

SANDS TOWNSHIP REGULAR MEETING
SANDS TOWNSHIP OFFICE COMPLEX
May 13, 2014

A. CALL TO ORDER – 7:00 PM by Supervisor B. Yelle

B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

C. ROLL CALL: Ben Yelle, Lee Yelle, Cheryl Schram, Darlene Walch, Joe Wixtrom. **Absent:** None

Employees in Attendance: Rickey Wilson, Carolyn Kerkela, Bill Kapeller, Randy Yelle, Jane Noe.

PUBLIC IN ATTENDANCE: Roni Yelle, Bob Kallio, David Kallio, Jim Delmont, Bill Nordeen, Justin Yelle, Jim Noe, Nancy Olsen, Ross Olsen.

D. AGENDA: C. Schram motioned, D. Walch supported, to accept agenda with the addition of L1 – Furnace Filters. Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Motion carried.

E. PUBLIC COMMENT: PUBLIC COMMENT WAS RECEIVED FROM

Bill Nordeen asked to reserve time to speak on the zoning issue; he was instructed by the Supervisor to use Public Comment instead. He gave information on propane prices and competition, and explained his interpretation of Commercial vs. Industrial property. He stated he recognized that it is a zoning ordinance change that is before the board but since he was instructed to address the issue during public comment; He gave information on other propane tanks in the area and explained precautions that will be in place to address safety concerns regarding the storage of propane in large tanks. He addressed some additional safety precautions, the Planning Commission can put in place as conditions on a Special Use Permit that are stricter than DEQ and state regulations.

Justin Yelle stated he does not feel the Planning Commission should change the Zoning Ordinance to favor an outside interest. He stated he believes this has been done in the past and said this reflects outside influence and not necessarily what is best for Township residents.

David Kallio congratulated Randy Yelle on his decision to run for County Commissioner and urged support for him. Dave gave Board members information regarding money that has been paid to Counties to cover the impact of Federal lands in the State of Michigan. These payments, similar to PILT payments and payments for Act 217 Forest lands came to about \$3.32/acre. He urges the Township Board to argue their case and ask that the County recognize their responsibilities when the Act 217 lands come up for renegotiations at the end of the 3 year period; and to ask for more than the current \$0.95/acre that is being paid. He also gave the board the information on PILT payments from Senator Stabenow's office.

F. CONSENT AGENDA:

1. TREASURER'S REPORT – General Fund \$397,569.23 Trust & Agency \$0.00

Fire Fund \$51,320.79 Ambulance Fund \$56,344.32 Parks/Rec \$125,948.09 Sanitation \$75,896.76

Taxes \$1,103.81 Road Repair Fund \$247,088.47

C.D TOTALS: Ambulance \$255,218.76 Roads \$345,157.26 Fire Dept \$197,423.27

General Fund \$750,900.85

Money Markets: Fire \$44,421.10 Cemetery Perpetual Care \$2,516.71 Road Repair Fund \$133,283.35

C. Schram reported a check for \$3,752.05 was received from Marquette County for the Act 217 Forest Lands, which covers 2010 – 2013.

2. APPROVE MINUTES: B. Yelle motioned, C. Schram supported, to approve minutes of the 4/8/14 regular meeting as presented. Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Motion carried.

3. BUDGET REPORT: L. Yelle gave report.

4. APPROVE ACCOUNTS PAYABLE: L. Yelle motioned, D. Walch supported, to approve accounts payable as presented; General Fund checks # 29712 - # 29778, including the electronic payment to Range Bank, totaling \$75,062.87 and Tax Collections checks #2875 - #2877 totaling \$33,522.83. Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Motion carried.

G. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

1. FIRE DEPARTMENT

- a. Chief Rickey Wilson read report.
- b. C. Schram motioned, D. Walch supported, to approve hiring Jason Brugman and Kerry Schulz as recommended by the Fire Chief. Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Motion carried.
- c. L. Yelle motioned, J. Wixtrom supported, to approve the purchase of 7 fire shelters for \$2500 and the pump testing in August for \$900. Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Motion carried.
- d. L. Yelle motioned, J. Wixtrom supported, to approve Matthew Bathke's resignation as Assistant Chief and to appoint Terry Sleeter as Assistant Chief for Hall #2 and Lyn Nelson as Assistant Chief for Hall #1 as recommended by the Fire Chief. Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Motion carried.

