

Republic Township Board

June 28, 2018

Regular Meeting Minutes

1. CALL TO ORDER:

Supervisor Ulrich called the meeting to order @ 7:00pm.... All Board Members were present.

2. SALUTE TO FLAG:

3. WELCOME TO THE PUBLIC

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Motion to approve by Supervisor Ulrich seconded by Treasurer Koski, to approve, all in favor, motion carried.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

05/24/2018 Regular Meeting Supervisor Ulrich suggested a correction to the 5/24/18 minutes, to reflect who made the initial motion for the 5/22/18 correction. Treasurer Koski made the motion to accept said correction, seconded by Supervisor Ulrich, all in favor, motion carried

06/04/2018 Special Meeting – Motion by Treasurer Koski to approve, seconded by Supervisor Ulrich, all in favor motion carried.

6. PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

7. REPORTS:

- a. **TRUSTEE FELDHUSEN**– Nothing at this time.
- b. **TRUSTEE STANKUS**- Meeting with MCSWMA, tipping fees will increase again, there will be no incentive payments for the townships. They are having trouble finding buyers for the plastics, it is becoming a problem.,
- c. **CLERK BRANCHEAU** – Nothing at this time
- d. **TREASURER KOSKI** – Summer taxes will begin to be accepted on Monday July 2, 2018, also, those that qualify for the summer deferment need to get their paperwork in.
- e. **DPW** – Nothing at this time
- f. **IOHT** – Benches, Bike racks and repair stations are going in. They are giving us a plaque to place on the trail.
- g. **FIRE/AMBULANCE** – Nothing at this time
- h. **PLANNING COMMISSION** – Public hearing was held at the last meeting on the Marihuana section of our Zoning Ordinance, it passed in our meeting, it is now in the hands of the county, we should have it back by our next meeting. As soon as they return it to us, we will be forwarding it to you for approval. Work is ongoing on the Rec Plan and Master Plan.

- i. **ZONING ADMINISTRATOR** – The report submitted is complete. Information has been sent to the Historical Society about where they want to place their sign. Unfortunately, it is in the County right of way, I have not heard back from them yet. I have also provided you with a spread sheet that reflects all time spent on each activity to more accurately determine the costs associated with issuing Zoning Permits. By the end of the year you should be able to do an accurate cost analysis. New work email address is glj10428@gmail.com. My 50th wedding anniversary is in August and I may be otherwise occupied for certain meeting dates.
- j. **ORDINANCE ENFORCEMENT** – Report is on file. Did some re-checks on some outstanding complaints and progress is being made on all of them.
- k. **SUPERVISOR/ASSESSOR** – Safety Meetings with DPW every month, attended UP Summit, the Central Dispatch meeting and the TIFA meeting. And visited the Lindholm property. New computer software for the assessor computer, attended the ZBA and inspected 72 parcels.

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- a. **Old Bank Building Grant**– Still waiting for DNR to approve our submittals, may not be able to get contractors until late summer or early fall.
- b. **Sewer Project** – Pre-construction meetings held with contractors, shop drawings are being reviewed when that is complete we should be able to determine a construction schedule. Hopefully no longer than a week or two. Motion by Treasurer Koski to accept the Resolution as presented to pay UPEA and Attorney Burkhardt outstanding invoices for the sewer project, seconded by Clerk Brancheau

Roll Call Vote:

Supervisor Ulrich X Aye - _____ Nay
Treasurer Koski X Aye - _____ Nay
Clerk Brancheau X Aye - _____ Nay
Trustee Feldhusen X Aye - _____ Nay
Trustee Stankus X Aye - _____ Nay

All in favor, Motion is carried.

- c. **Lindholm Property** – Supervisor Ulrich visited the property on Chief Lake Road with our Attorney, the Lindholm attorney, and the Lindholm’s. Things were discussed. Trustee Stankus asked if the Township would be able to recoup all the legal expenses on this situation and Supervisor Ulrich said that we would ask. Supervisor Ulrich stated that there have been numerous agreements discussed in past board meetings and approved, yet they keep coming back and asking for more. David Grace stated that we should stop giving in to them, period. Gary Johnson stated that they had received approval for their well for agricultural use to water the animals, but in all probability, they will try to use it for the person living in the trailer as well, so the health department should be gotten involved to monitor that situation. There was additional discussion about how this will continue to go on until the board says no more, the Lindholm’s are already in violation of the last agreement, this needs to stop. Motion by Trustee Stankus,

seconded by Supervisor Ulrich to discuss with Will Sullivan how to recoup the legal fees, all in favor, motion carried.

