

PUBLIC HEARING
KEWEENAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
December 19, 2018

A public hearing was held on December 19, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. at the Courthouse in Eagle River, MI to receive public comment regarding the 2019-2023 Keweenaw County Five Year Recreation Plan and began with the pledge of allegiance.

Commissioners present: Sandy Gayk, Don Piche, Jim Vivian, Del Rajala Absent: Bob DeMarois

There were a few public comments:

- Glad to see support of non-motorized and motorized trails are a part of the plan
- Impressed with the amount of work put into the plan and glad to see the variety in the plan
- Keweenaw County had the highest amount of responses (over 700) to the recreation survey
- There were a couple of errors, change GMO to TRG and under the County recreation goals, add purchasing permanent easements for trails
- Thanks to Ann Gasperich for her help with the plan

Motion by Gayk to close the public hearing at 6:08 p.m.

PUBLIC HEARING
KEWEENAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
December 19, 2018

The Public Hearing was held for the 2019 budgets at 6:15 p.m. at the Courthouse in Eagle River, MI.

Commissioners present: Bob DeMarois, Sandy Gayk, Don Piche, Jim Vivian, Del Rajala.

The Keweenaw County Board of Commissioners held a public hearing for comments on the 2019 County budgets including the General Fund and all Special Funds. There was no public comment.

Motion by Rajala to close the public hearing at 6:17 p.m.

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
KEWEENAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
December 19, 2018

The regular monthly meeting of the Keweenaw County Board of Commissioners was held on December 19, 2018, 6:30 p.m. at the Courthouse, Eagle River, MI following two public hearings.

Commissioners present: Bob DeMarois, Sandy Gayk, Jim Vivian, Del Rajala, Don Piche.

Motion by Gayk supported by Vivian and unanimously carried to approve the agenda with the following corrections: Under New Business, item r. reads Drug Testing Policy for County Employees, it should read Drug Policy; and Under New Business, item a. Move this item up once Doctor Gilbert enters the meeting.

Motion by DeMarois supported by Gayk and unanimously carried to approve the minutes from the November 13, 2018 regular monthly meeting and the November 28, 2018 budget meeting as written.

The Treasurer, Sheriff, and Mine Inspector reports were received.

Time was allowed for public comment.

Motion by DeMarois supported by Vivian to pay the approved and audited bills in the following amounts: General Fund=\$194,189.37 Construction Codes=\$4,485.27 911 Fund=\$34,128.44 Houghton County Medical Care Facility Fund=\$1,551.24 Veterans Affairs=\$299.90 K-9 Fund=\$4,439.76 Law Library=\$203.10 Keweenaw Mountain Lodge=\$1,657.11 Board polled. Ayes: DeMarois, Gayk, Vivian, Piche. Abstain: Rajala. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Steve Fitzgerald from Shorewaves was present to talk about the lease for tower space between Keweenaw County and Shorewaves. After much discussion, Shorewaves is to email their revised lease to the county attorney and the attorney will distribute it for the commissioners to review before the next meeting.

Motion by Rajala supported by Vivian and unanimously carried to pass the resolution adopting the Keweenaw County Five-Year Recreation Plan 2019-2023 with the addition of the following: The Keweenaw County Board of Commissioners supports the land swap between TRG (formally known as GMO) and the State of Michigan which would help with trail connectivity. The plan was developed as a guideline for improving recreation and enhancing natural resource conservation. **(#18-8)**

Motion by Gayk supported by Vivian and unanimously carried to allow WUPPDR to apply for Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) funding to update the Keweenaw County Hazard Mitigation Plan beginning in late 2018 or early 2019. The funding source, the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program, requires a nonfederal local share of at least 25 percent of the total project budget. Keweenaw County will benefit significantly from this project through a plan of action to mitigate future hazards and disasters, as well as through establishment of eligibility for future FEMA pre or post disaster funding, the County board will commit to a local share not to exceed \$3,000 which will be provided through in-kind services (facilitated and documented with assistance from the County Emergency Manager).

Motion by Rajala supported by DeMarois and unanimously carried to approve the 2019 Survey and Remonumentation grant application. Joe Foster was present at the meeting to answer any questions about the survey grant.

Motion by Gayk supported by Rajala and unanimously carried to approve the following reappointments/appointments/thanks for years of service:

PLANNING COMMISSION

Reappoint Steve Siira-term ending 12/31/2021

Appoint Jim LaMotte-term ending 12/31/2021

Thank Richard Schaefer for his years of service on the Planning Commission

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

Appoint Marty Faassen-term ending 12/31/2022

Appoint Kelly Treganowan-term ending 12/31/2022

Appoint Alternate-John Wilhelm-term ending 12/31/2022

Thank Frank Kastelic for his years of service on the Zoning Board of Appeals

EDC

Reappoint Kass Simila-term ending 12/31/2021

Reappoint Joe Miller-term ending 12/31/2021

Reappoint Matt Kero-term ending 12/31/2021

BROWNFIELD

Reappoint Steve Karpiak-term ending 12/31/2021

Reappoint Erica Vye-term ending 12/31/2021

VETERANS AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Reappoint Joe Finch-term ending 12/31/2021

