

ALPENA TOWNSHIP – BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
SPECIAL BUDGET SESSION – MARCH 17, 2017 – 9:00 a.m.

MINUTES

The Alpena Township Board of Trustees met in Special Budget session on Friday, March 17, 2017 at 9:00 a.m. at the Alpena Township Offices, 4385 US 23 North, Alpena, Michigan.

Present:                   Supervisor Nathan Skibbe  
                              Treasurer Laura L. Ellery-Somers  
                              Clerk Karie K. Bleau  
                              Trustee Cash Kroll  
                              Trustee Norm Poli  
                              Trustee Nate Thomson

Absent                    Trustee Matt Dunckel

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA:** Motion made by Treasurer Ellery Somers and supported by Trustee Poli to adopt the agenda with additions. All in favor. Motion carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Larry Clark addressed the Board of Trustees regarding a reminder for South Bay to be considered in the 2017-2018 budget for the \$5k that was previously committed. He updated the Board about some grant applications that they have submitted. South Bay would like to submit a grant application for the pre engineering and other necessary tasks prior to an application being submitted to MDNR.

**OLD BUSINESS:** None

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Supervisor Skibbe addressed the Board of Trustees regarding the contract to fill the Building Official position on an interim basis. Jerry Bleau has submitted a proposal with three options. Trustee Poli asked Mr. Bleau to explain how he would balance his duties as the DPW Director with the duties of the Building Official. Mr. Bleau explained his plan to the Board and answered their questions. Motion made by Trustee Poli and supported by Treasurer Ellery Somers to extend an offer to Jerry Bleau for Option 3 (\$15,000.00 annual fee to be paid on a weekly basis to include all permits, inspections, mileage and plan review) of the proposed plan to be prorated upon 2 week's notice if there is a desire for either party to end the relationship. Position to start March 20, 2017. Roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Trustee Thomson, Clerk Bleau, Treasurer Ellery Somers, Trustee Kroll, Trustee Poli, Supervisor Skibbe. Naves: none. Motion carried.

Clerk Bleau informed the Board of Trustees of the desire to offer a temporary part time Administrative Assistant to the Clerk position to Mark Hall. Several members of the Board asked questions regarding how the scheduling, duties and compensation will work with Mr. Hall's schedule and duties within the Fire Dept. Clerk Bleau addressed the questions and assured the Board that if a problem develops it will be brought to the Board for further

discussion. A motion was made by Treasurer Ellery –Somers and supported by Trustee Poli to offer a temporary part time position to Mark Hall to function as the Administrative Assistant to the Clerk for \$15k annually. Clerk Bleau also informed the Board that she will be appointing Mark Hall to the Deputy Clerk position effective March 31, 2017. Roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Trustee Thomson, Clerk Bleau, Treasurer Ellery Somers, Trustee Poli, Supervisor Skibbe. Naves: Trustee Kroll. Motion carried.

Supervisor Skibbe addressed the Board of Trustees regarding the lease of a Konica-Minolta Bizhib c258 Copier/Scanner/Printer/Fax machine. A motion was made by Clerk Bleau and supported by Treasurer Ellery Somers to move forward with the leasing of the machine. Roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Clerk Bleau, Treasurer Ellery Somers, Trustee Kroll, Trustee Poli, Trustee Thomson, Supervisor Skibbe. Naves: none. Motion carried.

Treasurer Ellery Somers has requested to have the current copier to be moved to the front office.

Supervisor Skibbe informed the Board of Trustees that the contract for the Temporary Firefighter position that is currently being staffed by Tom Tolen has expired. A motion was made by Trustee Thomson and supported by Treasurer Ellery Somers to extend an additional 3 month contract to Firefighter Tom Tolen. Roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Treasurer Ellery Somers, Trustee Kroll, Trustee Poli, Trustee Thomson, Clerk Bleau, Supervisor Skibbe. Naves: none. Motion carried.

#### **DISCUSSION:**

Budget discussion regarding the non emergency transport division of the Fire Department and expenditures and revenue associated with that division of the Department. Additional discussion regarding investigating the costs associated with the 911 division and the Fire divisions of the Department.

Many of the Board members voiced a desire to establish committees to research how to generate revenue including but not limited to investigating becoming a charter township, grants, Fire Department millage. Supervisor Skibbe directed to the Board to stay on the task at hand and focus on the budget.

Clerk Bleau informed the Board regarding the recommendations of the CPA for how to balance the budget. The Board agreed with the CPA recommendations regarding increases to the revenue line items. The Board of Trustees continues discussion on of funding some line items in the expenditures portion of the General Fund budget.

A motion was made by Treasurer Ellery Somers and supported by Trustee Thomson to accept the proposed 2017-2018 Budget as amended. Roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Trustee Kroll, Trustee Poli, Trustee Thomson, Clerk Bleau, Treasurer Ellery Somers, Supervisor Skibbe. Naves: none. Motion carried.

Supervisor Skibbe informed the Board of Trustees that there will be a meeting on April 5, 2017 at the APLEX regarding the Water Litigation Mediation tentatively scheduled for 11a.m. He requests that all Board members be in attendance. Supervisor Skibbe advised that he sought

advice from the Michigan Township Association as to how to handle that meeting to comply with the Open Meetings Act and was advised that the Board go into closed session at the beginning of the meeting as the purpose of the meeting is to discuss ongoing litigation.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** None

**ADJOURNMENT.** A motion to adjourn was made by Trustee Thomson and supported by Trustee Poli. Motion carried by unanimous vote. Adjournment at 11:38 am

Respectfully submitted:

Karie K Bleau, Clerk