

**Charter Township of Ironwood  
Special Meeting /Public Hearing  
December 12, 2008**

**General Appropriations Hearing**

**At 5:00 p.m.** Supervisor Mattson called the meeting to order with the pledge of allegiance and roll call was taken.

**PRESENT:** Supervisor Kim Mattson, Treasurer Jyl Olson, Clerk Gayla Salmi.

**TRUSTEES:** Steve Boyd, Bernie Brunello, Bob Fredrickson, Kathy Maki.

**ALSO PRESENT:** Arvo Toolanen, Lou Bonagura – Ironwood Info., James J. Simmons Jr., Grant Dieck, Don Flint, Donna Scorse- EDC Director, K. Lahti, C.Winchowski, Phil Kucera, Eric Sharp, James Frank, Jay Flynn, Gogebic County Deputy Steve Matonich.

**At 5:03 p.m.** a motion was offered by Mr. Brunello supported by Ms. Mattson to move into the public hearing. The motion carried on a unanimous roll call vote.

**ALL FUND TYPES:**

Ms. Mattson asked if the board members had any questions on each of the following funds:

- General Fund: Mr. Boyd explained that he had just attended MTA training in Marquette, and became aware that the assessing can not be “contracted” out to the supervisor (who is by law the chief assessor), this must be a salaried position if the supervisor chooses to retain the assessing. Mr. Boyd offered a motion, which was supported by Mr. Brunello to correct the budget to reflect \$18,000 and the associated FICA and pension as well. The motion carried on a unanimous roll call vote.
- Water Fund
- Waste Water Fund
- Township Improvement Fund
- Special Grants Fund
- Perpetual Care Fund

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Chet Romans E5239 Sunset Rd, Ironwood, MI 49938-

Question/comment: Mr. Romans asked what the reserved balances were for.

Answer: Ms. Olson answered Parks & Recreation, Landfill Closure fund, and Economic Development, Due to other funds- Current tax funds which will be transferred.

Grant Dieck: Passed.

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PUBLIC HEARING

GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS HEARING

James T. Simmons Jr. E5069 Anderson Rd. Ironwood, MI 49938

Question/comment: Mr. Simmons issues are in the letter to the editor. Doesn't wish to be here tonight. Trailer park is first issue to be discussed. Wow.

Interrupted as off of subject of tonight's meeting.

James Franck N12006 Bale Lane Ironwood, Mi, 49938

Question/comment: Nation is facing issues, he asked board to consider the citizens as decisions are made, and confidence will be established.

Michael Rooni E6595 Sandene Rd. Bessemer, MI 49911

Question/comment: Between township board, supervisor, elections, clerk and treasurer, you are eating up 40% of the budget. I can't believe it. Between these budgets you are talking \$110,000. I find this budget extremely high.

Chris Winchowski E5050 Welch Creek Ironwood, MI. 49938

Question/comment: Do you intend on taking a raise? How did you come about these raises?

Mrs. Maki- Salmi and Olson. If the officials you can not roll the wages back. The board agreed to 3%, except for Kim she is staying at current salary.

Mr. Winchowski: What formula did you use for the assessor's salary?

Mrs. Maki- We are lower than if we contracted with an outside assessor. \$8. 50 per parcel if contracted out, as per two local assessors.

Mr. Winchowski: felt the wages were extremely high.

Grant Dieck N12393 Lake Rd. Ironwood, MI 49938

Question/comment: Would the trustees be willing to surrender their pension and life insurance?

Ms. Salmi: the trustee pension is around \$26.00 per month, life insurance is around \$2.00 per month. Until negotiations with the union contract we are unable to make changes at this time.

Mr. Boyd: The trustees noted that several trustees have agreed to surrender both life insurance and pension as soon as possible. This will occur in June '09.

Mr. Dieck: Everybody is cutting costs, what has the board done to cut costs?

Mrs. Maki: We are meeting with an insurance agent regarding the health insurance.

Mr. Dieck: Will there be a co-pay?

Mrs. Maki: a co-pay and a higher deductible.

Mr. Brunello: At Waste Water we moved to this plan and saved \$14,000.

Mr. Dieck: Will that be published?

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Chet Roman :(finish time). Will this be an employee co-pay? When did this 10% co-pay start?

Ms. Mattson: in 2001.

Chris Winchowski: (finish time)How many union people do we have?

Ms. Mattson : two.

Mrs. Maki: The retirement or pension plan can only be changed one time per year. This is a group plan- decisions are made as a group, and since the union contract has been negotiated under this group insurance we are forced into waiting for contract renewal in June '09.

**At 5:25 p.m.** motion was made by Mr. Brunello supported by Ms. Olson to adjourn the Public Hearing. The motion carried on a unanimous roll call vote.

**Motions to consider:**

- o Resolution #14 General Appropriations Resolution. A motion was offered by Mr. Brunello supported by Mr. Fredrickson to adopt Resolution #14- General Appropriations resolution. The motion carried on a unanimous roll call vote.
- o Resloution #15 2009 Salary Resolution. A motion was offered by Mr. Fredrickson supported by Ms. Maki to adopt Resolution #15 2009 Salary Resolution. The motion carried on a unanimous roll call vote.
- o Resolution #16 Public Depository Designation Resolution. A motion was made by Mr. Brunello supported by Mr. Boyd to adopt Resolution #16 Public Depository Designation Resolution. The Motion Carried on a unanimous roll call vote.

Resolution #17 Rates and charges resolution. A motion was made by Ms. Olson supported by Mr. Fredrickson to adopt Resolution #17 Rates and Charges Resolution. The motion carried on a unanimous roll call vote.

**At 5:30 p.m.** a motion was made by Mr. Brunello supported by Ms. Maki to adjourn the special meeting. The motion carried.

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Kim Mattson, Supervisor

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Gayla Salmi, Clerk

