval from FEMA.

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Roads Signs Update: The Heikkinen School Road is the only sign left to be put up. Marty will call Miss Dig & will get the sign installed as close as possible to the spot it was originally in. The boat launch sign must go up asap!

Township Utilities Update: Marty signed the agreement(franchise)with up.net Baraga telephone.

*Marty resubmitted the AARPA application due to a clerical error so we will wait and see what comes next.

Agate Beach Playground Equipment Update: The playground equipment should be delivered to the park next Monday or sometime next week. It will get installed either this fall or next spring.

Agate Beach Park Update: The Agate Beach Park Committee sent the board a list of recommendations (see attached sheet).

*Lori motioned to hire Don Juntunen to pick up and haul trash at the N. Canal Park, Kenner Dome and Boat Launch. 2nd by Mike. Approved Unan.

Wind Turbine Survey Update: The results of the wind turbine survey were 17% in favor and 83% opposed.

Planning Commission Ordinance Update: Mike is submitting a petition to put the idea of forming a planning commission on the ballot so the registered voters of Stanton Township can decide if they want zoning or not. The petition signatures need to be verified and certified by the Clerk by the next board meeting. We will discuss this item again at the next board meeting in November with a plan to hold a special election for this next spring.

Freda Sewer Update: Per sewer operator Jim Morin...All the tanks are cleaned out, but there is a broken line somewhere. Jim has two more lines to check. It can be repaired and Jim will try to find and fix it. Is the board in favor of getting another tank (and installation) for the bed and breakfast in Freda? We may charge the owner of the B&B more than the other residents for their sewer service.

Audit Update: The audit went great! Kara and Lori are in favor of getting audited every year instead of every two years, but will check with the auditor if she is willing to do this and what the cost would be.

Liminga Fire Dept. Pct#1: Per Fire Chief Mike Pionke...their grant was awarded and they have a year to spend the money. Just a reminder that the Insurance Services Office is coming out to do an inspection at the Liminga Fire Hall on Oct. 18 and the department expects their rating to improve, which may reduce home owner's insurance costs. The department is also doing Fire Prevention activities with the students at E.B. Holman school during Fire Prevention Week. The department is also trying to get some pumps for free or very cheap!

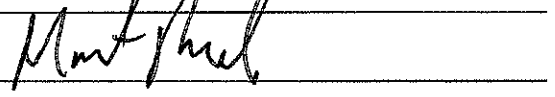
Toivola Fire Dept. Pct#2: Nothing new to report.

Public Comment Accepted.

Mike **motioned** to adjourn the meeting at 8:20PM. **2nd** by Kara. **Approved Unan.**

Submitted by: 

Kara Heinonen, Clerk

Approved by: 

Marty Rajaia, Supervisor

Agate Beach park committee recommendations

1. Do not restore electrical service for campers. It seems that campers who do not mind being without electricity are better behaved.
2. Local pay pipe collection and monitoring campsite payment. (\$3000.00 saving)
3. Increase camping fee to \$20 per day to bring it more in line with the actual costs of allowing camping.
With the 25 sites that are available for 16 weeks (112 days) and assuming $\frac{1}{2}$ of the sites are used $\frac{1}{2}$ of the time, there could be approx.. \$13,000 income. 56 days x 12 sites used x \$20.00/day= \$13,440.00.
It was discussed to limit camping to mid-May to Mid Oct. Tabled this until further review
4. Increase the number of trash cans in the park to at least 10 and partner with 4-H to collect returnables.
With only 3 trash cans people are leaving trash in firerings. Possibly reduce size of barrel for easier trash removal.
5. Expand one outhouse to meet ADA requirements and eliminate the portable outhouse. (\$1000.00/yr saving)
6. Improve the signage at the park so that camping sites and day use only areas are easily identifiable.
Post "Pay at time of Set Up" at entrance.
7. Recruit a campground host or a series of hosts to cover the season, who will be responsible for the distribution of envelopes, the promotion of good will, and mutual respect among the campers and community and clean the outhouses. Allow hosts to camp free and give access to electricity. Possibly pay them a commission based on revenue collected during their time as host.
8. Township works a getting a constable that can be called when needed to issue citations when township ordinances are violated.
9. Increase hall rent to \$150.00/day

Future considerations

- Form non-profit "Friends of Agate Beach" to raise funds for park improvements.
- Place additional outhouse toward south end of camping area. Getting estimates.
- Improve sites
 - Fire rings
 - New picnic tables- Jeffers high school would do some as winter project. Getting estimates
- Increase number of sites. Will need to license for 26-50 site. Obtaining more info.

