

TOWNSHIP OF FRANKLIN
HOUGHTON COUNTY, MICHIGAN
Established October 19, 1863
"Preserve the Past for the Future"
(906) 487-9073

Mary Sears, Supervisor
Lisa Yeates, Clerk
Jodi Mikesch, Treasurer

Dan Dulong Jr., Trustee
Lawrence Julio, Trustee

REGULAR MEETING FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP

March 12, 2018 – Township Office

Meeting called to order at 7:00pm

Pledge of Allegiance

Present: Supervisor Sears, Clerk Yeates, Treasurer Mikesch, Trustee Dulong, Trustee Julio

Public Comment

Acceptance of Agenda

Motion to accept made by Trustee Dulong; seconded by Trustee Julio. Motion carried

Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve with changes by Treasurer Mikesch; seconded by Trustee Julio. Motion carried

Approval of Bill Payment

Motion to approve by Trustee Julio; seconded by Trustee Dulong. Motion carried

Correspondence

- DEQ - Drinking Water Annual Report
- UPPCO - Monthly Hearing Notice

Reports

Ripley Water Board

- Treasurer Mikesch read the minutes from March 5, 2018 meeting which have not been approved but were discussed at last meeting.

Franklin Quincy Water Authority

- Trustee Dulong read the minutes from January 9th, 2018 meeting.

Wastewater Operations

Jim Siira reported:

- 1 project from MDOT and they will be doing some ditching towards Dollar Bay
- Crane Electric - quote for new pump in Ripley
 - o Cost \$5,259, cost is cheaper than Bay Electric
 - o Motion to purchase new pump made by Trustee Dulong, seconded by Trustee Julio. Motion carried.
 - o Clerk Yeates will reach out to Crane regarding moving forward and payment
- New motion sensor installed in Township Office
- 28,001 average gallons per day

Quincy-Franklin- Hancock Fire Department

Trustee Dulong reported:

- No calls since last meeting
- Chicken BBQ will be Sunday, June 10th
- Sign on the new firehall - Sign needs to be changed to reflect the correct name.

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- o Received quote from Koski signs for \$1,400 to be the legal name of the Fire Dept to be Quincy Franklin Hancock Township Fire Department
- o Motion made by Treasurer Mikesch to change the name on the building to the legal name, seconded by Clerk Yeates. Motion carried.

Ripley Fire Department

John Laitinen reported the following:

- False alarm reported on Airport Road

Brownfield Redevelopment Authority

Supervisor Sears reported:

- Nothing new to report.

Assessor

Lisa Karrio not in attendance

- BOR was today from 9 - 3 and tomorrow from 3-9.

Misc

Nothing to report

Supervisor

Supervisor Sears reported the following:

- Portage Lake Lift Bridge Planning Group next meeting 4/4/18, 12:00pm, Houghton FD
 - o Met 3/7 & discussed the fuel spillage in Chassell.
 - o Emergency Manager is looking at what would happen in a larger area & have a single point of authority for future incidents.
- Torch Lake PAC Group next meeting 3/27/18, 3:00pm, Lakeshore Manor
- Houghton County Road Commission next meeting 3/19/18, 1:30pm, Ripley Garage
 - o Discussed 6 year plan
 - o Marina
 - o 234" of snow thru February
 - o Reviewed County plan
 - o Looking at bridge application to help with cost through Federal Government
 - o There may be available funds for culverts coming up in the future (Grant programs)
- MTA next meeting 3/21/18, 7:00pm, Franklin Township Office
- Houghton County Commissioners Meeting 3/13/18. 5:00pm, County Courthouse
 - o Met 2/13 & discussed revolving loan funds
 - o Houghton County Fair Board - Fair will purchase the land the Fair buildings are on. Own the building currently.
 - o Going to put the home on the market for \$230,000 that is located by the canal.
- Keweenaw Chamber of Commerce Lunch & Learn, 3/16/18, 12:00pm, Jutila Center Room 311
- KEDA Board, 5/15/18, membership 3/14/18, 7:00am, Finnish American Center
- Conservation District next meeting 3/20/18, 12:30pm, 711 W. Lakeshore Drive
- US41/M26 Corridor next meeting 5/10/18, 11:00am, Houghton City Center

Clerk

Clerk Yeates reported the following:

- Need to schedule budget hearing prior to March 31st
- Next budget meeting will be 3/20 @ 7:00pm at the Township
- We need election workers.
- Supervisor Sears discussed letter for vacancy that she wants to send to residents.

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Treasurer

Treasurer Mikesch reported the following:

- Winter tax season is completed & need to get the books to the county this week.

Roads

Trustee Julio reported the following:

- Will have something on rules at the next meeting.
- Had a call from Bob Andrews on 3rd Street in Ripley. They are having water problems but not sure how to solve as county already put in a curb but it is in a low spot. Will need to revisit in the spring.
- The Road Commission will be at the next MTA meeting

Recreation

Trustee Dulong reported the following:

- Ice Rink is closed for the season
- Will have can drop off for the Recreation fund during the Flea Market

Old Business

- Community Enrichment Programs - Coming Soon
- Flea Market Update, May 19th from 9-5
 - o Created a Facebook event & was contacted by 6-7 people
 - o Developed an agreement & sent to those interested
 - o Friends of the Firefighters will have a concession stand
 - o Next Meeting: 4/4 @ 6:30
- Township Flag Contest
 - o Supervisor Sears shared proposed flyer
 - o Promotion to Township
 - o Prize money would come from donations

New Business

- Granting, Auditing and Removing property exemptions: Possible Resolutions
 - o For non-profits, a resolution would be required for a tax exemption if they moved into the township as well as when they move out of the township to acknowledge that the property is not taxable.
 - o Motion made by Treasurer Mikesch to accept Resolution # 031218A, Resolution for Real and Personal Property Exemption Procedure for Non-Profits. Seconded by Clerk Yeates. Motion Carried.
- Interest and Penalty for Property Transfer Failure: Possible Resolutions
 - o Discussed proposed resolution & implications for trying to collect payments.
 - o Motion made by Clerk Yeates to accept Resolution #031218, Resolution for Waiver of Penalty and Interest for Untimely Filed Property Transfers Affidavits. Seconded by Trustee Dulong. Motion Carried.
- Charter Communications Franchise Agreement
 - o Supervisor Sears explained Charter Franchise Fee. We can charge as little as nothing and as much as 5%.
 - o Most of the public feedback was to leave it at the current rate of 3%.
 - o Motion made by Trustee Dulong to keep the rate at the current franchise rate of 3%. Seconded by Treasurer Mikesch. Motion carried.
- Clerk Vacancy - Letter to residents
 - o Discussed earlier

Public Comment

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Adjournment

Motion to adjourn made by Treasurer Mikesch; seconded by Trustee Julio. Motion carried.

Next Township Board Meeting, Monday, April 9th at 7:00pm