2. AMBULANCE:

- a. R. Wilson gave report.
- b. L. Yelle motioned, B. Yelle supported, to approve a purchase of ambulance supplies for \$738. Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Motion carried.
- c. B. Yelle motioned, L. Yelle supported, to approve the purchase of 4 replacement batteries for the 800 mHZ radios. Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Motion carried.

3. SUPERVISOR'S REPORT-

- a. B. Yelle said Teaching Family Homes is requesting the Township act as a pass through agent for 2% grant monies from the KBIC as has been done in the past. Board members requested to be given information regarding the request before making any decisions. If all board members have information for next meeting action can be taken then.
- b. B. Yelle stated that questions have come up regarding the East Marquette County Solid Waste Authority and a checking account with a balance that no one seems to have information about. Cheryl will contact Wells Fargo regarding this.
- c. The Marquette County Road Commission has given an estimate for repairs to Dalstrom and Miller Roads. Discussion followed regarding the plan for summer road repairs.

4. CLERK'S REPORT-

- a. L. Yelle reported the audit for FSY 2013-2014 will begin the end of this month.
- b. D. Walch motioned, C. Schram supported, to approve sending 4 township representatives to the MTA seminar in Marquette on June 24. Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Motion carried.
- c. L. Yelle motioned, B. Yelle supported, to continue with the Metro Act Right of Way Agreement with AT&T. Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Motion carried.
- d. L. Yelle reported the warranty needs to be renewed for the AccuVote and Auto Mark machine but no actual invoice has been received. No action necessary at this time.

5. LANDFILL-

- a. Bill Kapeller reported the garbage truck is in for repairs to the brake sensor.

6. ZONING -a. R. Yelle gave report

- b. R. Yelle explained the Planning Commission recommendation for Amendment 14-01-08. After lengthy discussion, D. Walch motioned, J. Wixtrom supported, to approve Amendment 14-01-08 as presented. Roll call vote: D. Walch – yes, C. Schram – no, B. Yelle - no, J. Wixtrom – yes, L. Yelle – yes. Motion carried 3-2.

7. LIBRARY- No Report.

8. GROUNDWATER AND WELL TESTING- D. Kallio gave an update on the County Water Committee.

9. COMMISSION ON AGING – No Report.

10. PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE-

- a. J. Wixtrom motioned, B. Yelle supported, to have Bob Kallio actively seek volunteers for the Parks & Recreation Committee. Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Motion carried.

11. PERSONNEL COMMITTEE – No Report.

12. CEMETERY – No Report.

H. OLD BUSINESS –

- a. The Fire Department has not found a suitable brush truck yet.

I. NEW BUSINESS –

- a. L. Yelle presented estimates that were received in the office for furnace filters. Jim Noe said he does similar work and will also submit a bid for next month's meeting.

J. OTHER/ CORRESPONDENCE:

- a. A letter from U.P.S.E.T. was received and placed on file.
- b. The Marquette County Road Commission faxed information about the Crack Seal & Chip Seal program. The Township has not participated in the past.

K. PUBLIC COMMENT: *PUBLIC COMMENT WAS RECEIVED FROM*

~~Bob Kallio asked Ross Olsen if something can be done to repair the cracks in Taylor Road before more damage occurs. Discussion followed regarding the frost still in the ground and what the Road Commission determines to be the most cost effective way to repair roads.~~

~~Dave Kallio asked about the East Marquette County Solid Waste Authority checking account. If accounts are inactive for an extended period of time, they are usually not kept open and active. He asked Cheryl for a breakdown of the payments received from Marquette County for the Act 217 lands. Dave also expressed concern for the shredded rubber discussed as ground cover for the playground. It may last forever, but it will get scattered around and will not degrade over time like wood chips or other natural cover will.~~

L. ADJOURNMENT: B. Yelle adjourned meeting at 8:55 PM.