STANTON TOWNSHIP BOARD

OCTOBER 20, 2021

SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

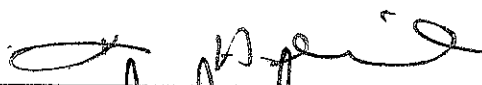
Supervisor Marty Rajala called the Special Meeting of the Stanton Township Board to order at 12:00PM at the Stanton Township Hall with the Pledge of Allegiance. Board members present: Trustee/Mike Pionke, Supervisor/Marty Rajala and Clerk/Kara Heinonen. Trustee/Mark Haataja and Treasurer/Lori Anderson were not in attendance.

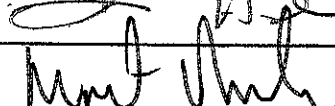
The purpose of this special meeting was to discuss the AARPA Application Status on the imminent covid funding and election dates with regard to the planning commission.

The first discussion entailed election dates regarding the planning commission. The board agreed that it is important to get the vote to the township residents as soon as possible, and came up with either May or August as tentative dates but will discuss it further at the regular board meeting in November. The board also discussed closing precinct#2 temporarily or permanently for future elections but that will be discussed at the regular board meeting in November also.

The second discussion involved the AARPA Application Status and whether or not we want to accept the covid funding or not. Mike **motioned** to accept the covid funding but to delay obligating the funds until it is clear that we can meet applicable federal statutes, regulations and executive orders. **2nd** by Marty. **Approved Unan.**

Kara **motioned** to adjourn the meeting at 1:15PM. **2nd** by Mike. **Approved Unan.**

Submitted by:  Kara Heinonen, Clerk

Approved by:  Marty Rajala, Supervisor

STANTON TOWNSHIP BOARD

NOVEMBER 3, 2021

MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES

Supervisor Marty Rajala called the Monthly Meeting of the Stanton Township Board to order at 6:00 p.m. at the Stanton Township Hall with the Pledge of Allegiance. Board members present: Treasurer/Lori Anderson, Supervisor/Marty Rajala, Trustee/Mike Pionke, Trustee/Mark Haataja and Clerk/Kara Heinonen.

Kara presented the October 6, 2021 Monthly Meeting Minutes. Lori **motioned** to accept the monthly meeting minutes as presented. **2nd** by Marty. **Approved Unan.** Next Kara presented the October 20, 2021 Special Meeting Minutes. Mike **motioned** to accept the meeting minutes as presented. **2nd** by Kara. **Approved Unan.**

Next Lori read the Financial Statements. Kara **motioned** to accept the Financial Statements as read. **2nd** by Mark. **Approved Unan.**

Next Kara presented Bills to be paid, with one being added from Abe Supply for \$750 for chainsaws, blades, files & oil for the Toivola Fire Dept. Mike **motioned** to pay all bills as **amended**. **2nd** by Lori. **Approved Unan.**

Mark **motioned** to close the Kenner Dome checking account and to put the remaining balance in the Kenner Dome Capital Outlay category in the General Fund. **2nd** by Mike. **Approved Unan.**

Guest Comments Accepted.

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Redridge Dam Project Update: Per guest & dam expert, Stan Vitton...Stan was a member of the Dam Task Force for Michigan. There are 3 levels for regulated dams in Michigan safety, which are (1) low hazard (5yr review), significant hazard (4yr review), and high (3yr review). Redridge Dam is regulated as a significant hazard dam. Right now there are 82 dam recommendations in the Michigan legislature that are being reviewed in the senate. It is highly probable that the cost to dam owners will be significant when the new rules and regulations for Michigan dams are implemented. For example, liability insurance will be required as well as a complete engineering assessment of the dam. These new rules (if passed) will be extremely expensive! The Michigan Dam Safety engineer has required Stanton Township to clean out the pipes under the

dam. The extra money from FEMA would be used for hole cleanout on the dam. Stan is trying to minimize the costs for us. The pipe cleanout will require a permit from EGLE and J. P. Pietila of TES is working on that. We will assess what still needs to be done and ask FEMA for more money! As of right now, there is nothing new to report on permits.

