

Regular Meeting January 9, 2024

Iron River Township Hall 6:00 PM

Members Present: Scott Tarsi, Supervisor; Doug Bruster, Trustee; Mike Sheehy, Trustee; Amber Laturi, Clerk; Dawn Pisoni, Treasurer.

Present: Dennis Tousignant – Legal.

Motion made by Mike Sheehy to accept the minutes of December 12th regular meeting. The motion was supported by Doug Bruster. Motion carried.

Motion made by Mike Sheehy to approve the agenda as written. Motion carried. 5-0

Stephanie Swenski, the director, and Rebecca Oberlin who is the Iron River Township rep on the board for the West Iron District Library were present. They discussed and presented information on the millage renewal for the West Iron District Library that will be on the February 27th election.

Zach Hautala from the ICECA was present.

Scott Tarsi reported on the West Iron County Sewer Authority and Windsor Center, reports are available if anyone in the public is interested.

The treasurer report was provided and no questions for the month of December.

Jason Cole reported on the water and sewer departments. Jason Cole discussed the new water tap on Basswood Road. We will dig the road instead of boring for this new tap. Jason Cole also discussed with the board the need for a few tools. Motion made by Dawn Pisoni to purchase the tools that are needed. Motion supported by Mike Sheehy. Roll call taken. Motion carried. 5-0

Ron Simmons was not present. He sent his report stating 19 zoning permits to date, 6 ordinance violations and 3 civil.

Motion to approve the bills for the month was made by Mike Sheehy supported by Doug Bruster. Roll call taken. Motion carried. 5-0.

Meeting Adjourned 7:09 PM

Respectfully Submitted,
Amber Laturi, Clerk

Regular Meeting February 13, 2024 Iron River Township Hall 6:00 PM

Members Present: Scott Tarsi, Supervisor; Doug Bruster, Trustee; Mike Sheehy, Trustee; Amber Laturi, Clerk; Dawn Pisoni, Treasurer.

Present: Dennis Tousignant – Legal.

Motion made by Mike Sheehy to accept the minutes of January 9th regular meeting. The motion was supported by Amber Laturi. Motion carried.

Three additions to the agenda: Approve the application for Poverty Exemption and the guidelines for the poverty exemption with the income guidelines and the City of Caspian is applying for funding from the USDOT and they are asking for a letter of support. Motion made by Mike Sheehy to approve the agenda with the three additions. Motion supported by Amber Laturi. Motion carried. 5-0

The City of Caspian is applying for funding from the USDOT RAISE Grant Program and would appreciate the support of surrounding municipalities. The grant is through the USDOT Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Grant in the amount to 3.97 million. The project aims to provide street improvements to critical thoroughfares of the City of Caspian that offer multiple modes of transportation to community residents and visitors. Motion made by Scott Tarsi to send a letter of support for this project. Motion supported by Mike Sheehy. Motion carried. 5-0

Laura Erhart, the Township assessor was present and assessed values and the changes due to market conditions. Board of Review dates for March are March 11th at 9am to 3pm and March 13th from 3pm to 9pm.

Patti Peretto from the County was present.

Craig Richardson and Christian Benson from Wickwire were present. They reported on the DPW building and that they are waiting to hear back from the vendors so they can finish the estimate on the DPW building project. Motion made by Amber Laturi to appoint Scott Tarsi and Doug Bruster to be on the building committee, so they can work on the building project, make decisions, and then report back to the board. Motion supported by Mike Sheehy. Motion carried. 5-0

The board received a packet from Highline regarding installing fiber optic in the township. Dennis Tousignant will review the packet.

Motion made by Scott Tarsi to start the process of looking for Auditors for the Township audit. Motion supported by Mike Sheehy. Motion carried. 5-0

Zach Hautala from the ICECA was not present but did send a monthly update to the board.

Scott Tarsi reported on the West Iron County Sewer Authority and Windsor Center, reports are available if anyone in the public is interested.

The treasurer report was provided and no questions for the month of January.

Ryker Johnson was present and discussed a leak on East Siding Road. The quotes from L&H came in at \$25,000. Scott Tarsi will call and see if we were to wait till May or June to fix would the price go down. We will put this on hold for now.

Ron Simmons was not present. He sent his report stating 19 zoning permits to date, 6 ordinance violations and 3 civil.

Motion to approve the bills for the month was made by Mike Sheehy supported by Amber Laturi. Roll call taken. Motion carried. 5-0.

Meeting Adjourned 7:03 PM

Respectfully Submitted,
Amber Laturi, Clerk

Special Meeting March 10, 2024

Iron River Township Hall 3:00 PM

Members Present: Scott Tarsi, Supervisor; Doug Bruster, Trustee; Mike Sheehy, Trustee; Amber Laturi, Clerk and Dawn Pisoni, Treasurer.

Motion made by Doug Bruster to pay the remaining amount of the Bernhardt Road now and this will be paid back once more road money comes in. Motion supported by Scott Tarsi. Motion carried. 5-0

The budget for the new fiscal year ending March 31, 2025, was discussed, and completed. Budget amendments were discussed for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2024. Motion to approve the amended budget for fiscal year ending March 31, 2024, was made by Scott Tarsi and supported by Amber Laturi. Motion carried. 5-0 We will add money to the budget to purchase 6 new board chairs as the chairs are getting old and ripping. Also discussed to check on the price of election booths that can sit on the top of a table and then we can maybe get rid of the old booths that are falling apart and take up a lot of room in the hall.

Motion to increase Jason Cole and Ryker Johnson by 25 cents per hour was made by Dawn Pisoni. Motion supported by Doug Bruster. Motion carried. 5-0

Discussion regarding the wage for Ron Simmons. Ron Simmons was asking the board to spread his additional pay of \$100 per month over the 12 months of pay instead of paying him this additional when he is in town working. We are leaving this as it was originally approved to only pay him the additional \$100 per month or by days he is in town working.

