

**Virtual Public Hearing to Establish Commercial Rehabilitation District
January 13, 2021**

The meeting was called to order at 7 pm by Dave Mattson.

Jeff Ratcliffe, Executive Director, Keweenaw Economic Development Alliance (KEDA) explained to the group the process to establish a commercial rehabilitation district for the property located at 42250 Willson Memorial Drive (the old Community Building). Mark Koski the new owner explained the plan to renovate the building into 5 Townhouses. His intent is to restore the exterior of the building to its original historical condition. If the resolution is passed by the board it will be submitted to the county for approval. The owner will submit an application to the township in 6 months. A public hearing will be held. If the application is approved it will be sent to the State Department of Treasury for approval. Public Hearing closed at 7:14 pm. Attached is a memo from Jeff Ratcliffe with more details.

**CHASELL TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING
January 13, 2021**

The virtual meeting was called to order at 7:14 p.m. by Dave Mattson

PRESENT: Lynn Gierke, Kelly Holmes, Ryan Kuntze, Dave Mattson and Dan Palosaari

MINUTES: Motion by Dave Mattson to approve the December minutes, supported by Dan Palosaari. M/C

TREASURER'S REPORT: The December treasurer's report was approved by Dave Mattson, supported by Dan Palosaari. The treasurer's report and the clerk's financial report are attached to the minutes. M/C

AGENDA: Motion by Dave Mattson to approve the agenda, supported by Kelly Holmes. M/C

PAYMENT OF BILLS: The payment of bills was approved per motion by Dave Mattson, supported by Lynn Gierke. M/C

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Bruce Peterson-Portage Township Supervisor explained the proposed Boundary Rd. project and costs (~\$258,000 for approximately 4,433' of road) and how to share the cost with Chassell on the project. Bruce Peterson will send Dave Mattson the google image of the road and FEMA repairs. Much discussion about the history of road repair since 1996 to present. The two supervisors will discuss further when both review the google image. Public Comment from Daniel Niemela who wanted to bring to the townships attention of the resolution passed recently by the Baraga Co. Commissioners. Discussion.

CORRESPONDENCE: UP Health System reported that the November 2020 blood drive had 17 people, 16 pints of blood collected for an estimate of 48 lives saved. Comment from the website by Bill Hoffman about Jake Braking on 5th St and US 41 at 6:14 am. Board discussed what can be done? Dave Mattson will contact HCRC to see what other townships are doing with Jake Brake noise. Mark Koski submitted a request to create a Commercial Rehabilitation District for property 42250 Willson Memorial Drive. This will be addressed under new business A.

FIRE DEPARTMENT: Fire Chief Judson reported 32 in 2020 and 6 calls for 2021. He reported a dozen members are taking training for Advanced Vehicle Stabilization. He would also like to know if the Township is mandating the vaccine or is it personal choice. The board feels it is "personal choice" if volunteers, elected officials and employees want to get the COVID vaccine. First Responder Dan Gwosch would like to be a member of the FD. Motion by Dave Mattson supported by Lynn Gierke. M/C. First Responder Director Dylan Malone reported 113 in 2020 and 4 calls for 2021. All of the First Responders received their 1st COVID vaccine.

TOWNSHIP MAINTENANCE: Cole Smith reported that he passed his exams and is now **Water Certified**. He wanted direction about the **warming shack heater**. Cole will meet with Dan Palosaari to see about a vented 2000 BTU heater. Cole Smith recommends a **motion light for the outside bathrooms** because the light is being left on. The **Gedda backup pump** is backordered. Dave Mattson asked Cole Smith to contact the supplier about the **backup pump for the Main Lift Station**. Aire Care reports that they have 21 **water meters** to complete in the Spring. A **tablet for the water plant** is needed to streamline data reporting. Cost is about

\$300. No internet at this time (\$70/month). Cole Smith would like to **nominate** Tim Viola for an award with NRWA. Lynn Gierke will work with Dave Mattson to nominate. **Water hydrant** at the VFW was fixed.

ZONING: Dave Mattson will contact Tim Palosaari to see if he has responded to ATT request?

PLANNING COMMISSION (PC): Keith Meyers reported that PC met with Baraga Telephone Company (BTC) at their last meeting about the Rural Digital Opportunity for our township that currently doesn't have broadband. BTC has requested that we identify the highest need areas. The PC recommends that the board approve the Redevelopment Ready Community. Fitness Video developed by students at MTU will be put on the website. Community suggestion post sign at highway for the Bark Park. Keith Meyers will look into a sign.

ASSESSOR: N/R

WEBSITE: see correspondence.

UPEA REPORT: Chris Holmes reported that Sewer application was signed by Dave Mattson and went out yesterday. Hazard Mitigation grant updated and resubmitted. DWAM application submitted approval by March 2021? Canoe/Kayak design should go to fabricators for bid by Friday. Groundwater Monitoring wells-still waiting for ground to freeze to get the drill rig out. NRCS Grant-apply for extension for construction by end of September.

REVIEW BUDGET: N/R

PIKE BAY COMMITTEE: N/R

OLD BUSINESS:

- A. Water Meter Replacement-repair bill from Aire Care for doing work at a resident's house sent to us. Board said to send back Aire Care it is not Township responsibility. Aire Care submitted a SD card of photos of water meters currently for the Water Meter Project.
- B. Improvements to boat launch, parking lot, floating dock-N/R
- C. Pavilion Improvements-N/R
- D. Emergency services vehicle grant-Dan Palosaari will get a quote for "rubber tire backhoe".
- E. HCRC-Don Mattson Way sign-Dave Mattson was contacted by HCRC and a sign will be ordered.
- F. Houghton Co. Recreation Authority-Jeff Ratcliffe gave an update about the January 11 meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Resolution for Commercial Rehabilitation District-motion by Dave Mattson supported by Dan Palosaari to approve resolution. All AYES. M/C.
- B. Resolution for Redevelopment Ready Community (RRC)-motion by Dave Mattson supported by Lynn Gierke to approve resolution. All AYES. M/C.
- C. Designated Assessor-the township has agreed to pay the county \$93.75/year for 5 years to hire J. Thomas Novascone. The designated assessor is a new mandate by the State of Michigan.
- D. Federal Mileage-Dave Mattson made a motion to follow the Federal mileage rate of 56 cents per mile supported by Kelly Holmes. M/C.
- E. HCRC-Chassell Township Five Year Plan-Motion by Dave Mattson supported by Kelly Holmes to approve and submit the updated Five-Year Plan to the HCRC for 2021. M/C.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 pm, per motion by Dave Mattson supported by Dan Palosaari. M/C

Dave Mattson, Supervisor



Lynn Gierke, Clerk

