

Special Meeting of the Burt Township Board
Wednesday, August 24, 2022
Community Center, 3:00 PM

DRAFT

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

Agenda: Motion by McShane, second by Dongvillo, to approve the agenda moving the Municipal Insurance renewal review to before unfinished business. 5 ayes.

Public Comments: Linda Steinke commented on the road construction on H58 east, and the condition of the roads on the detour.

Municipal Underwriters – annual policy renewal: Our annual insurance policy renewal is due for \$39,710.00. This is up from last year at \$36,143. Adam Gandolfi from Municipal Underwriters was present to explain our coverage and all the benefits available from the Par Plan. A complete list of property and assets will be reviewed by our managers to confirm our policy is up to date and everything is accurately listed.

Unfinished Business:

Sinetech Wifi – Woodland Park: Motion by McShane, second by Lou Lundquist, to proceed with phase 1 of the Sinetech proposal for \$4,226 to create a wifi “hotspot” at the campground office. 5 ayes. This will be followed up with additional hotspots throughout the campground, at the east end pavilion, community center as well as down by the Donahey woods.

Woodland Park – Septic: On Tuesday, August 23, Thaddeus Lewandowski from LMAS health department, along with Chris Holmes from UPEA, Park Manager and the DPW crew all met to investigate the drain field issues on the east end of the park. It was determined that one of the pumps may not be working to its full capacity and we will have to have a contractor come in to pull the pumps and advise. We have gathered the flow numbers for the entire campground, and will likely have to reestablish the abandoned drain field on the west end with the plans for the new bathhouse.

Smart Landscapes, Greenspace: Motion by McShane, second by Shafer, to approve the level of effort estimate from Smart Landscapes, to continue the development and design for the greenspace, at a cost of \$1,150. The total cost estimate is \$2,300, with the additional \$1,150 as an in-kind donation.

New Business:

Peninsula Surveyors – Coast Guard Point: Motion by Lou Lundquist, second by Deb Lundquist, to approve the \$2,080 fee from Peninsula Surveyors, for the boundary survey of the property on Cost Guard point that the township recently acquired from the Coast Guard, through a Federal Lands to Parks grant agreement. 5 ayes. This property will be developed as a “walk in” park, with benches and an observation deck where the old boat dock sits.

Municipal Retirement – Gleaners Pension Plan: We have recently received correspondence from our retirement coordinator that our contribution must increase from the current rate of 4% to 7.5 %, due to the fact that our pension fund is a Social Security replacement plan. The board was not aware of this, and will have to contact the state for more information. We will be investigating the possibility of rolling the funds over to a different pension fund, possibly through MERS who currently operates the township 457 savings plan. (Note: since this meeting we have heard from the state and have confirmed that township employees are eligible for this existing pension fund as well as social security benefits – the board will now have to decide whether to either increase the contribution or find another comparable pension fund.)

People State Bank – New ACH agreement: Motion by Lou Lundquist, second by Deb Lundquist, to approve entering into a new ACH agreement with Peoples State bank, with an average cost of a \$40.00 per month for direct deposit and online management fees. 5 ayes.

L4029: Motion by Shafer, second by Lou Lundquist, to authorize Supervisor Shafer to sign the yearly L4029, which informs the county of the amount to tax millages to be levied. For the tax year 2022-23, the township elected to levy the full amount for all millages. 5 ayes. We are discussing the option of combining the ambulance, law enforcement, and fire millages in the 2023 election cycle, which will reduce the overall tax burden on the community.

Other: Brief discussion of the correspondence received from Nebel & Nebel regarding our current moratorium on short term rental registrations, as well as the response from our attorney Steve Tinti. The letter states that Burt Township does not have the authority to prohibit new registrations, especially when the home currently registered has a change of ownership. Mr. Tinti advised us that the ordinance and moratorium is logical and a reflection of the intent of township, and to forego a reply and wait for further litigation.

Public Comment: Elise Cormier asked if we should possibly further investigate our liability on the aforementioned Nebel & Nebel correspondence.

Adjournment: 4:30 PM

Respectfully submitted August 31, 2022

Lori McShane, Clerk