Motion made by Dawn Pisoni to change election inspectors pay to add another position at \$18. Motion supported by Amber Laturi. Motion carried. 5-0

Discussion to look to see when the upcoming elections will be so we can plan when we will need to place the road millage and general millage renewals on the ballot.

Meeting Adjourned 4:36 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Amber Laturi, Clerk

Regular Meeting March 12, 2024 Iron River Township Hall 6:00 PM

Members Present: Scott Tarsi, Supervisor; Doug Bruster, Trustee; Amber Laturi, Clerk; Dawn Pisoni, Treasurer.
Absent: Mike Sheehy, Trustee.

Present: Dennis Tousignant – Legal.

Motion made by Doug Bruster to accept the minutes of February 13th and March 10th. The motion was supported by Scott Tarsi. Motion carried.

Motion to accept the agenda as written was made by Amber Laturi and supported by Doug Bruster. Motion carried. 4-0.

Christian Benson was present from Wickwire and reported that they are still waiting to get the numbers back from vendors on the projection for the new public works building.

The board received a packet from Highline regarding installing fiber optic in the township in February. Dennis Tousignant will reviewed the packet and talked to other municipalities and the Iron County Road Commission. The metro act money we receive can be used to pay for inspectors so the Road Commission will be hiring inspectors for the Highline project for the right aways, so we can all try to avoid having this wire on our water lines if at all possible. Motion was made by Amber Laturi to approve the Highline Fiber Optic project and motion was supported by Scott Tarsi. Roll call taken. Motion carried. 4-0.

Motion made by Doug Bruster and supported by Dawn Pisoni to approve Janet Melstrom as the Deputy Clerk at \$20 per hour. Important for the deputy clerk to learn payroll and election duties and do them periodically so if there ever was an emergency the township could continue operations. Roll call taken. Motion carried. 4-0

Motion made by Doug Bruster to approve the purchase of the updated MTA's Board of Review Guide. Motion was to purchase 4 copies, one for each of the three board of review members and one for an office copy. The board of review members will be asked to give the book back so it can be passed to the new members when there is a change in members. Motion supported by Amber Laturi. Roll call taken. Motion carried. 4-0

Zach Hautala from the ICECA was not present but did send a monthly update to the board.

Scott Tarsi reported on the West Iron County Sewer Authority and Windsor Center, reports are available if anyone in the public is interested.

The treasurer report was provided and no questions for the month of February.

Ryker Johnson was present and discussed a leak on East Siding Road. The quotes from L&H came in at \$25,000. Scott Tarsi called to see if we were to wait till May or June to fix would the price go down and they said they would reduce the price by \$1,000. Scott Tarsi said the water department would fix the leak. We will need to purchase some gravel and stone for the project.

Ron Simmons was not present. He sent his report stating 2 zoning permits to date.

Motion to approve the bills for the month was made by Doug Bruster supported by Amber Laturi. Roll call taken. Motion carried. 4-0.

Meeting Adjourned 6:25 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Amber Laturi, Clerk

Regular Meeting April 9, 2024 Iron River Township Hall 6:00 PM

Members Present: Scott Tarsi, Supervisor; Mike Sheehy, Trustee; Doug Bruster, Trustee; Amber Laturi, Clerk; Dawn Pisoni, Treasurer.

Present: Dennis Tousignant — Legal.

Motion made by Mike Sheehy to accept the minutes of March 12th and Budget Meeting of March 12th. The motion was supported by Doug Bruster. Motion carried.

Additions to agenda: Assessor Report and Darrin Ghiotto and Ken Zanon from WICFD. Motion to accept the agenda with the additions was made by Amber Laturi and supported by Mike Sheehy. Motion carried. 5-0.

Darrin Ghiotto and Ken Zanon reported that the West Iron County Fire Department will be hosting the Fire Tournament this year and asked if the Township would be interested in placing an ad. Motion to place a \$125 for a half page ad was made by Mike Sheehy and supported by Scott Tarsi. Motion carried. 5-0.

Updates were given for the ICECA by Brett. The new visitor guides are being printed.

Christian Benson was present from Wickwire and gave an update on the new public works building.

Motion made by Doug Bruster to approve the 3 year audit bid from Maner Costerisan for \$15,100 for year one and then \$1,400 for F-65 preparation and 3rd year \$17,000. This is having the audit done every other year. Motion supported by Mike Sheehy. Roll Call Taken. Motion carried. 5-0.

Laura Erhart presented her assessor's report. Laura reported that the veteran's exemption is now granted by the assessor and the landowner does not have to reapply. Instead there will be audits completed to check on the status and make changes. Laura reported that she had reviewed all permits for the last few years. Laura reported that she will be going over the Agriculture, Commercial and Industrial classes, for these classes she will be going over these and will do a reappraisal. This needed to be approved by the county for the assessor to do this, and this had been approved. Laura will send out notifications to owners for these classes that the owners will fill out and review the sketches. Several of these properties are currently in flat valued and will need to be removed from the flat value.

A motion was made by Dawn Pisoni to end employment with the assessor, Laura Erhart. Scott Tarsi called for support for the motion. There was no support for the motion, so the motion dies.

Scott Tarsi reported on the West Iron County Sewer Authority and Windsor Center, reports are available if anyone in the public is interested.

Scott Tarsi reported that Dawn Pisoni had asked to take a training in order to give assessing advice. Dawn had helped a resident with Principal Residence Exemption, but she cannot do this without attending training. Laura Erhart the assessor is asking that the best idea is to have any person needing help to talk directly to her as she is the Township assessor. No action was taken on this request. Scott Tarsi reported that we should all stay in our departments and allow the person hired to do the job to take care of anything needed.