Kenner Dome Update: Lori motioned to purchase netting for the Kenner Dome not to exceed \$1,160.00 total. 2nd by Mark. Approved Unan. Before this can happen, the toilets need to be pumped out and put back in to the Kenner Dome.

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Road Sign Update: Road sign installation is complete. Extra sign poles can be stored behind the township hall under the deck. It was also mentioned that the Houghton County Road Commission will be taking a look at some rough spots on the Heikkinen School Rd. The Road Committee will talk to the HCRC as to what next years projects are slated to be.

Special Meeting Update: The board decided that we will receive the money from the Cares Act but will let it sit in a separate account until we are sure we are good with the terms of how the money can be spent. We have until December of 2024 to obligate the funds so we need to decide where to hold the money until we decide what to do with it. Lori mentioned that the township needs to have 2 policies in place to accept this money and they are the Anti-Discrimination Policy and the Conflict of Interest Policy. Mike motioned to place the money in a 3-5 year CD when we receive it. 2nd by Mark. Approved Unan. It was also discussed to close precinct#2 if we can't get enough precinct workers certified to work for the elections in 2022. The state has upped the number of workers needed in a precinct to 6 per election and we have trouble even finding four workers in precinct#2, but we will table this discussion until the December 1, 2021 board meeting.

Agate Beach Playground Equipment Update: The equipment will be put in next spring and will be stored for the winter at the Agate Beach Hall.

Agate Beach Park Committee Update: The park committee found an ADA approved used outhouse for the Agate Beach Park. They will move one of the two outhouses they already have to the other end of the park. They also picked up some used grills and will repair and install them.

Election Update: Mark motioned to have an election in May to vote on the Planning Commission Ordinance but the motion was denied and the subject is tabled until the December board meeting.

Township Hall/N. Canal Park/Kenner Dome Caretaker Update: Ryall Purdy will still mow grass at the Township Hall, N. Canal Park, Kenner Dome & the Boat Launch, but the township board hired Donald Juntunen to caretake the N. Canal Park, the Kenner Dome and the Boat Launch@\$10/hour.

Township Property Snow Removal Update: Kara will place a notice (Ad for Bids) on the township website and it will run for two weeks.

Township Building Maintenance: It was suggested that a few buildings in the township could use some maintenance work but the subject is tabled until the December board meeting.

Liminga Fire Dept. Pct#1 Update: Per Fire Chief Mike Pionke...Fire Prevention week was concluded at the E. B. Holman School this week. The medical first responder class will be starting in January 2022 if anybody here is interested or if they know anyone who would be interested in taking this class. They are looking for people who will be available during the daytime hours. The class will be taught at the Liminga Fire Hall and the Fire Dept. will pay for it. The class length is 35-60 hours. On another note, the dept. had an evaluation by the Insurance Services Office and the outcome was pretty positive so there should be a slight improvement on their insurance rate this year. The next step the dept. has to take is that their static water flow/source must be certified for a 50 year drought cycle.

Toivola Fire Dept. Pct#2 Update: Nothing new to report.


Freda Sewer Update: It's running good now. Pump#1 failed and Jim replaced it with one he had in stock so now he needs to purchase a back up pump. Mike motioned for Jim to order a new pump for back up. 2nd by Lori. Approved Unan. Jim's Septic worked for two days pumping the tanks in Freda and it was suggested that a \$75/month added rate for commercial tank use be implemented. The idea is table for now.

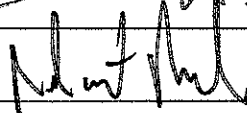
Public Comment Accepted.

Lori told the board that at the Agate Beach Park a person collecting money does NOT have to be bonded BUT you can only have ONE person collecting the

money, not a group of people and that on-line reservations are recommended. Lori also told the board that winter tax bills will be going out in December and that Mike is putting a fire dept. mailer in the tax envelopes.

Mark motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:28PM. 2nd by Marty. Approved Unan.

Submitted by:  Kara Heinonen, Clerk

Approved by:  Marty Rajala, Supervisor

STANTON TOWNSHIP BOARD

DECEMBER 1, 2021

MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES

Supervisor Marty Rajala called the monthly meeting of the Stanton Township Board to order at 5:30PM at the Stanton Township Hall with the Pledge of Allegiance. Board members present: Trustee/Mark Haataja, Trustee/Mike Pionke, Supervisor/Marty Rajala, Treasurer/Lori Anderson and Clerk/Kara Heinonen.

