

PUBLIC HEARING  
KEWEENAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
DECMEBER 15, 2021

The Public Hearing was held for the 2022 budgets at 6:15 p.m. at the Courthouse in Eagle River, MI. Zoom was available due to Covid 19.

Commissioners present: Bob DeMarois, Randy Eckloff, Del Rajala, Don Piche, Jim Vivian.

The Keweenaw County Board of Commissioners held a public hearing for comments on the 2022 County budgets including the General Fund and all Special Funds. There was no public comment.

Motion by Rajala to close the public hearing at 6:19 p.m.

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS  
KEWEENAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
REGULAR MEETING  
DECEMBER 15, 2021

The regular meeting of the Keweenaw County Board of Commissioners held on December 15, 2021, at 6:30 p.m., at the Courthouse in Eagle River, MI opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

The meeting was posted on the door of the Courthouse and on the Website.

Commissioner's present: Bob DeMarois, Randy Eckloff, Jim Vivian, Del Rajala, Don Piche.

Motion by Rajala supported by DeMarois and unanimously carried to adopt the agenda with the following changes: add Joe Foster-Crampton Surveying under Guests and for bills under General Fund, add \$425.00 to make \$157,206.62.

Motion by DeMarois supported by Eckloff and unanimously carried to approve the November 10, 2021, regular monthly meeting minutes, the December 3, 2021 budget meeting minutes and the December 6, 2021 special meeting minutes as written.

The following reports were available: Sheriff, Treasurer and Mine Inspector.

Jerry Wuorenmaa, Executive Director of WUPPDR was at the meeting to inform the Board about what WUPPDR is currently working on. Often, members of the Board and the public wonder what WUPPDR does for Keweenaw County. Mr. Wuorenmaa was very informative.

Barry Koljonen from the Keweenaw County Veterans Affairs committee was present to tell the Board about what the VSO is doing and what is happening for county veterans. This past summer, the Honor Roll in Ahmeek was remodeled and they plan to have an open house for that pending how Covid is.

Joe Foster from Crampton Surveying was present to tell the Board that he has completed the grant application for 2022 for the Survey and Remonumentation Program. The 2022 amount is \$35,388. About 40% of the county has been completed but that only includes the mainland, not Isle Royale.

Time was allowed for public comment.

Motion by DeMarois supported by Rajala to pay the approved and audited bills in the following amounts: General Fund=\$157,206.62, Construction Codes Fund=\$1,067.74 911 Fund=\$840.79, Houghton County MCF Fund=\$1,292.70, Veterans Affairs=\$903.15. Board polled. Ayes: DeMarois, Eckloff, Vivian, Rajala, Piche. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

Motion by Eckloff supported by Vivian and unanimously carried to adopt the following budgets for 2022: General Fund, Friend of the Court, Courthouse Improvements, Building Codes, Register of Deeds Automation, Indigent Defense Fund, 911 Fund, Concealed Pistol Licensing, Sheriffs Training, Medical Care Facility, Probate Child Care and Juvenile Fund, Veterans Affairs/Veterans Affairs Grant Fund, Kermit's Youth Fund, and the ARPA Fund.

Motion by Rajala supported by Vivian and unanimously carried to approve the following budget amendments for year end 2021

**Amendments by Board of Commissioners for 2021 , Year End**

BOC meeting of 12/15/21

<b>Revenue Amendments</b>			<b><u>General Fund</u></b>	
<b>From</b>	<b>To</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Account</b>	<b>Description</b>
960,000	943,000	<b>-17,000</b>	403	error in budgeting Co Op revenues
20,000	26,000	<b>6,000</b>	613	ROD Services
15,000	27,000	<b>12,000</b>	614	Land Transfer Tax
4,500	13,750	<b>9,250</b>	627	Equalization Services
0	10,650	<b>10,650</b>	673	Sale of old Sheriff Boat
0	225,100	<b>225,100</b>	673	Sale of MHG parcels
0	24,000	<b>24,000</b>	687	Multi year MCWCF Dividend
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>270,000</b>		

<b>Expense Amendments</b>			<b><u>General Fund</u></b>	
<b>From</b>	<b>To</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Account</b>	<b>Description</b>
			101-	
6,000	11,250	<b>5,250</b>	802	2020 Membership dues paid in 2021
1,000	2,000	<b>1,000</b>	215-727	Clerk Office Supplies
0	1,100	<b>1,100</b>	215-808	Quickbook expenses
900	1,200	<b>300</b>	245-755	Remonumentation Expenses
200	1,000	<b>800</b>	257-727	Toner and envelopes , less than 1/yr exp
1,500	2,500	<b>1,000</b>	286-808	Main Printer repairs
0	1,000	<b>1,000</b>	290-755	COVID Grant Expenses
9,000	10,200	<b>1,200</b>	290-850	Telephone bill increased
30,000	40,000	<b>10,000</b>	301-705	Sheriff P/T wages
73,004	77,300	<b>4,296</b>	301-718	Sheriff Dept MERS
27,402	29,905	<b>2,503</b>	333-704	Secondary Road Patrol wages
12,000	13,500	<b>1,500</b>	334-705	ORV Enforcment wages
1,000	1,350	<b>350</b>	335-704	K9 wages
1,000	3,000	<b>2,000</b>	335-935	K9 vehicle repair & Maint.
1,200	2,200	<b>1,000</b>	336-934	Offroad Rescue Equip repair & Maint
25,000	2,000	<b>-23,000</b>	611-808	Sewage Lagoon expected repairs not realized
2,500	24,000	<b>21,500</b>	727-808	MHG expenses from sale of property
1,600	2,400	<b>800</b>	756-974	Gratiot River Park maint.
28,000	30,700	<b>2,700</b>	851-913	Prop & Liability additions to coverage
0	12,000	<b>12,000</b>	328-977	new car radios , Stonegarden
5,000	500	<b>-4,500</b>	648-836	Autopsy fees
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>42,799</b>		