The treasurer report was provided and no questions for the month of March. The CDARS money has matured, the board asked Dawn Pisoni to check on interest rates and move the money into a CD for 3 to 6 months as the money will not be needed for the public works building for several months.

Jason Cole was present and reported that the let runs have been shut off and they are working on the rubber roof on the Smokey Lake meter pit.

Ron Simmons was not present. He sent his report stating no new permits issued.

Scott Tarsi reported that someone had called and is looking at purchasing Rex Angeli building and property and wanted to open a grow establishment. They may attend our May meeting to present their plans for the grow establishment they are planning. The township had filed paperwork in 2017 to opt out of all 5 options.

Motion to approve the bills for the month was made by Mike Sheehy supported by Doug Bruster. Roll call taken. Motion carried. 5-0.

Meeting Adjourned 7:11 PM

Respectfully Submitted,
Amber Laturi, Clerk

Special Meeting May 7, 2024

Iron River Township Hall 6:00 PM

Members Present: Scott Tarsi, Supervisor; Doug Bruster, Trustee; Amber Laturi, Clerk; Dawn Pisoni, Treasurer. Absent: Mike Sheehy, Trustee.

Present: Ryker Johnson

The board discussed the current wage that is being paid to the 2 full time employees. Jason Cole has given the township notice that his last day of work will be May 3rd. Currently the employees are being paid \$25.25 for Jason Cole with a water license and \$17.25 for Ryker Johnson. The board discussed that we need to increase what we are paying in order to be competitive.

Motion made by Doug Bruster to increase the pay for Ryker Johnson to \$22 per hour and the new person hired will be \$20 per hour and to place ad seeking applicants. Motion supported by Scott Tarsi. Roll call taken. Motion carried. 4-0

Motion made by Amber Laturi to pay \$3 more per hour once the water test has been passed and the employee is able to hold a license. No support for this motion, motion dies.

Motion made by Doug Bruster to pay \$5 more per hour once the water test has been passed and the employee is able to hold a license. Motion was supported by Dawn Pisoni. Roll call was taken. Motion carried. 3-1 (opposed Amber Laturi)

Discussion about the use of Scott Tarsi water license and for Scott Tarsi to complete all paperwork as needed. Motion made by Doug Bruster to pay Scott \$120 per week, and this pay will stop as soon as the water license is obtained by one of our employees. Roll call taken. Motion carried. 4-0

Meeting Adjourned 6:57 PM

Respectfully Submitted,
Amber Laturi, Clerk

Regular Meeting May 14, 2024 Iron River Township Hall 6:00 PM

Members Present: Scott Tarsi, Supervisor; Mike Sheehy, Trustee; Doug Bruster, Trustee; Amber Laturi, Clerk; Dawn Pisoni, Treasurer.

Present: Dennis Tousignant – Legal.

Motion made by Mike Sheehy to accept the minutes of April 9th and May 7th. The motion was supported by Doug Bruster. Motion carried.

Motion to accept the agenda as written was made by Amber Laturi and supported by Mike Sheehy. Motion carried. 5-0.

Zach Hautala from ICECA and reported that the Fast Track Grant application is open until June 30, 2024.

Buckey Holm from Holm Builders Inc was present. Buckey Holm shared a site plan for a possible expansion of Holm Builders Inc. The Holm Builders Inc is located in the Industrial Park in the township, and they are looking at putting an addition for a loading dock. They are asking if they can purchase 1.5 acres to attach the addition to their existing building. The Township would still own the river property. Buckey Holm will let us know when they are ready to move forward and then we will start the process of placing an ad for the sale of the property.

Scott Tarsi reported on the West Iron County Sewer Authority and Windsor Center, reports are available if anyone in the public is interested.

The treasurer report was provided and no questions for the month of April. The CDARS money located at the Miners State Bank matured on April 18, 2024. Motion made by Scott Tarsi and supported by Mike Sheehy to start a new CD for 26 weeks at 5.4%. Motion carried. 5-0

Ryker Johnson reported on the water and sewer departments. A new flag is needed for the cemetery. They are waiting to fix the leak on East Siding Road, they will have to wait to see if they can see where it is bubbling up and then they will get ready to fix the leak.

Ron Simmons was present. He reported 8 zoning permits to date and 1 ordinance violation.

Dennis Tousignant updated the board on the ordinance violations. There has been progress on the Javoroski and Johnson's property. Dennis Tousignant will send letters to each letting them know more progress is needed.

Lillian Simmons in October 2023 asked if the township has investigated her suggestion of a clean up day. We will check with the other municipalities and see how this is handled and what the cost is.

Motion to approve the bills for the month was made by Doug Bruster supported by Amber Laturi. Roll call taken. Motion carried. 5-0.

Meeting Adjourned 6:31 PM

Respectfully Submitted,
Amber Laturi, Clerk

Regular Meeting June 11, 2024

Iron River Township Hall 6:00 PM

Members Present: Scott Tarsi, Supervisor; Mike Sheehy, Trustee; Doug Bruster, Trustee.
Absent: Amber Laturi, Clerk; Dawn Pisoni, Treasurer.

Present: Dennis Tousignant – Legal.

Motion made by Mike Sheehy to accept the minutes. The motion was supported by Doug Bruster. Motion carried. 3-0

Motion to accept the agenda as written was made by Doug Bruster and supported by Mike Sheehy. Motion carried. 3-0.

Zach Hautala from ICECA was not present but did send his report.

Christian Benson from Wickwire was present and reported on the DPW building. They should have things ready for next week and they can then set up a meeting to go over the plans.