Kara presented the November 3, 2021 Monthly Meeting Minutes. Mike **motioned** to approve the meeting minutes as presented. **2nd** by Mark. **Approved Unan.**

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

Kara presented Bills to be paid, with two being added from the General Fund from MMTA (\$75/Treasurer Dues) and from CLIA (\$1,501.50/Attorney Fees). Mike **motioned** to pay all bills as **amended**. **2nd** by Lori. **Approved Unan.**

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Kenner Dome Update: The netting is not in yet and there are only a few minor things left to do.

Redridge Dam Update: Project#3...the permit process is ongoing.

Elections: Pct#2 will remain open for in person voting as we have new recruits for election inspectors. The inspectors who apply will have to be trained by the County Clerk in June of 2022.

Green Burial Update: Green burials seem to be accounted for in our current ordinance. We will table revising the ordinance until the Jan. 2022 meeting.

*Next Mark **motioned** to allow discretionary spending on maintenance on township buildings for up to \$2,000/month. **2nd** by Marty. **Approved Unan.** We will revisit this spending allowance at the budget meetings in January 2022.

*It was mentioned that the Heikkinen School Road will be graded but with no ditching (as of now) as it is a seasonal road.

Snow Removal Update: The bids came back for snow removal and Phil Anderson was the only applicant so the bid will go to Phil. The bidding process was advertised on the township website. Phil's bid is per time, with add-ons. Kara **motioned** to accept Phil Andersons bid. **2nd** by Mike. **Approved Unan.** Lori abstained from the vote.

Zoning Update: The draft zoning ordinance will be distributed as soon as it is finalized and ready for review (rough draft). The final zoning ordinance would be up to the planning commission (if voted in), who would submit it to the board for approval via referendum. Lori asked Marty to provide the board with the ordinance from Kevin Martises(sp?) township by the January 5, 2022 board meeting, as Kevin said he would share his ordinance with anyone who requested it. Marty said he would. Mark **motioned** to hold a special election in May to put the proposal for zoning in Stanton Township on the ballot. **2nd** by Marty and a **Roll Call Vote** was taken. **2 AYES** and **3 NAYS**. Motion was **denied**. Kara **motioned** to extend the moratorium and put the proposal for zoning in Stanton Township on the August 2, 2022 State Primary Election ballot. **2nd** by Lori and a **Roll Call Vote** was taken. **3 AYES** and **2 NAYS**. Motion is **approved**.

*Lori **motioned** to make a resolution to accept/adopt the proposed Conflict of Interest Policy that Marty presented to the board. **2nd** by Kara. **Approved Unan.** Marty will modify the document to our needs and the board will sign it.

Board of Review Update: Mary told the board that the December Board of Review (BOR) will be held on December 14, 2021 at 3:00PM at the Stanton Township Hall and will be for PRE's and clerical errors.

Toivola Fire Dept. Pct#1 Update: Per Fire Chief Garry Hoekstra...There have been no fires yet this year and the dept. has had some equipment updates.

Road Committee Update: There is no activity at the moment but Mike will arrange for the committee to meet soon.

Liminga Fire Dept. Pct#1 Update: Per Fire Chief Mike Pionke...The dept. will host a 1st responder class in the middle of January 2022 and they put fliers advertising the class and smart fire alarms in the winter tax bills. Mike also mentioned that they have no candidates for fire school this year as everyone is trained already!

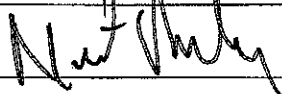
* Lori told the board that she is meeting with John Mattila at the Agate Beach Campground to lock up the money pole located there. She also said that N. Canal Park needs a new lock on the gate at the entrance.

Freda Sewer Update: The new pump is not in yet but otherwise all is well.

*Next the board set the 2022 Monthly Board Meeting Schedule. Meetings will be held on the 1st Wed. of every month at 6PM, except Feb. 7th which is a Monday & the board meeting will directly follow the budget hearing. They then set the Budget Workshop dates for Jan. 12th & 19th of 2022 at 5:30PM. The annual Budget Hearing will be held on Feb. 7, 2022 at 5:30PM.

Lori motioned to adjourn the meeting at 6:41PM. 2nd by Marty. Approved Unan.