- d. **TIFA Request** – A resolution is needed to ensure the lending institution is aware of the legality of the TIFA seeking a loan for funding of the dam gates. Motion by Treasurer Koski to approve the resolution with a couple corrections; The spelling of Trustee Stankus, and Clerk Brancheau’s names, seconded by Supervisor Ulrich,

Roll Call Vote:

Supervisor Ulrich **Aye** - **Nay**

Treasurer Koski **Aye** - **Nay**

Clerk Brancheau **Aye** - **Nay**

Trustee Feldhusen **Aye** - **Nay**

Trustee Stankus **Aye** - **Nay**

All in favor, Motion is carried.

****It is important to note that there have been many private donations to the TIFA for this project and we thank them all sincerely. ****

Also needed are letters from the Board. A support letter to send to CCI and Eagle mine in support of the TIFA requesting donations and loans and such. Motion by Supervisor Ulrich, seconded by Trustee Stankus to write the letters, all in favor, motion carried. The last request is regarding the 16 acres that the TIFA would like to purchase it from the Township for a hard asset that has been discussed before. Trustee Stankus suggested to table the 16 acres until the loan is applied for but is in favor of opening that area up for river access. The dam is working and holding water

- e. **Fire Department Equipment Purchase** – Motion by Supervisor Ulrich to purchase the equipment listed on the quotation received from Pomasl for the fire department for \$49,940.00. Treasurer Koski suggested that we purchase the turn out gear for this year and then purchase more next year especially since the fire department has decreased in size and since we also have 5 brand new air packs that have not yet been used. This comes to about \$23,000 for the running gear. Motion withdrawn by Supervisor Ulrich. Motion by Treasurer Koski to purchase the 10 sets of turn out gear and possibly make the purchase of the air packs later in the budget year, seconded by Supervisor Ulrich

Roll Call Vote:

Supervisor Ulrich **Aye** - **Nay**

Treasurer Koski **Aye** - **Nay**

Clerk Brancheau **Aye** - **Nay**

Trustee Feldhusen **Aye** - **Nay**

Trustee Stankus **Aye** - **Nay**

All in favor, Motion is carried

- f. **Medical Marihuana application approval** – Motion by Supervisor Ulrich to approve the Medical Marihuana application as presented, seconded by Clerk Brancheau, it was suggested that the Fire Chief also be added in as a signature requirement for application approval, all in favor, motion carried.
- g. **Summer Student Hiring Policy** – Motion by Treasurer Koski to amend the language to read that as long as they are residents of Republic, 16 years old with a

driver license may apply to work as a summer student without prejudice to which school they attend, seconded by Supervisor Ulrich

Roll Call Vote:

Supervisor Ulrich X Aye - _____ Nay

Treasurer Koski X Aye - _____ Nay

Clerk Brancheau X Aye - _____ Nay

Trustee Feldhusen _____ Aye - X Nay

Trustee Stankus X Aye - _____ Nay

All in favor, Motion is carried

- h. Planning Commission Vacancy** – Application received from Mr. John Ison, motion by Trustee Stankus to appoint Mr. John Ison to the Planning Commission, seconded by Treasurer Koski, all in favor, motion carried.
- i. Removal of Playground Equipment from Witch Lake Fire Hall** – Motion by Supervisor Ulrich to remove the equipment and dispose of it in the scrap metal pile... Discussion about other uses, Supervisor Ulrich withdrew his motion. Motion by Trustee Stankus to remove it from Witch Lake and have the Rec Committee come up with a plan for it's usage, seconded by Treasurer Koski, all in favor, motion carried.