Law office of Barton Morris had contacted Scott Tarsi. A gentleman was present and asked if we received a proposal for grow facility at the Rex Angeli building. He is wondering if we would reconsider allowing a grow facility in the Township. We will wait until we see the proposal and have time to review and discuss.

Reen Korach was present and discussed that he had a meeting with the Township Assessor. He had presented at the March board of review and then sent the township a FOIA request to get copies of everything in his tax file regarding his master cards. He then requested a meeting with the assessor. He stated that he felt his meeting did not go well. Doug Bruster asked what do you want from the board. He said I need a special meeting to discuss the assessor. Scott Tarsi told Reen that the sales study is on our website, so he can access this by going on the township website.

We did receive one application for the replacement of Jason Cole's position. We will set up an interview with the applicant.

The township received a letter agreement which extends the existing METRO Act permit issued by the Iron River Township to Michigan Bell Telephone Company DBA AT&T that is expiring on October 31, 2024. The extension is for the term to end on October 31, 2029.

Scott Tarsi reported that when driving by the property the township purchased from Mike Kunchynski that the rent for the billboard should now be coming to the township. Scott Tarsi contacted the renters, and we will have to send the deed and get this transferred over so the rent can be sent to the Township. Scott Tarsi reported on the WICSA. Scott Tarsi reported on the Windsor Authority meeting, and that the Friends of the Windsor is purchasing a new digital sign. Rachel Gramann asked to speak regarding the Windsor Center. She is the president of the foster closet which rents from the Windsor Authority. She explained that the foster closet helps

children that are in foster care, they provide clothing for foster care and other items needed to support children in foster care. She was made aware of allegations that items had been stolen from the foster closet. She had hoped this was not true but to protect the 501 c 3 a camera was installed. She noted that there were 3 different occasions where someone from the Windsor had entered her room and took items without permission. Rachel Gramann did present this to the Windsor board, and they are deciding what action they will be taking. She is coming to the townships that are representatives on the Windsor board. She is trying to protect her organization and their 501 c 3 status so that the goods are being used as they are intended for.

The treasurer report was provided and no questions for the month of May.

Ryker Johnson reported on the water and sewer departments.

Ron Simmons was present. He reported 13 zoning permits to date and 7 ordinance violation warnings. Double the fees for properties that were built with no permits. Dennis Tousignant asked Ron if he is going to look and make sure the property built was approvable. Ron said yes. Ron said he in the past has not required a zoning permit if the building is under 200 square feet like a storage building. They should still have zoning approval for where they are locating it. They should still get a zoning permit, so they have the approval to locate it. Ron said we have not done this in the past. How will we know the exact size or know where to place the structure. Years ago, this was not done. What does the board want to do in the future? The board will discuss this so we can decide how we want to handle this in the future. The assessor wants the permit completed so that she can properly record this on the tax roll. Ron discussed decks; this should be done also so that the placement can be approved.

Public comment: Mike Franzene present from the bates township zoning, asked how do we handle the blight in our township we issue a warning they have 30 days to respond, Ron will issue another one with 30 days to respond, if there is no response after the 3rd warning is issued, then we turn this over to legal. The judge will usually go with compliance and not a money award. We try to get the landowner in compliance. It does cost the township legal fees to get them in compliance. Mike Franzene asked for clarification that we wait for a complaint before we issue warnings on blight. Scott Tarsi said yes this is how we are handling the blight. Once we receive a complaint of blight from someone and they put their name to the complaint then Ron Simmons will follow up with the blight complaint.

Rachel would like to have a possible special meeting where the whole board can be present.

A gentleman from 330 Amvets Hwy had a water leak that was fixed and now the water will not flow through the culvert. Scott will go and look. He also asked about a sign on the road for safety reasons and the board told the gentleman to call the Iron County Road Commission.

Motion to approve the bills for the month was made by Mike Sheehy supported by Doug Bruster.

Roll call taken. Motion carried. 3-0.

Meeting Adjourned 6:56 PM

Respectfully Submitted,
Amber Laturi, Clerk

Regular Meeting July 9, 2024
Iron River Township Hall 6:00 PM

Members Present: Scott Tarsi, Supervisor; Mike Sheehy, Trustee; Doug Bruster, Trustee; Amber Laturi, Clerk; Dawn Pisoni, Treasurer.

Present: Dennis Tousignant – Legal.

Motion made by Mike Sheehy to accept the minutes for June 11th. The motion was supported by Doug Bruster. Motion carried. 5-0

Motion to accept the agenda as written was made by Mike Sheehy and supported by Amber Laturi. Motion carried. 5-0.

Patti Peretto from the county was present. Amber Laturi asked her if the county was going to be paying the township for a portion of the GIS mapping information like they have in the past years. Patti said she will look into this.

Zach Hautala from ICECA was present and discussed his report for the month. The motion was made by Dawn Pisoni to pay the year's contribution for the ICECA and the motion was supported by Doug Bruster. Roll call taken. Motion carried. 5-0.

Laura Erhart the assessor will be holding the July board of review meeting on July 17th at noon.

Kraig Tass has asked if he can rent the upstairs of the Township Hall every Sunday for a church service. The cost will be \$30 per use.

Discussion regarding the appointment of a member to the Windsor Recreation Authority Board. The township is supposed to appoint a member every 2 years. Scott Tarsi has been the Township's member since he became supervisor in 2012. Motion made by Amber Laturi to continue to have Scott Tarsi as the Township's board member for the Windsor Recreation Authority Board. Motion supported by Mike Sheehy. Roll call taken. Motion carried. 5-0.

Motion made by Amber Laturi to have Scott Tarsi remain as the Township's board member for the Joint Public Building Restoration Administrative Board. Motion supported by Mike Sheehy. Roll call taken. Motion carried. 5-0.