Submitted by:  Kara Heinonen, Clerk

Approved by:  Marty Rajala, Supervisor

STANTON TOWNSHIP BOARD

JANUARY 5, 2022

MONTHLY BOARD MEETING

@STANTON TOWNSHIP HALL

Supervisor/Marty Rajala 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/Marty Rajala, Trustee/Mike Pionke, Trustee/Mark Haataja and Clerk/Kara Heinonen.

All present read over the December 1, 2021 Monthly Meeting Minutes. Mike **motioned** to accept the monthly meeting minutes as **amended**. **2nd** by Marty. **Approved Unan.**

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

Kara presented Bills to be paid. Kara added a bill from the General Fund from CA Floor Finishing in the amount of \$250. Also, Kara has to VOID check#2687 from the Liminga Fire Fund to Toivola Fire Fund. Lori **motioned** to pay all bills as **amended**. **2nd** by Marty. **Approved Unan.**

OLD BUSINESS

***Conflict of Interest Policy:** The Conflict of Interest Policy has been signed, posted and filed.

Kenner Dome Project Update: There are still a few punch list items and the nets are still not hung but the contractor has until the end of the week before being penalized.

Redridge Dam Update: The EGLE permit will be submitted by the end of this week for remainder of dam clean out work and there is still some punch list work to be done with retainage of 5% until completion next spring. We are still going forward with potential scope of work and we are still trying to get money from FEMA upon completion of permit.

Green Burial at Cemeteries: Marty obtained a copy of the Chassell Township Ordinance (they have green burials). Mike will do some investigative research on this matter to see if we need to change our ordinance so this will be tabled until our February board meeting when he reports back. Also, while on the subject of cemeteries, our Liminga Cemetery Sexton Brian Riutta suggested that we start looking for a replacement for him soon as he will not be doing this job too far in the future and he would like to train the new person before he leaves.

Freda Sewer Update: Per Barb Morin...There was a computer issue on getting data from the PLC. This is the computer in the sewer shack. However, Jim resolved the issue himself. Barb called the supplier yesterday about the replacement pump that we ordered November 9, 2021 and it will be shipped February 7, 2022. The sewer system is running very efficiently. Hats off to Jim & Barb for all of their hard work managing the Freda Sewer and all it entails!

NEW BUSINESS

Redridge Dam Ownership Discussion: Ken Vrana has offered his consulting services to investigate the transfer or sale options for the Redridge Dam and property associated with it. He has proposed this at no cost to the township (minus any minor publishing costs in printing). Mike **motioned** to accept Ken's email proposal of assistance. **2nd** by Mark. **Approved Unan.** He has 11 months or less to come up with a solution to sell the damn or keep it.

Wind Moratorium Extension: The Stanton Township Wind Energy Conversion System Moratorium needs to be extended beyond the August 2, 2022 State Primary Election in the event that the Planning Commission Ordinance that is on the ballot is passed. Mike **motioned** to revise and extend the Stanton Township Wind Energy Conversion System Moratorium by resolution until December 31,

2022. **2nd** by Marty. **Approved Unan.** Marty will revise the moratorium by resolution and the resolution will be published in the Daily Mining Gazette.

Draft Zoning Ordinance Update: We need to put the Draft Zoning Ordinance up on the township website so the public can view it and we need to post a sample Planning Commission Ordinance also. Kara will contact Matthew Randell (he is our website coordinator) on how to post this. It should be a link to the two ordinances. We shall also post the rental agreement for the fire hall on our website at the same time.

Liminga Fire Fund Pct#1 Budget Amendments: Per Fire Chief Mike Pionke, the budget amendments are as follows:

601 Charges for Services & Training from \$500 to \$14,000

671 Other Misc. Revenue from \$0 to \$11,000

1341c Bldg Construction from \$0 to \$4,000

1341e Equipment from \$10,700 to \$15,000

1342fr First Responder Expense from \$7,000 to \$10,000

1342t Training/Education from \$5,000 to \$15,000

Kara **motioned** to amend the Liminga Fire Fund Pct#1 Budget. **2nd** by Lori. **Approved Unan.** Kara will make these budget amendments.

BOR Update: All went well at the December BOR Meeting. Training requirements for BOR members will be reviewed with Mary and taken accordingly.

Road Committee: The road committee is proposing to meet on Thursday, Jan. 26, 2022 at 7PM.