9. NEW BUSINESS:

- a. Tree Harvesting** – Along River Road there are 76 acres of land that is very overgrown with many trees down, it would be good to **select cut** this area and use the funds for new playground equipment, this is the Coffee property, the Rec Committee could also see if this could be used as a shooting range. Motion by Treasurer Koski for the Supervisor to send out bid requests for select cutting this area, leaving the hard woods and only taking the soft woods seconded by Trustee Stankus, all in favor, motion carried.
- b. Dangerous Buildings hearing officer** – For the Dangerous Building Ordinance. The Ordinance actually only requires this if the population is 10,000 or more, which we do not have. We have finally received an offer from someone who is willing to do this work, or do we just want to amend the Ordinance. There was discussion as to why we should probably amend the Ordinance. Motion by Supervisor Ulrich to have the PC amend the Dangerous Building Ordinance, 2013-20, seconded by Treasurer Koski, all in favor, motion carried.
- c. Lease New Copier** – The lease on the existing copier is up in September, documentation provided for review, Motion by Treasurer Koski to approve the new lease upon expiration of the old copier lease, seconded by Clerk Brancheau

Roll Call Vote:

Supervisor Ulrich X Aye - _____ Nay

Treasurer Koski X Aye - _____ Nay

Clerk Brancheau X Aye - _____ Nay

Trustee Feldhusen X Aye - _____ Nay

Trustee Stankus X Aye - _____ Nay

5 Ayes, 0 Nay, Motion is carried.

- d. TruNorth Credit Union**– Carpet needs replacing, motion by Clerk Brancheau to replace the carpeting as requested, seconded by Treasurer Koski

Roll Call Vote:

Supervisor Ulrich X Aye - Nay

Treasurer Koski X Aye - Nay

Clerk Brancheau X Aye - Nay

Trustee Feldhusen X Aye - Nay

Trustee Stankus X Aye - Nay

5 Ayes, 0 Nay, Motion is carried.

- e. **Republic Historical Society**– request for relief from utility billing to continue for one more year. Discussion. Motion by Trustee Stankus to continue to relief, additional discussion, Treasurer Koski said they should at least be charged for the amount of the water and sewer debts. Motion dies with no second.
- f. **Donation of piano to the hall** – The Hult’s have offered a piano to the Township for the hall with the stipulation that they would keep it tuned at no charge and it would be on a rolling base so it can be moved. Motion by Supervisor Ulrich to accept the donation, discussion, no second, motion dies.
- g. **Township assist in cost of fireworks for fishing derby** – The Township benefits from the Derby and everyone in the community enjoys it. At the latest MTA conference this very question came up in a seminar and it was stated that the Township can make donations for community promotion. Especially since the Sportsman’s Club is a non- profit organization. Motion by Clerk Brancheau to give \$5000.00, seconded by Treasurer Koski,

Roll Call Vote:

Supervisor Ulrich X Aye - Nay

Treasurer Koski X Aye - Nay

Clerk Brancheau X Aye - Nay

Trustee Feldhusen X Aye - Nay

Trustee Stankus X Aye - Nay

5 Ayes, 0 Nay, Motion is carried.

- h. **Township Employee Health Insurance Discussion** – Various quotations were received. The cost is still out of reach for the Township and for the employees to contribute
- i. **Wellhouse & Water Plant Roof Replacement** – Motion by Supervisor Ulrich to send out bid requests to have those two roofs replaced, seconded by Treasurer Koski, Trustee Stankus suggested to get quotes for both shingle and metal roofs, also to include soffits and some guttering. All in favor, motion carried.
- j. **North Bank Lane Zoning Approval** – This has been through the entire process and is now here for our approval, motion by Treasurer Koski to approve, seconded by Supervisor Ulrich, all in favor, motion carried.
- k. **Budget Amendments** – TIFA, Roads, General Fund, Sewer Receiving, Water. Motion by Supervisor Ulrich, seconded by Treasurer Koski, all in favor, motion carried

- 10. **PAYMENT OF BILLS** – Motion by Treasurer Koski, seconded by Clerk Brancheau to pay as presented and signed,

Roll Call Vote:

Supervisor Ulrich X Aye - Nay

Treasurer Koski Aye - Nay
Clerk Brancheau Aye - Nay
Trustee Feldhusen Aye - Nay
Trustee Stankus Aye - Nay
All in favor, Motion is carried.

11. PUBLIC COMMENT:

John Ison
Dave Grace

ADJOURNMENT: Supervisor Ulrich adjourned the meeting @ 8:55 pm.

Sworn and Subscribed to by:

Marilyn Brancheau, Clerk

Date

Approved