

**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

### December 12, 2016 – Township Office

Meeting called to order at 7:00pm

Pledge of Allegiance

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

#### Public Comment

No public comments

#### Approval of Minutes

Elector Siira noted the pump of Mine Rock and 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, not Center Street was having a problem.

Motion to approve by Treasurer Mikesch with the correction; seconded by Trustee Dulong. Motion carried

#### Approval of Bill Payment

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

#### Reports

##### Ripley Water Board

Treasurer Mikesch read the minutes

##### Wastewater Operations

Jim Siira reported the following:

- Received 2 Miss Dig calls
- Supervisor Sears attended a ride along on 11/19 to all of the Lift Stations
- Received call from Jerry Kangas on 12/9 stating the grater knocked off the manhole cover. Was replaced by the Road Commission.
- Request to notify Jim if there are any planned activities in the Township Office so he can plow. Normal plow time is 5:30am.
- Pumping 28,632 gallons a day on average

##### Fire Departments

Trustee Dulong reported the following:

- No calls since last meeting
- Santa visited the QFH Fire Dept on 12/10. 50 children attended.
- 13 air packs were certified by OshKosh Fire & Police
- Santa will visit the Ripley Fire Dept on 12/21 at 7:00pm

##### Brownfield Redevelopment Authority

Treasurer Mikesch reported the following:

- Need to switch the bank account type to eliminate the monthly service fee
- Treasurer Mikesch to reach out to Dale Dewald

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## Supervisor

Supervisor Sears reported the following:

- 275 Facebook friends & posted pictures with Santa
- Agenda and Meeting Minutes were shared on both Facebook and the Township website
- The Torch Lake PAC group met to discuss purpose of advisory committee. Would like to see some of the historic buildings meld with businesses to remove dependencies on grants.
- Portage Lake Lift Bridge planning group met. They are looking for a couple of grants. Work to start 6/15.
  - o Chief Donnelly is looking into putting a hold on lifting the bridge between 3-6pm.
- Correspondence
  - o Discussed letter from David Mickelsen regarding request from DNR to have home owner pay for stop signs before/after trail.
- The fireworks permit for the MTU Winter Carnival was signed

## Clerk

Clerk Yeates reported the following:

- Statewide recount has been halted.
- MTA training for new government employees takes place on January 11<sup>th</sup>. Supervisor Sears, Treasurer Mikesch and Clerk Yeates will be attending.
- Discussion on how to secure the building property when in use by township residents
  - o Trustee Dulong will investigate the cost to add gates to the secure the offices
  - o Clerk Yeates will draft a policy regarding storing secured items when building is in use by non-board related activities
- Draft job description for Billing Clerk was shared with Board
- Approval to purchase check at a cost of \$19 for the Recreation Fund
- Approval to set up a DropBox account to share documents with Board

## Treasurer

Treasurer Mikesch reported the following:

- Tax bills were sent to residents on 12/1
- All bank accounts have been transferred to Treasurer Mikesch and Clerk Yeates
- The Township Office will hold Tax Collection on:
  - o Thursday 12/15 from 6:00 - 8:00pm
  - o Monday, 12/26 from 9:00am - 5:00pm

## Roads

Trustee Julio reported the following:

- The Houghton County Road Commission has a 5 year plan for roads and they meet once a year to review. They will provide the township of what funding is available for our projects.
- Coal Dock Rd should be coming up in the next year or so.
- Supervisor Sears will review the 5 year plan.

## Recreation

Trustee Dulong reported the following:

- The recreation committee will meet on 12/14 at 8:00p,
- Working to revise the 5 year plan to meet the March deadline for grant money.
- Work is coming along on the ice rink.
- Still doing some work on the shack.
- The goal is to have the ice ready for skating at the beginning of January.
- Will be receiving a bill from SEMCO for a \$50 meter charge.
- Will provide an outhouse once skating begins

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## Assessor

Supervisor Sears reported that she will need to swear in new BOR members by January 10, 2017

## Old Business

Trustee Dulong discussed the Recreation meeting during his report.

Clerk Yeates gave an overview of the Sewer Meeting that occurred prior to the Regular Township Meeting.

## New Business

Discussed letter of agreement for collection of CCISD summer taxes.

- We do not collect summer taxes for CCISD
- We need to start charging this as part of the winter taxes.
  - o Need to come up with a resolution to bring to the Hancock school board

## Adjournment

Motion to adjourn made by Treasurer Mikesch; seconded by Clerk Yeates. Motion carried.