The Township has not heard from the party that was interested in the grow facility. The Township will wait to discuss this further once we hear from them if they are still interested in the possibility of a grow facility in the Township.

Motion made by Scott Tarsi to hire Spencer Hill to fill the open position in the Township. Motion supported by Doug Bruster. Roll call taken. Motion carried. 5-0.

The treasurer report was presented by Dawn Pisoni for the month of June.

Ryker Johnson reported on the water and sewer departments. Chimo helped Ryker with the Nash Well during the lighting strike.

Ron Simmons was not present.

Motion to approve the bills for the month was made by Doug Bruster supported by Mike Sheehy. Roll call taken. Motion carried. 5-0.

Meeting Adjourned 7:01 PM

Respectfully Submitted,
Amber Laturi, Clerk

Regular Meeting August 13, 2024 Iron River Township Hall 6:00 PM

Members Present: Scott Tarsi, Supervisor; Mike Sheehy, Trustee; Doug Bruster, Trustee; Amber Laturi, Clerk.
Absent: Dawn Pisoni, Treasurer.

Present: Dennis Tousignant – Legal.

Motion made by Mike Sheehy to accept the minutes for July 9th. The motion was supported by Doug Bruster.
Motion carried. 4-0

Additions to the agenda: Jim Storti and Reen Korach. Motion to accept the agenda with the additions was made by Doug Bruster and supported by Amber Laturi. Motion carried. 4-0.

Zach Hautala from ICECA was present and discussed his report for the month.

Craig Richardson from Wickwire was present and gave an update on the Public Works Building. He is currently waiting for a response from LARA, as the plan has been submitted.

Craig Richardson from Wickwire presented a proposal for engineering services to assist the Township in completing the Complete Distribution System Materials Inventory (CDSMI) and submitting to the State of Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy (EGLE). The proposal is for \$2,000. Motion made by Doug Bruster to approve the proposal, and the motion was supported by Mike Sheehy. Motion carried. 4-0.

Laura Erhart, the assessor, has 2 requests for split platted lots. This type of division is different than the normal land splits and must have board approval. The Statutes require the board approval to change the dimensions of a State registered platted lot. Both of the split platted lots are located on Silver Lake. First one is to divide Lot 42 into 2 parcels of land, one being .49 acres and the other .44 acres. And the second one is to divide Lot 25 of the Lindahl Plat of Silver Lake into 2 parcels, one being .7 acres and the other .66 acres. Motion made by Mike Sheehy to approve the 2 requests for split platted lots. Motion supported by Doug Bruster. Motion carried. 4-0.

Debra Brendel was present to ask if there is a written policy for the assessor. She was concerned that the assessor came to her property unannounced. She stated the assessor had body cameras on and Laura Erhart responded that she was not wearing this when she was at the property.

Jim Storti was present stating he has tax issues on his property. He stated that his property was taken out of agricultural. Jim Storti was informed that he will have to go to the Board of Review or the Tax Tribunal. A PRE form was provided to him by the assessor but has not yet returned.

Reen Korach was present and had Scott Tarsi read a letter he prepared. He expressed concern of how his meeting went while meeting with the assessor. Scott Tarsi stated to him that no one else was present and therefore did not see what he did during the meeting or what the assessor did during the meeting.

Scott Tarsi reported on the Windsor meeting and the West Iron County Sewer Authority meeting. Scott Tarsi reported a 2 inch water leak on Dobson road that was fixed.

The treasurer report was presented by Dawn Pisoni for the month of July.

Ryker Johnson reported on the water and sewer departments. There are still problems with the Nash well and Klieman will be looking at this and preparing a quote for the repairs.

Ron Simmons was present and reported that there have been 22 zoning permits issued, 4 inspections and 1 sign permit and 8 violations and warnings issued to date. Ron asked if the assessor could provide him with the land splits before they are completed.

Dennis Tousignant reported on the issue of easement on Rosetti Road, the township has easement to service our main line, and the township just needs to see the agreed upon easement and then the \$1200 tap in fee can be paid for the new customer wanting water service.

Motion to approve the bills for the month was made by Doug Bruster supported by Amber Laturi. Roll call taken. Motion carried. 4-0.

Meeting Adjourned 7:48 PM

Respectfully Submitted,
Amber Laturi, Clerk

Special Meeting August 29, 2024 Iron River Township Hall 5:00 PM

Members Present: Scott Tarsi, Supervisor; Dawn Pisoni, Treasurer; Amber Laturi, Clerk; Doug Bruster, Trustee. Absent: Mike Sheehy, Trustee.

The Township is having an emergency with the Nash Well. Seth Miatech was present from Wickwire to present the proposal for the Nash Well for \$16,000 to handle permits and handle the whole project. The system will be down for 5-7 days when worked on but the Ryden can feed the Nash while down. We don't have a projection of the cost of the repairs. Klieman did give an estimate for the inside work for \$37,000 but could go up as they investigate this more. The outside plumbing will have to be bid out. Motion made by Amber Laturi to approve the proposal from Wickwire for \$16,000 for the Nash Well. Motion supported by Scott Tarsi. Roll call taken. Motion carried. 4-0.

The next agenda item was the discussion regarding the assessor. Laura Erhart requested a closed session. Amber Laturi called Dennis Tousignant to see if this was allowable. Motion made by Amber Laturi to go into closed session. The motion was supported by Doug Bruster. Dawn Pisoni was opposed to going into closed session, and Scott Tarsi supported to go into closed session. With 3-1 motion the board went into closed session at 5:27pm.

At 5:34 PM a motion to go back into regular session was made by Amber Laturi and supported by Scott Tarsi. Motion carried. 4-0.

