

**ADOPTED  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
ROCK RIVER TOWNSHIP  
DECEMBER 20TH, 2022**

Meeting called to order with the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:00pm.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Teri Grout, Rowan Bunce, Trevor Case, Janet Braun, Maria Strand

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** None

**GUESTS:** Brice Burge - Munising Beacon, Kathy Takkinen-LaRock, Ron LeJeune, Jenny LeJeuneRenee McLaughlin, Scott Bunce, Tom Schierkolk, Mike Rondeau

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** No Public Comment

**MINUTES:** Case made a motion to approve board minutes of November 15th, motion seconded by Bunce. MCU

**TREASURER'S FINANCIAL REPORT:** Report presented, reviewed and placed in file for audit.

**PAY BILLS:** Bunce made a motion to pay bills (\$41,441.95) with debits/checks #18086-18128, motion seconded by Case. MCU

**PLANNING COMMISSION: 1.)** New Zoning map from CUPPAD received. Case made a motion to appoint Tammy Shega to the planning commission, motion seconded by Bunce, MCU. Ron LeJeune's term ends January 2023, 1 position is now open to be filled in January and will be posted.

**ASSESSOR REPORT: 1.)** Report received. Zoning Board of Appeals Expiring Terms - Appointed new members:

\*Case made a motion to reappoint Ray Pitkamaki, motion seconded by Bunce. MCU

\*Case made a motion to appoint member Kathy LaRock, motion seconded by Bunce. MCU

\*Bunce made a motion to appoint alternate member Dawn Rondeau, motion seconded by Strand - Roll Call Vote, Braun Aye, Strand Aye, Grout Aye, Bunce Aye, Case Nay. MC

\*Case made a motion to appoint 2nd alternate member Cindy Kallio, motion seconded by Bunce. MCU

\*Bunce made a motion to appoint Tammy Shega, new Planning Commission member, to the Zoning Board of Appeals, motion seconded by Case. MCU

2.) Board of Review Expiring Terms - Appointed new board members:

\*Case made a motion to reappoint Jenny LeJeune to the Board of Review, motion seconded by Bunce. MCU

\*Case made a motion to reappoint Mary Kramer-Rabine to the Board of Review, motion seconded by Bunce. MCU

\*There are still 2 Alternate positions open for the Board of Review.

**CEMETERY REPORT: 1.)** Report received.

**FIRE DEPT: 1.)** Report Received.

**SKI HILL: 1.)** Trevor went to Charlevoix for training on splicing the new 8 string rope. Rowan Bunce brush hogged the hill. A donation was made by AC3 (Alger County Communities that care) to fund "Free Days" on the first Wednesday of each month of January, February, March, where skiing would be free that day with hot chocolate included in the chalet. There was also a second donation from Munising Recycling Committee of a warming chalet that Trevor placed at the top of the hill to be used for overseeing the hill, rope, and viewing safety of the skiers. A new groomer was purchased as suggested by the last state inspection and maintenance on that machine was completed. The township is now liable to pay for plowing of the forest road to the ski hill, cost still to be determined. Trevor is requesting a Conex (Shipping Container) Box for storage of the new groomer and other valuable assets at the hill to be put into next year's budget for purchasing. Trevor Case made a motion to hire New Assistant Manager Mackenzie Guzman Martinez, motion seconded by Bunce. Roll Call Vote Case Aye, Bunce Aye, Braun Aye, Grout Aye, Strand Aye. MCU

**ZONING ADMINISTRATOR: 1.)** Report received. There was discussion on an amendment to the zoning ordinance with regard to Tourist Cabin (Vacation Rental) land use. The amendment to Section 311 - TD Town Development District, proposes to allow Tourist Cabin (Vacation Rental) in the zoning districts by conditional use only. The Planning Commission sent the proposed zoning amendment to CUPPAD for review and comment. CUPPAD correspondence was received and the township board will now consider the proposed amendment. Bunce made a motion to approve the new language amendment to the zoning ordinance, motion seconded by Case. Roll Call Vote, Bunce Aye, Grout Aye, Case Aye, Strand Aye, Braun Aye. MCU . The board requested a more concrete plan for the entirety of Tourist Cabin (Vacation Rental) land use in all zones from the Planning Commission before any further action is taken. Case made a motion for the Planning Commission to moratorium any new applications for six months with the exception of the Maki application until the proposed amendments are adopted by the board, motion seconded by Bunce. MCU

**CORRESPONDENCE: 1.)**

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS: 1.) Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Statement**

2.) CUPPAD - Case made a motion to adopt new 2022 mitigation plan, motion seconded by Bunce. Roll Call Vote, Braun Aye, Case Aye, Strand Aye, Grout Aye, Bunce Aye.

3.) MQT RESA TAX tabled until questions from the board are answered by MQT RESA.

**NEW BUSINESS: 1.)** Case requested the Planning Commission's consideration of removing Tourist Cabin / Vacation Rental from conditional use in zone RP10 which is primarily farms, forest lands, and rural homesteads. Case found further suggestions from township attorneys, the Michigan Municipal League, and MTA, regarding capping conditional use permits for Tourist Cabin / Vacation Rental. The suggestion is, instead of capping the number of rentals, to identify which zones to keep these conditional uses available and which to not. All current Vacation Rentals are located in RR1 and RR5 districts which are on paved roads, close to town, on the main roads keeping extra traffic from rentals close to the Village of Chatham, local businesses and the snowmobile trail. RP-10 currently does not have any conditional uses for Tourist Cabin / Vacation Rental and Case stated that keeping RP10 consistent will ensure the preservation of the rural nature of at least some of our Township. Case makes a motion to amend the zoning ordinance to remove Tourist Cabin / Vacation Rental from conditional use in zone RP10, motion seconded by Bunce. Braun Aye, Case Aye, Strand Aye, Grout Aye, Bunce Aye. This amendment will be discussed by the Planning Commission at the next meeting January 9th, then brought back to the board with their recommendation.

2.) ALTRAN - Had overpaid the township for the last 3 years of 2019, 2020, 2021 and requires reimbursement in the amount of \$391.64 from the township for the overpayments.

3.) EGLE will be supplying electronic recycling located at the South Farm. Further Details TBD.

**OTHER BOARD BUSINESS OR PUBLIC COMMENT:** Public comment heard.

Motion by Bunce to adjourn meeting, seconded by Case. MCU Meeting adjourned at 8:49.

*Maria Strand, Clerk*

*Teresa Grout, Supervisor*

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**NEXT REGULAR BOARD MEETING, JANUARY 17TH, 2022 AT 7PM AT THE TWP. HALL**