

**BREITUNG TOWNSHIP BOARD
REGULAR BOARD MEETING – Telephonic Only
DECEMBER 14, 2020**

The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Olson at 7:00 p.m.

Roll Call: Present: Trustee Wales, Rochon, Supervisor Olson, Clerk Neuens, Treasurer Taylor, Trustees Taff and Peterson.

Also Present: Superintendent Steve Mulka, DPW Superintendent Davis, Deputy Kuenzer, Fire Chief Iverson and Assistant Fire Chief Marshall.

Invocation given by: Supervisor Olson.

Pledge was led by Trustee Rochon.

Public Comment: No comments.

Approval of Agenda: **Motion** by Trustee Wales, **second** by Supervisor Olson to approve the December 14, 2020 Agenda as presented. **Roll Call Vote: Ayes:** Trustee Peterson, Treasurer Taylor, Trustee Wales, Supervisor Olson, Trustees Rochon, Taff and Clerk Neuens. **Motion carried.**

Approval of Minutes: **Motion** by Trustee Taff, **second** by Supervisor Olson to approve the November 23, 2020 Regular Board Meeting minutes, December 3, 2020 Special Meeting minutes and the December 7, 2020 Special Meeting minutes as presented. **Roll Call Vote: Ayes:** Trustee Rochon, Supervisor Olson, Treasurer Taylor, Clerk Neuens, Trustees Taff, Peterson and Wales. **Motion carried.**

Public Hearing: 2021 Fiscal Year Budget: **Motion** by Trustee Wales, **second** by Treasurer Taylor to recess the regular board meeting and enter the 2021 Budget Public Hearing. **Roll Call Vote: Ayes:** Trustee Taff, Clerk Neuens, Trustees Rochon, Peterson, Wales, Treasurer Taylor, and Supervisor Olson. **Motion carried.**

Start Time: 7:07 p.m.

Public Comments: No comments.

Board Comments: No comments.

Motion by Trustee Peterson, **second** by Treasurer Taylor to close the public hearing and enter back into the regular board meeting. **Roll Call Vote: Ayes:** Supervisor Olson, Trustee Wales, Treasurer Taylor, Trustee Rochon, Clerk Neuens, Trustees Taff and Peterson. **Motion carried.**

End time: 7:08 p.m.

Old Business: COVID-19 Updates & Discussion: We are in a holding pattern waiting to see what will be announced on December 20th.

Water Rate Increase Recommendations: **Motion** by Trustee Wales, **second** by Trustee Taff to approve the Water/Sewer Board water rate increase recommendations as follows: *Quinneseque Water:* increase the water rate by \$1 plus the cost-of-living; increase the fixed rate by \$1. *East Kingsford Water:* increase the water rate by \$.30 plus cost-of-living; increase the fixed rate by \$1. *East Kingsford Commercial:* increase the commercial rate (#30) by the cost-of-living. *Water Turn off/on Fee:* \$35; however, if it is a short, same day turn on/turn off, only one \$35 charge will be applied. *After Hours Fee:* \$60. **Roll Call Vote: Ayes:** Trustee Rochon, Supervisor Olson, Treasurer Taylor, Clerk Neuens, Trustees Taff, Peterson and Wales. **Motion carried.**

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Personnel Update: Township Superintendent Mulka and DPW administrators Guy Forstrom and Jay Davis, met with Mr. Jose Rivera on Tuesday, December 8, 2020 and discussed starting on December 21st or 22nd (dependent on current employer discussion and final Board approval) at DPW II pay level (minus \$2.00 to start).

Motion by Treasurer Taylor, **second** by Trustee Peterson to hire Jose Rivera for the Department of Public Works with his starting wage to be set at the DPW II rate [minus the \$2, following the schedule of \$.50 increase every 6 months until the full DPW II wage is reached]. **Roll Call Vote: Ayes:** Trustee Taff, Clerk Neuens, Trustees Rochon, Peterson, Wales, Treasurer Taylor, and Supervisor Olson. **Motion carried.**

Assessor Mike Gillett submitted a Temporary, Part-time Assessing Assistant Employment Agreement for the Board's review.

