

Township of Gerrish
132th Annual Meeting
March 12, 2013

The 132th Annual Meeting of the Electors of Gerrish Township was held at 6:03pm March 12, 2013, at the Gerrish Township Municipal Center.

Moderator: Supervisor Frank Homola
Secretary: Clerk Jodi Valentino

Other Board members present: Treasurer Leasa Tulgetske, Trustee Mary Link and Trustee Jim Lippert.

Citizens attended: 25 citizens

Meeting was called to order with residents standing to recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion by William Case, support by Ralph Rowland, to accept the minutes of the 131th Annual Meeting as read by Clerk Valentino. Motion carried by voice votes. No nays.

State of the Township Address:

The meeting was opened with Supervisor Homola welcoming the public to the 132nd Annual Meeting of Electors of Gerrish Township. He informed those present that the Township Board continues to make decisions they believe are in the best interest of the Township as a whole. The Board has prioritized promoting the Township and building for future growth and continues to strive to keep a leading role within the County.

Supervisor Homola stated that the restructuring of the assessing department has gone well and that a three year renewal contract was approved with Assessor Brent Bosely. Mr. Bosley's professionalism in his duties to the Township has been well received. Overall assessed properties of the Township decreased an additional \$1,651,100.00 from the 2012 values. There has been a turnaround with the number of building permits being issued and this is a positive indication in our economy.

Gerrish Township officials continue to work closely with the Roscommon County Road Commission to improve our infrastructure. We are investigating additional forms of funding to keep our roads in good condition, both paved and gravel. Our new contract with Republic Services for refuse and curbside recycling has been well received despite a few minor glitches. Containers and carts are being delivered to residents as they are needed.

We continue to improve our recreational opportunities within the Township. This includes improvements to our tennis courts, ice skating rink and Community Park Marina. The Annual Trunk or Treat Halloween celebration continues to grow.

Our Community Park Marina is gearing up for another season and there are currently over fifty families on the waiting list for seasonal slips. The Township will be applying for a DNR Recreational Grant and MNTF grant as well as other funding sources to complete projects at the Gerrish Township Park and Community Park Marina. Your Board is also looking to protect the water quality of our beautiful lake for future generations. We have been awarded an S2 grant by the State of Michigan for waste water studies and planning and are reviewing possible changes to our septic services to aid in maintaining water quality.

The Gerrish Township Police Department has been very active in their community support. Some of the many highlights include: installation of a permanent DEA prescription drug box, recipient of a

Community Service Award from the Michigan Parks and Recreation Department, implementation of a cost recovery program, successful implementation of program for P.A. 56, CERT Skills Training Blitz in May and the awarding of the Michigan Par Plan grant for Project V.A.S.T. Chief Hill was also chosen and sworn in as the 86th President of the MACP.

The Fire/EMS Department has also completed a very busy year. The purchase of a new Fire Pumper Unit and a new ambulance are well under way. They were awarded a Michigan Par Plan grant for purchase of a LUCAS II and have updated their SCBA equipment. They remain focused on training and preparation and are ready as needed.

In closing, Supervisor Homola noted that the yearly financial audit was recently completed and showed the Township to be in sound financial order. He reminded constituents that his and fellow Board members' doors are always open.

The 2013-2014 Gerrish Township Board regular meetings will be scheduled for the second Tuesday of each month at the Municipal Center at 7:30pm. Dates for regular session meetings are scheduled as follows: **2013:** April 9, May 14, June 11, July 9, August 14, September 10, October 8, November 12 and December 10. **2014:** January 14, February 11, and March 11.

Depositories of Township funds were stated as follows: Northwestern Bank, Prudenville, MI; Chemical Bank, Roscommon, MI; Chase Bank, Roscommon, MI; MBIA Municipal Investors, Ann Arbor, MI

Motion by Herb Weatherly, support by Brian Hill, to set the Supervisor's salary, with no assessing duties, at \$33,877.80 effective April 1, 2013. Motion carried by voice vote. No Nays.

Motion by Mike Shaltz, support by Clint Stauffer, to accept the proposed salary of \$54,543.84 for Supervisor with assessing duties effective April 1, 2013. Motion carried by voice vote. No Nays.

Motion by Brian Hill, support by Greg Patchin to accept the proposed salary of \$33,877.80 for Clerk effective April 1, 2013. Motion carried by voice vote. No Nays.

Motion by Brian Hill, support by Herb Weatherly, to set the Treasurer's salary at \$33,877.80 (includes \$6,364.80 for summer tax collection) effective April 1, 2013. Motion carried by voice vote. No Nays.

Motion by Herb Weatherly, support by Mike Shaltz to accept the proposed salary of \$6267.63. for each trustee effective April 1, 2013. Motion carried by voice vote. No Nays.

Citizens' petitions and motions:

Motion by Mary Link, second by Ralph Rowland that effective April 1, 2013 the township elected positions of Supervisor, Clerk, and Treasurer be provided full family insurance benefits to include health, dental, and vision insurance. Further defined that the elected positions of Supervisor, Clerk, and Treasurer shall be considered full time Township employees for the purpose of eligibility and payment of insurance benefits, and these benefits will be directly linked to those provided to full time township employees. Motion carried by voice votes. No Nays.

Discussion included cost for providing benefits to officials, is there a current cap in place for employee contributions, why our elected officials have not been provided coverage before and what other townships with full time services receive.

Announcements: None

Meeting adjourned at 6:25pm.

Jodi Valentino, Gerrish Township Clerk
Subject to residents approval at March 2014 Annual Meeting