*It was decided that Kara will check with Catherine Mullhaupt (free legal counsel from MTA) to see if township board supervisors can make motions just like anybody else on the board.

Liminga Fire Dept. Pct#1 Update: Per Fire Chief Mike Pionke...Jim Brandt, a long standing member of the department passed away. The department received a 50-50 DNR Grant. The fire dept. got their door! The flag is down as Mike is waiting for steel clips to rehang it this time. Marty and Mike figured out the high UPPCO bill out in Redridge and the problem is solved now. The dept. needs people to join and to take 1st responder classes. Spread the word!

Toivola Fire Dept. Pct#2 Update: Nothing new to report.

*We need to get rid of the mailbox that is on the main road in front of the hall. Not really sure what purpose it holds. Marty will find out. We also need to find out who owns the monument in Freda.

Public Comment Accepted.

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

Submitted by:  Kara Heinonen, Clerk

Approved by:  Marty Rajala, Supervisor

STANTON TOWNSHIP BOARD

JANUARY 12, 2022

BUDGET WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES

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

First up was the Road Fund Budget and after discussion and consideration the budget was completed and ready for the Budget Hearing.

The second budget the board worked on was the Sewer Fund Budget. During discussion, Mike **motioned** to amend the current 2021-2022 Sewer Fund Budget as stated. The statement being that Account#80400 goes from \$4,500 to \$7,000. **2nd** by Lori. **Approved Unan.** After more discussion the budget was completed and ready for the Budget Hearing.

The next budget was the Liminga Fire Fund Pct#1 Budget and Fire Chief Mike Pionke presented a draft budget for the board to discuss. The draft budget was discussed and adopted and this completed the sewer budget for the Budget Hearing.

The Toivola Fire Fund Pct#2 Budget was next and the budget was discussed and completed for the Budget Hearing.

Last of all was the General Fund Budget. The board completed the income side of the budget but left the expense side of the budget for the next budget workshop.

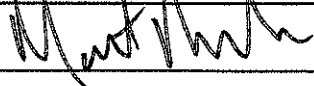
Mark **motioned** to adjourn the meeting at 8:44PM. **2nd** by Lori. **Approved Unan.**

Submitted by:



Kara Heinonen, Clerk

Approved by:



Marty Rajala, Supervisor

STANTON TOWNSHIP BOARD

JANUARY 26, 2022

BUDGET WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES

Supervisor Marty Rajala 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/Marty Rajala, Treasurer/Lori Anderson, Trustee/Mark Haataja and Clerk/Kara Heinonen.

The board began discussion of the expense side of the General Fund Budget as the income side was completed at the budget workshop on January 12, 2022. The board went over expenses line by line and came away with a satisfactory budget. Some notable changes are as follows:

Mike **motioned** to give Jim Morin (Sewer Operator), Mary Durocher (Assistant Assessor & Deputy Clerk) and Melissa Kangas (Deputy Treasurer) a \$1 per hour raise, with the deputy clerk being capped at \$3,000 per year. Cemetery Sextons and Park Caretakers were raised to \$15/Hour. **2nd** by Marty. **Approved on a Roll Call Vote: 5 AYES 0 NAYS.** Next Marty **motioned** to raise the Trustee salary to \$6,000/each per year. **2nd** by Lori. **Approved on a Roll Call Vote: 5 AYES 0 NAYS.** Mark **motioned** to raise the Supervisor salary to \$15,000/Year. **2nd** by Lori. **Approved on a Roll Call Vote: 5 AYES 0 NAYS.** Mike **motioned** to raise the Clerk Salary to \$20,200/Year. **2nd** by Lori. **Approved on a Roll Call Vote: 5 AYES 0 NAYS.** Kara **motioned** to raise the Treasurer Salary to \$24,500/Year. **2nd** by Mike. **Approved on a Roll Call Vote: 5 AYES 0 NAYS.** Lori **motioned** to make all salary changes effective immediately and retroactive to January 1, 2022. **2nd** by Marty. **Approved on a Roll Call Vote: 5 AYES 0 NAYS.**

The budget is now ready to be approved at the Budget Hearing.

Mark **motioned** to adjourn the meeting at 9:36PM. **2nd** by Lori. **Approved Unan.**

Submitted by:  Kara Heinonen, Clerk

Approved by:  Marty Rajala, Supervisor