Motion by Trustee Peterson, **second** by Clerk Neuens to approve the Temporary, Part-time Assessing Assistant Employment Agreement between the Township and Ms. Mildred "Ann" Gasperich with the beginning date of December 15, 2020, hourly rate of \$36/hr. [not to exceed 30 hours per week], remove No. 5 of the agreement referencing outside employment & activities, remove No.8 of the agreement referencing disability. Any hours worked prior to December 15, 2020 will be paid through her previous contract to be included on a 1099. **Roll Call Vote: Ayes:** Trustee Rochon, Supervisor Olson, Clerk Neuens, Trustees Taff, Peterson and Wales. **Nay:** Treasurer Taylor. **Motion carried.**

Motion by Clerk Neuens, **second** by Supervisor Olson to add the custodian position to the bottom of the wage schedule outlining which employees are eligible to receive a \$50 gift card in December of each year, from a local store, as a benefit of employment. **Roll Call Vote: Ayes:** Trustee Rochon, Supervisor Olson, Treasurer Taylor, Clerk Neuens, Trustees Taff, Peterson and Wales. **Motion carried.**

New Business: 2021 Board of Review Appointments: **Motion** by Supervisor Olson, **second** by Trustee Taff re-appoint Bill Hasse, Bill Dixon, and Leon "Pat" Patterson with Roger Rose as the alternate for another two-year term on the Board of Review. **Roll Call Vote: Ayes:** Trustees Wales, Rochon, Supervisor Olson, Clerk Neuens, Treasurer Taylor, Trustees Peterson and Taff. **Motion carried.**

SCADA Computer for Quinnesec Well: The SCADA computer is a critical part of our water operating system and is showing its age; not to mention it is still running on Windows 7. The DPW Superintendent is asking that we approve the upgrades through B&M Technical Services, Inc.

Motion by Clerk Neuens, **second** by Trustee Wales to approve the upgrade to the SCADA computer system through B&M Technical Service, Inc. in the amount of \$6,140. **Roll Call Vote: Ayes:** Trustee Peterson, Treasurer Taylor, Trustee Wales, Supervisor Olson, Trustees Rochon, Taff and Clerk Neuens. **Motion carried.**

Reports: Clerk's Financial Report: **Motion** by Trustee Wales, **second** by Trustee Peterson to approve Clerk Neuens' Post Transaction Report dated November 21, 2020 to December 11, 2020. **Roll Call Vote: Ayes:** Supervisor Olson, Trustee Wales, Treasurer Taylor, Trustee Rochon, Clerk Neuens, Trustees Taff and Peterson. **Motion carried.**

Fire Report - Highlights: The entire Board thanked Chief Iverson for doing such a fine job as the Breitung Township Fire Chief!

Superintendent Report - Highlights: Meetings attended, Permits, Assessing, Personnel, Virtual meetings, CARES Act hazard pay for first responders. [Go to www.breitungwp.org to read full report]

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Code Enforcement Report: For the month of ~~January~~ November the following was handled by the Breitung Township Officer: 4 accidents, 24 complaints, 4 code enforcement complaints and 0 arrests.

Dept. of Public Works' Report: DPW Superintendent Davis reported on ongoing tasks and completed tasks.

Board Discretionary Time: The Board will discuss the possible change of our regular meeting start times at the next board meeting. Merry Christmas to everyone!

Payment of Bills: **Motion** by Trustee Wales, **second** by Trustee Peterson to approve the bill list in the amount of 37,119.54. **Roll Call Vote: Ayes:** Trustee Peterson, Treasurer Taylor, Trustee Wales, Supervisor Olson, Trustees Rochon, Taff and Clerk Neuens. **Motion carried.**

Public Comment: No comments.

Adjournment: **Motion** by Clerk Neuens, **second** by Trustee Peterson to adjourn the meeting.
Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Supervisor Olson, Trustee Wales, Treasurer Taylor, Trustee Rochon, Clerk Neuens, Trustees Taff and Peterson. **Motion carried.**

The meeting was declared adjourned by Supervisor Olson at 8:58 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by,

Reviewed and Approved by,

Samantha Neuens
Breitung Township Clerk

Denny Olson
Breitung Township Supervisor