Motion was made by Doug Bruster to terminate Laura Erhart's employment effective immediately. Motion supported by Scott Tarsi. Roll call taken. Motion carried. 3-1 (opposed Amber Laturi)

Meeting Adjourned 5:42 PM

Respectfully Submitted,
Amber Laturi, Clerk

Regular Meeting September 10, 2024

Iron River Township Hall 6:00 PM

Members Present: Scott Tarsi, Supervisor; Mike Sheehy, Trustee; Doug Bruster, Trustee; Amber Laturi, Clerk and Dawn Pisoni, Treasurer. Present: Dennis Tousignant – Legal.

Motion made by Mike Sheehy to accept the minutes for August 13th and August 29th. The motion was supported by Doug Bruster. Motion carried. 5-0

Motion to accept the agenda with no additions was made by Amber Laturi and supported by Mike Sheehy. Motion carried. 5-0.

Zach Hautala from ICECA was present and discussed his report for the month.

The township currently has a CD at CoVantage Credit Union that will be maturing on September 12, 2024. Motion made by Scott Tarsi to place the CD in a 7 month at 5%. Motion made by Scott Tarsi and supported by Dawn Pisoni to place the CD in a 7 month at 5%. Motion carried. 5-0

Rob Possanza was not able to attend the meeting. Dennis Tousignant had talked to Rob Possanza regarding his property taxes. Dennis Tousignant informed the board that the practice for qualified forest is for vacant with a structure the assessor will create a ghost parcel.

Bucky Holm was present from Holm Builders Inc to discuss the 1.5 acres located behind their current property located in the Industrial Park that they would like to purchase to expand their business. He would like to proceed with the purchase as they are going to expand. The Township will need to get a market analysis completed and then can proceed with the sale.

Scott Tarsi reported on the Windsor meeting and the West Iron County Sewer Authority meeting. Scott Tarsi reported that there are 3 new water taps that will be put in. The copper and lead tests were completed and now the township will be able to complete these every 3 years because the levels were good.

The treasurer report was presented by Dawn Pisoni for the month of August.

Ron Simmons was present and reported that there have been 28 zoning permits issued, 5 inspections and 1 sign permit and 9 violations and warnings issued to date. The township received information from Edge Consulting Engineers, Inc regarding a 180' self-support tower in a 50' X 75' fenced compound. This is for We Energies communications. Ron Simmons reported that this is considered essential services.

Scott Stapleton reported to the board that he just purchased Rex Angeli property to open a welding shop.

Motion to approve the bills for the month was made by Scott Tarsi supported by Amber Laturi. Roll call taken. Motion carried. 5-0.

Meeting Adjourned 6:43 PM

Respectfully Submitted,
Amber Laturi, Clerk

**Special Meeting September 12, 2024
Iron River Township Hall 6:00 PM**

Members Present: Scott Tarsi, Supervisor; Dawn Pisoni, Treasurer; Amber Laturi, Clerk; Doug Bruster, Trustee; and Mike Sheehy, Trustee.

Present: Dennis Tousignant-Legal

Bucky Holm from Holm Builders Inc was present to discuss the possible purchase of 1.5 acres located behind their existing property located in the industrial park. They would like to purchase this property, so they are able to expand their business.

The township was able to get a market analysis completed by Punner Franzene from U.P. Riverland Realty. This property is located in the industrial park for commercial use and is land locked to the existing property of Holm Builders Inc and there is no sewer and is critical to their expansion and we want to encourage businesses in our township. The market analysis from what Bucky received from Jeff Dohl and what we received from Punner Franzene the board felt they were ready to proceed with the sale of the property.

After going over the numbers and discussion a motion was made by Doug Bruster to sell the 1.5 acres for \$3,000. The motion was supported by Mike Sheehy. Roll call taken. Motion carried. 5-0

Meeting Adjourned 6:10 PM

Respectfully Submitted,
Amber Laturi, Clerk

Regular Meeting October 8, 2024

Iron River Township Hall 6:00 PM

Members Present: Scott Tarsi, Supervisor; Mike Sheehy, Trustee; Doug Bruster, Trustee; Amber Laturi, Clerk and Dawn Pisoni, Treasurer. Present: Dennis Tousignant – Legal.

Motion made by Mike Sheehy to accept the minutes for September 10th and September 12th. The motion was supported by Doug Bruster. Motion carried. 5-0

The motion to accept the agenda with no additions was made by Amber Laturi and supported by Mike Sheehy. Motion carried. 5-0.

Zach Hautala from ICECA was present and discussed his report for the month.

Craig Richardson was present from Wickwire and reported that the Distribution System Materials Inventory has been completed.

The bids for the Nash Well were opened. 2 bids were received, one from FA Industrial for \$115,135 and Klieman for \$123,100. The bids will be reviewed by Wickwire.

We had 2 applications for the assessor position. Thomas Novascone for \$57,275 and Heather Casagranda for \$35,000. The Township will review the applications.

Renee Remondini is requesting permission to dig a well and discontinue water service at 151 Lakeshore Lane. Scott Tarsi made a motion to allow the well and the motion was supported by Doug Bruster. Motion carried. 5-0

Scott Tarsi reported on the Windsor meeting and the West Iron County Sewer Authority meeting. Scott Tarsi reported that there are 3 new water taps that will be put in. L&H have been called to the boring for the 2 water taps.

The treasurer report was presented by Dawn Pisoni for the month of September.

Ron Simmons was present and reported that there have been 32 zoning permits issued, 7 inspections and 1 sign permit and 10 violations and warnings issued to date.

Lillian Simmons asked if we had investigated the fall cleanup that she had brought up a few months ago. Lillian said that she knows this is an expense to the township, but it is an investment. The township will have to call and see what this will take to do this and what the cost of this would be. It might be too late to do this this fall but we can see what the details are so we can discuss this for the future. It will depend on what the cost and how it all works.

