LELAND TOWNSHIP BOARD/ SEWER BUDGET WORKSHOP  
Tuesday, February 11, 2020 – 10:00 a.m.  
Leland Township Office  
123 N. St. Joseph St., Lake Leelanau

MINUTES

PRESENT: Supervisor Susan Och, Clerk Lisa Brookfield, Treasurer Shirley Garthe  
ABSENT: Trustee Michael Collins, Trustee Tony Borden  
GUESTS: Richard Roberts, Jim Redmond, Steve Patmore, Steve Mikowski  
CALL TO ORDER: Ms. Och called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

DISCUSSION

Operating Budget – Steve Patmore  
There is not much change from last year; anticipated revenues are about the same. Wages will be about the same. Mr. Patmore explained each line item. There was discussion about the maintenance expense of $10,000. It was decided to drop it to $9,000. 10% of the budget is for electricity. There was discussion about installing solar panels. Solar panels were investigated previously, and the benefits didn’t justify the effort and expense. There are some other ways to reduce energy expenses. Communication expenses (currently phones are used) could be reduced by going to radios.

Mr. Roberts commented on his confidence in IAI in keeping up with improvement and new technology.

Sewer Improvement Fund – Steve Patmore  
There is still about $40,000 worth of work/projects to do in this year’s budget. Mr. Patmore explained those projects.

Ms. Och asked about a rate study. Mr. Redmond is anticipating doing that in the next year.

There was discussion about security of the facilities. Mr. Mikowski suggested that a fence should be installed around the sewer plant. It should be paid for by the Parks and Rec Commission if they intend to develop the Provemont Pond area. An alarm may be needed in the sewer plant. There is a concern about the ferric chloride tank. That is a high risk item. There are two valves to open it. It is constructed with plastic pipe. Hunters use the Provemont Pond area.

The improvement plan reflects things that will need attention and what was addressed in the IAI report.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Steve Mikowski: Mr. Mikowski asked why the biosolid removal is in the improvement budget instead of the operations budget. He also asked why an item might be in a budget if it is not going to be done in the budget’s fiscal year. He is concerned that it might affect figures when doing a rate study. He would like to see explanations footnoted in the budget.

The budget will be finalized at the Annual Meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:10 a.m.
Respectfully submitted,

Cindy Kacin, Recording Secretary                      Date Approved: ____________________

__________________________  __________________________
Susan Och, Leland Township Supervisor   Lisa Brookfield, Township Clerk