

**Special Meeting of the Burt Township Board**

Thursday, May 28, 2020

11:00 AM – Conference calling

*Note: this meeting was held via conference call due to Michigan Governor's Shelter at home order regarding the Covid 19 pandemic.*

**Attendance:** Sheri Shafer, Lori McShane, Deb Lundquist, Lou Lundquist, Tara Dongvillo

**Public Comment:** Pam Lundquist, Stan & Kay Powers, Rod Lowe and Pat Grasser, spoke to the board in hopes that we could discourage the fourth of July fireworks presentation voted on by the Chamber of Commerce. Linda Steinke spoke in favor of having the celebrations as scheduled. Bryce from the Munising News asked that people identify themselves when commenting. Maura Johnston relayed the information that all of the Women's club events have been cancelled for the summer. Kay Powers commented that the Historical Society has also cancelled all of their events. There was some discussion about the Chamber Meeting that was held on May 18<sup>th</sup>. It was mentioned that anyone is eligible to be a member of the Chamber and the Chamber meeting schedule was properly distributed. (Cathy Egerer) Contact Aleta Hubbard or see the website at GrandMaraisMichigan.com for information regarding membership with the Chamber.

**Approval of Agenda:** Motion by McShane, second by Lou Lundquist to approve agenda with the addition of Planning Commission Recreation Plan survey under "Other". 5 ayes.

**Old Business:**

**Woodland Park:** Motion by McShane, second by Dongvillo, to increase the campsite rates at the park as follows: PRIME LAKEFRONT FROM \$34 TO \$38/DAY \$228/WEEK \$912/MONTH, REGULAR LAKEFRONT FROM \$31 TO \$34/DAY \$204/WEEK \$816/MONTH, ELEC/WATER NON LAKEFRONT FROM \$28 TO \$30/DAY \$180/WEEK \$720/MONTH, PRIMITIVE FROM \$22 TO \$24/DAY \$144/WEEK \$576/MONTH. 5 ayes. Motion by McShane, second by Deb Lundquist, to approve the list dated 05/26/2020 of nine employees presented to the board by park manager, Dore Stevens, to work this 2020 summer season. 5 ayes. Dore also stated that after discussion with all employees, none of them would voluntarily work on the fourth of July during the parade as they have in the past.

The Marina will be open for fuel sales, pump outs, and dockage, but the facilities will remain closed until June 12.

**Chamber Fireworks Donation:** Correspondence from the following people was read, all stating that they would not approve of the fireworks presentation going on as scheduled:

Stan and Kay Powers, Judy Kaye, Carolyn Bontrager, Pat Grasser, Thomas and Dameon Wilson, Carrie and Tim Currin, Maura Johnston, Lee Britton, Dave and Jeanette Finke (Hilltop Cabins), John and Diana Bauknecht (Beach Park Motel)

**Motion by McShane, second by Lou Lundquist, to not give the \$3,500 dollar donation to the Chamber for the fireworks at this time due to budgetary issues stemming from the reduction in revenue due to the Covid 19 and the governor's orders.** 5 ayes. The shelter at home order is having a negative effect on the township revenue from the Woodland Park closing as well as the State of Michigan revenue sharing. **Motion by Shafer, second by Lou Lundquist, to write a letter to the Chamber that we do not support the fourth of July planned celebration, with concern for our community and the crowd it will bring.** 5 ayes.

**Status of response to the Treasury/Tinti:** Township Counsel, Steve Tinti, has asked for additional time to complete his negotiations with the Treasury department regarding our outstanding loan with People State Bank. We will discuss again at our regular board meeting in June.

**Recycling:** The recycling bins will be moved to the location on M-77 and we will begin to accept recycling on the second and fourth Wednesday of every month beginning June 10. We ask that community members come prepared to deposit the recyclables with no assistance and to please wear a mask and maintain social distancing guidelines. Detailed information will be posted on our website, Facebook page, and throughout town.

**New Business:** none

**Other:** The planning commission has drafted a list of the possible projects to be highlighted on our recreation plan survey that needs to be distributed this summer. They have suggested we could send out copies with the summer tax bills as well as post on our website, Facebook, and print in the paper, to get the best public response. This list will be emailed to the board. Please review and let the planning commission know if you think anything should be changed, added, or deleted. We will schedule to finalize the list at our regularly scheduled board meeting on June 9, 2020.

**Public Comment:** Chris Lundquist and Pat Grasser thanked the board for their position on the fireworks. Maura Johnston asked how to get the subject of “prohibiting” the chamber from having the fireworks demonstration on the next agenda. She was advised to write a letter to the township with that request. Lou Lundquist thanked the DPW/Water employees for the good job they are doing this spring. Kay Powers also commented on how nice the cemetery looks. Leslie Davis stated her concern about lack of enforcement given the governor’s orders.

**Adjournment 12:23 PM**

Respectfully submitted May 29, 2020

Lori McShane, Clerk