The motion to approve the bills for the month was made by Mike Sheehy supported by Doug Bruster. Roll call taken. Motion carried. 5-0.

Meeting Adjourned 6:28 PM

Respectfully Submitted,
Amber Laturi, Clerk

Special Meeting October 16, 2024 Iron River Township Hall 6:00 PM

Members Present: Scott Tarsi, Supervisor; Dawn Pisoni, Treasurer; Amber Laturi, Clerk; Doug Bruster, Trustee; and Mike Sheehy, Trustee.

The meeting was held to interview Heather Casagranda for the assessor position. The board asked her questions about her experience as an assessor. Heather explained that in November 2024 she will have 2 years of experience.

Motion made by Scott Tarsi to hire Heather Casagranda as the township assessor and she will be paid through the payroll system as an employee like we have in the past. Motion supported by Mike Sheehy. Motion carried. 5-0

The board also discussed the fall cleanup. Amber Laturi called GFL Environmental to see how the fall cleanup procedure worked. For a 40-yard dumpster the cost would be \$125 delivery, \$400 hauling and then \$90 per ton. It could be around \$800 to \$1000 depending on the weight. The lady explained that it is best to have the container in a gated area because what happens once your hours are over you will have people stacking garbage by the dumpster and we will have to dispose of what they leave, and it might be items that are not allowed to be disposed of. That would be at our cost to dispose. We would have to generate a list of items that we would accept and let the people know ahead of time so they don't come with items that we cannot accept. No concrete, bricks, trees, shrubs, logs, roofing materials, motor oil, paint. She said mattresses are \$20 each and others limit this to 2 per family. There is a lot to consider, and we will have to take the time to discuss this further and see if the township wants to try this in the spring. We are not able to do this this fall as there is not enough time to get this organized.

Meeting Adjourned 6:25 PM

Respectfully Submitted,
Amber Laturi, Clerk

Regular Meeting November 12, 2024 Iron River Township Hall 6:00 PM

Members Present: Scott Tarsi, Supervisor; Doug Bruster, Trustee; Amber Laturi, Clerk.

Absent: Dawn Pisoni, Treasurer and Mike Sheehy, Trustee. Present: Dennis Tousignant – Legal.

Motion made by Doug Bruster to accept the minutes for October 8th and October 16th. The motion was supported by Amber Laturi. Motion carried. 3-0

The motion to accept the agenda with one addition for the Representative for the West Iron County District Library was made by Doug Bruster and supported by Amber Laturi. Motion carried. 3-0.

A letter was received from the West Iron County District Library letting us know that the term for the Township's representative on the board is expiring for Rebecca Oberlin. Rebecca Oberlin wants to do another term. Motion made by Doug Bruster to approve Rebecca Oberlin to do another term January 1, 2025-December 31, 2028. Motion supported by Amber Laturi. Motion carried. 3-0.

Brett from ICECA was present and discussed his report for the month.

Seth Miatech was present from Wickwire. Scott Tarsi will go and meet with Klieman and Wickwire to go over options for the Nash Well.

The bids received for the DPW building were:

Alliance Construction & Design Inc \$715,521

Smith Metal Structure Inc \$550,964

IMMEL Construction Howard Immel Inc \$695,039

Roy Ness Contracting & Sales Inc \$869,500

The bids will be reviewed, no action taken at this time.

Patti Peretto from the County was present and reported that the Sheriff is working on starting the work van up again.

Heather Casagrande, the assessor, was present and reported on the monthly assessing work she has completed.

Motion made by Doug Bruster to accept the season propane bid from Krist Oil for \$1.589, motion supported by Amber Laturi. Roll call taken. Motion carried. 3-0

Scott Tarsi reported on the Windsor meeting and the West Iron County Sewer Authority meeting.

Ryker Johson and Spencer Hill reported on the water and sewer departments. Cleaned up trees blown over in the cemetery. Scott Tarsi and Robert Chmielewski helped with the 3 new water taps.

Dawn Pisoni was not present but treasurer report was available for the month of October.

Ron Simmons was not present but reported that there was nothing new from last month for the zoning.

Dennis Tousignant gave the clerk Amber Laturi a copy of the Utility Easement for a new tap on Rosetti Road. Discussion regarding the assessor's pay and contract. After review and discussion, the assessor will be paid by contracted services. They function on their own and work on their own schedule. A contract was provided to Heather Casagrande for the assessor's work. Once she has time to review, she can sign, and the clerk will keep the copy in township file.

Edie Smith was present and discussed concern about the Zoning Board of Appeals meeting that was held the previous month. She had some concerns about the timing of the notification of the meeting, and also about the road and where or if they are relocating it. She was provided with a copy of what was turned in by the landowner and what they were requesting.

The motion to approve the bills for the month was made by Doug Bruster supported by Scott Tarsi. Roll call taken. Motion carried. 3-0.

Meeting Adjourned 6:48 PM

Respectfully Submitted,
Amber Laturi, Clerk

Special Meeting November 25, 2024 Iron River Township Hall 6:00 PM

Members Present: Scott Tarsi, Supervisor; Mike Sheehy Trustee; Westley Hill, Trustee; Marla Hill, Treasurer; Amber Laturi, Clerk.

A special meeting was held to discuss the changing of the current software from Fund Balance to BS&A. The Township currently uses the BS&A software for the tax and assessing. Changing to the BS&A software for the financials and the utility billing will allow the township to have everything on one software and allow for the sharing of information. With the change we will be able to accept credit card payments for taxes and utility billing. This has been something residents have asked for over the years. The cost to change to the BS&A software is \$47,635. This includes the cost of changing the tax and assessing to the cloud version, but we are not going to be changing this so there will be a savings there. We are also not going to use the cash receipting program so there is a savings there also. Motion to approve the change to BS&A software was made by Scott Tarsi and supported by Mike Sheehy. Roll call taken. Motion carried. 5-0 The clerk and treasurer will work with BS&A on the final price with the removal of the cash receipting and staying on the .net version for tax and assessing.