JURY COMMISSION-SEE LETTER FROM JUDGE GOODMAN

Reappoint Barb Foley (D)-term ending 4/30/2024

Appoint Ron Lahti (D)-term ending 4/30/2022 (Partial term vacated by Judy Rota)

U.P. FAIR AUTHORITY

Reappoint Joe Langdon-term ending 12/31/2020

Thanks to Hon. Jim Jaaskelainen for his 41 years of service as Probate Judge

Motion by Rajala supported by DeMarois and unanimously carried to approve the union agreement with the Keweenaw County Deputy Sheriff's Association represented by POAM for a 3- year contract at 3% increase per year from December 1, 2018 through November 30, 2021. The part time road deputy wage will be raised to \$19 per hour to be in line with other area police agencies. Also included in this motion was to allow Piche to sign the union contract with the Keweenaw County Courthouse Employees' Chapter of Local #226, Michigan Council #25, AFSCME, AFL-CIO with a \$1,500 raise and then 2% per year for 2019 and 2020.

Motion by Rajala supported by DeMarois and unanimously carried to adopt the following budgets for 2019: General Fund, Friend of the Court, Courthouse Improvements, Building Codes, Register of Deeds Automation, 911 Fund, Concealed Pistol Licensing, Sheriffs Training, Drug Law Enforcement, Law Library, Revenue Sharing, Medical Care Facility, Probate Child Care and Juvenile Fund, Veterans Affairs.

Ann Gasperich went over the budget amendments that were made prior to the December meeting and there were no amendments needed for this meeting if the Board agrees with the next item on the agenda.

Motion by DeMarois supported by Rajala and unanimously carried to authorize the County Clerk (as the County's Chief Financial Officer) to make budget transfers between accounts and between activities without increasing the total board authorized fund expenditures. The allowed transfers must be subsequently submitted to the County Board for approval. This is in accordance with the State's Uniform Budgeting Act.

Motion by Rajala supported by Vivian and unanimously carried to remove the remaining Keweenaw Mountain Lodge bank balance to the General Fund in the amount of \$108,488.91.

Motion by Gayk supported by Rajala and unanimously carried to appropriate General Fund money into the Keweenaw Mountain Lodge for the unpaid balance of the loan for 2018 in the amount of \$35,511.09.

Motion by Rajala supported by Gayk and unanimously carried to close all the Keweenaw Mountain Lodge bank accounts.

Motion by DeMarois supported by Rajala and unanimously carried to adopt the following resolution opting out of PA 152:

WHEREAS, on September 27, 2011, P.A. 152 of 2011, an act to limit a public employer's expenditures for employee medical benefits plans, became immediately effective; and
WHEREAS, the County Board of Commissioners have reviewed the requirements of that Act; and
WHEREAS, in keeping with the County's established, long-range budgeting practices that actively balance the interests of taxpayers and County employees, and in keeping with the long-established practice of Keweenaw County employees working with the County to defray escalating costs associated with employees' medical benefit plans and having made wage and salary concessions; and
WHEREAS, Section 8 of Act 152 authorizes a local unit of government, defined to include a county government, upon a 2/3 vote of the governing body, to exempt itself from the requirements of the Act for the next succeeding year; and
WHEREAS, by exempting itself under Section 8 of Act 152 for calendar year 2019, Keweenaw County is allowed prudent time to continue making changes over time that yield significant reductions in health care costs in a manner that is fair to both taxpayers and employees; and
WHEREAS, exempting Keweenaw County from Act 152 for calendar year 2019 is equitable considering that Keweenaw County's employees have already demonstrated by their actions a continuing willingness to fairly share in the burden of meeting the significant economic challenges associated with Michigan's long recession; and
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that acting pursuant to the authority granted a county under Section 8 of Act 152, the Keweenaw County Board of Commissioners hereby exempts Keweenaw County government from the requirements of P.A. 152 of 2011 for calendar year 2019. **(#18-9)**

Motion by Rajala supported by Gayk and unanimously carried to approve the OPUS Webpage contract for a new webpage for the County as written in the amount of \$5,000 plus \$100 per month for maintenance.

Motion by Rajala supported by DeMarois and unanimously carried to set the mileage rate for 2019 at \$.58 per mile.

Motion by Gayk supported by Rajala and unanimously carried to set the following fingerprinting fees for 2019: \$48.50 for County residents and \$53.50 for non-residents.

Vivian brought up that there needs to be some long-term plans for the grounds which could include things like an elevator, storage/garage, tower and perhaps an addition for more office space if an elevator does get put in. Piche read off a list of projects that have been completed since 2012. Vivian also mentioned that we should have at least two firms presenting options for projects. Gayk mentioned that having a long-term relationship with an engineering firm is important. It was brought up that there is a Capital Improvement Plan that should be updated in January.

Motion by Gayk supported by DeMarois and unanimously carried to have a committee of DeMarois and Rajala meet to investigate what a zero-tolerance policy might look like for county employees. This will be put on the January agenda.

Motion by Rajala supported by Gayk and unanimously carried to approve the Delta Dental Plan contract for 2019.

Doctor Gilbert will be invited to the January meeting. This is resolution **#18-7**.

Public comment was allowed.

There being no further business, motion by Rajala to adjourn at 8:10 p.m. Meeting adjourned.

Donald Piche, Chairman

Julie A. Carlson, Clerk