<b>Revenue Amendments</b>			<b><u>All Other Funds</u></b>	
<b>From</b>	<b>To</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Account</b>	<b>Description</b>
600	200	<b>-400</b>	215-519	ADC Incentive payments to FOC Fund
74,900	71,100	<b>-3,800</b>	248-402	Winter Tax revenues , moved to delinquent
64,000	100,000	<b>36,000</b>	249-480	Building Code permits
120	80	<b>-40</b>	264-607	Jail booking fees
5,400	4,000	<b>-1,400</b>	291-664	Interest earned on CDs , MCF
15,000	12,000	<b>-3,000</b>	292-565	Basic Grant for Kermits
0	38,701	<b>38,701</b>	295-568	2021 Vets CVSF Grant , used portion
2,000	790	<b>-1,210</b>	295-412	Delq tax receipts
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>64,851</b>		

<b>Expense Amendments</b>		<b><u>All Other Funds</u></b>		
<b>From</b>	<b>To</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Account</b>	<b>Description</b>
0	830	<b>830</b>	248-932	Blinds for courthouse from CHI Fund
35,000	50,000	<b>15,000</b>	249-704	Code Inspector wages
40,000	66,000	<b>26,000</b>	261-977	additional radio purchase , E911
300	0	<b>-300</b>	264-957	Sheriff training
20,000	12,000	<b>-8,000</b>	291-808	MCF patient expenses
15,000	12,000	<b>-3,000</b>	292-700	Basic Grant expenses
0	26,400	<b>26,400</b>	295-808	Veterans contract projects , CVSF Grant
0	2,000	<b>2,000</b>	296-978	Purchase of new Kermits bus
		<b>0</b>		
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>58,930</b>		

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 2022, 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 2022 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 2022. **(#21-7)**

Motion by DeMarois supported by Eckloff and unanimously carried to approve the following reappointments/appointments:

- PLANNING COMMISSION
- JIM LAMOTTE            12/31/2024
- STEVE SIIRA            12/31/2024
- NANCY DEFORGE       12/31/2024
  
- BROWNFIELD
- ERIKA VYE              12/31/2024
  
- VETERANS AFFAIRS
- WILLIAM HANNON      12/31/2024
  
- EDC
- KASS SIMILA            12/31/2024
- JOE MILLER            12/31/2024
- MATT KERO             12/31/2024

Motion by Eckloff supported by DeMarois and unanimously carried to appoint Dan Yoder to the Planning Commission and remove him from the Zoning Board of Appeals term ending 12/31/2024.

Motion by Rajala supported by Eckloff and unanimously carried to allow the Zoning Administrator to attend the Zoning Administrator Certificate Program on February 8-9, 2022.

Motion by Rajala supported by Eckloff 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 Eckloff supported by Vivian and unanimously carried to approve AFSCME union agreement with the following terms: 4% increase in wage, one more added day of personal leave and add New Year’s Eve to the holiday schedule.

Motion by Eckloff supported by DeMarois and unanimously carried to approve the 2022 Survey and Remonumentation grant application to the State.

Motion by DeMarois supported by Vivian and unanimously carried to approve the postcard with information about zoning that will go out to each landowner in the county. The Planning Commission had previously approved the postcard.

Motion by Eckloff supported by Vivian and unanimously carried to approve the proposal from Traverse Engineering Services PC to provide engineering services associated with the preparation of plans for the construction of a storage garage for the sheriff department in the amount not to exceed \$16,250.

Motion by DeMarois supported by Vivian and unanimously carried to approve excavation/borings for the sheriff's garage.

Motion by DeMarois supported by Eckloff to appropriate \$500 for the Copper Harbor Christmas lights. Nays: Rajala. Motion carried.

Motion by Rajala supported by DeMarois and unanimously carried to approve a subordination agreement for the homeowner at Lot 24 & 25, Block C in the Village of Ahmeek.

Time was allowed for public comment.

There being no further business, motion by Rajala to adjourn at 7:12 P.M. Meeting adjourned.

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Donald Piche, Chairman

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Julie A. Carlson, County Clerk