Discussion regarding the training for the treasurer. Punner Franzene has helped the Township by training the new treasurers in the past. She has stated she is willing to train Marla Hill as the new treasurer. Motion made by Amber Laturi to approve Punner Franzene to work with Marla Hill up to 100 hours if needed and paid \$19 per hour. Motion supported by Mike Sheehy. Roll call taken. Motion carried. 5-0

Meeting Adjourned 6:33 PM

Respectfully Submitted,
Amber Laturi, Clerk

Regular Meeting December 10, 2024 Iron River Township Hall 6:00 PM

Members Present: Scott Tarsi, Supervisor; Westley Hill, Trustee; Amber Laturi, Clerk
Marla Hill, Treasurer and Mike Sheehy, Trustee. Present: Dennis Tousignant – Legal.

Motion made by Marla Hill to accept the minutes for November 12th and November 25th. The motion was supported by Mike Sheehy.
Motion carried. -0

The motion to accept the agenda as written by Amber Laturi and supported by Mike Sheehy. Motion carried. 5-0.

Craig Richardson from Wick Wire was present and discussed the Nash Well. Craig Richardson reported that the auto works and pumps and the hand by hand appears to be on but not pumping. Craig Richardson suggested calling FDS Engineering & Electrical Services to look at this to see what they think, once this is completed, we can move to the next step. A special meeting will be held on December 16th at 6:00 PM to discuss the DPW building and the bids that the Township has received.

The assessor report from Heather Casagrande was read by Scott Tarsi.

One board member must be a board member on the planning commission. Currently this board member is Doug Bruster. Motion made by Scott Tarsi to have Westley Hill be the new planning commission member from the board. Motion supported by Mike Sheehy.

Motion made by Amber Laturi to pay Safety Bonuses to the employees in the amount of \$350 each. Motion supported by Mike Sheehy.
Motion carried. 5-0

Discussion on the new law for ESTA (employee sick time act). We will have to investigate this further. We will call MTA to see if they can help with this.

Scott Tarsi would like to resign from the Windsor Board representative. The Iron River Township board accepts his resignation. The Township has received a letter of interest from Rachel Gramann. Motion made by Scott Tarsi to appoint Rachel Gramann as the new Windsor Board representative for Iron River Township. Motion supported by Mike Sheehy. Motion carried. 5-0

Scott Tarsi reported on the Windsor and the West Iron County Sewer Authority meetings.

Ryker Johson and Spencer Hill reported on the water and sewer departments. Scott Tarsi and Robert Chmielewski helped with the 5 leaks.

Marla Hill presented the treasurer's report for the month of November.

Ron Simmons was not present but reported that there was nothing new from last month for the zoning.

The motion to approve the bills for the month was made by Mike Sheehy supported by Amber Laturi. Roll call taken. Motion carried. 5-0.

Meeting Adjourned 6:48 PM

Respectfully Submitted,
Amber Laturi, Clerk

Special Meeting December 16, 2024 Iron River Township Hall 6:00 PM

Members Present: Scott Tarsi, Supervisor; Mike Sheehy Trustee; Westley Hill, Trustee; Marla Hill, Treasurer; Amber Laturi, Clerk. Present: Dennis Tousignant and Craig Richardson.

A special meeting was held to discuss the bids we have received for the new DPW building. The bids we received were:

The bids received for the DPW building were:

Alliance Construction & Design Inc \$715,521

Smith Metal Structure Inc \$550,964

IMMEL Construction Howard Immel Inc \$695,039

Roy Ness Contracting & Sales Inc \$869,500

The board discussed several questions the board members had regarding the building. Why can't we piece work out to different contractors to possibly save money and radiant heat vs in floor heat. We wanted to explore all our options before moving forward. Motion made by Mike Sheehy to approve the bid received from Smith Metal Structure Inc for \$550,964. Motion supported by Marla Hill. Roll call taken. Motion carried. 5-0 The board will look at options for financing.

Craig Richardson reported that FDS was able to come and look over the Nash well. They were able to turn up the speed but reported that a new well pump is needed. Motion made by Scott Tarsi to approve the proposal from Klieman for \$37,485 and this can be paid for using our Repair, Replacement and Improvement account. The motion was supported by Amber Laturi. Roll call taken. Motion carried. 5-0

Scott Tarsi reported that there is going to be a shortage of plastic for repairing water lines. Motion made by Mike Sheehy to order what plastic we will need for summer repairs now. Motion supported by Amber Laturi. Roll call taken. Motion carried. 5-0

Meeting Adjourned 7:45 PM

Respectfully Submitted,
Amber Laturi, Clerk

**Special Meeting December 23, 2024
Iron River Township Hall 10:00 AM**

Members Present: Scott Tarsi, Supervisor; Mike Sheehy Trustee; Westley Hill, Trustee; Marla Hill, Treasurer; Amber Laturi, Clerk.

A special meeting was held to discuss the option of financing with Ryan Meske from First National Bank of Iron River. Ryan Meske discussed 3 options that the board could consider. After discussing the options, a motion was made by Mike Sheehy to approve option 2 for a 60-month balloon at 5.5% amortized over 20 years. We would deposit our funds for the DPW building and it would be held in a CD and used as collateral for the loan. The Township would move all its banking to FNB and earn interest of 2.75%. The motion was supported by Marla Hill. Roll call taken. Motion carried. 5-0

Meeting Adjourned 10:45 AM

Respectfully Submitted,
Amber Laturi, Clerk