

PUBLIC HEARING
KEWEENAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
DECMEBER 21, 2022

The Public Hearing was held for the 2023 budgets at 6:00 p.m. at the Courthouse in Eagle River, MI. Zoom was available.

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

The Keweenaw County Board of Commissioners held a public hearing for comments on the 2023 County budgets including the General Fund and all Special Funds. There was no public comment.

Motion by DeMarois to close the public hearing at 6:13 p.m.

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
KEWEENAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
DECEMBER 21, 2022

The regular meeting of the Keweenaw County Board of Commissioners held on December 21, 2022, 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 DeMarois supported by Eckloff and unanimously carried to adopt the agenda with the following changes: under New Business add item i.) Allouez Township request for funding to snowplow at rescue garage in Mohawk.

Motion by Vivian supported by Rajala and unanimously carried to approve the November 9, 2022, regular monthly meeting minutes, the December 2, 2022, special meeting minutes and the December 7, 2022, budget meeting minutes as written.

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

Steven Hiiter was a guest at the Board meeting. Mr. Hiiter is the Chief Medical Examiner Investigator for the Michigan Institute of Forensic Science & Medicine (MIFSM). MIFSM is interested in expanding its services and has three other U.P. counties on board. They plan to have an office opening in Marquette in 2023. MIFSM works with local investigators in the county and MIFSM would take care of all medical examiner situations for approximately \$16,000 per year for three years. This price would include everything. It was suggested that Mr. Hiiter contact Dr. McAllister who is our current chief medical examiner.

Time was allowed for public comment.

Motion by DeMarois supported by Eckloff to pay the approved and audited bills in the following amounts: General Fund=\$204,698.51, Construction Codes Fund=\$4,998.49 911 Fund=\$9,198.27, Houghton County MCF Fund=\$1,009.14, Veterans Affairs=\$2,565.97 ARPA Fund=\$159.01 Courthouse Improvement Fund=\$690.60. The bill from the General Fund for Matt's Auto Glass is tentatively approved until we find out why our insurance is not paying for damages to the police vehicle. Board polled. Ayes: DeMarois, Eckloff, Vivian, Piche. Nays: None. Abstain: Rajala. Motion carried.

Motion by Rajala supported by Eckloff and unanimously carried to table the appointment to the DHHS Board until January.

Motion by Rajala supported by Eckloff and unanimously carried to table the Pasty.net upgrade until January.

Motion by Rajala supported by DeMarois and unanimously carried to adopt the following budgets for 2023: General Fund, Friend of the Court, Courthouse Improvements, Building Codes, Register of Deeds Automation, Indigent Defense Fund, 911 Fund, Concealed Pistol Licensing, Sheriffs Training, Drug Law Enforcement Fund, Medical Care Facility, Probate Child Care and Juvenile Fund, Veterans Affairs/Veterans Affairs Grant Fund, Kermit's Youth Fund, FRF Fund, and the ARPA Fund.

Motion by DeMarois supported by Rajala and unanimously carried to approve the following budget amendments for year end 2022:

Amendments by Board of Commissioners for December

<i>Revenue Amendments</i>			<u><i>General Fund</i></u>	
<i>From</i>	<i>To</i>	<i>Change</i>	<i>Account</i>	<i>Description</i>
123,000	174,000	51,000	614	Land Transfer Tax
TOTAL		51,000		

<i>Expense Amendments</i>			<u><i>General Fund</i></u>	
<i>From</i>	<i>To</i>	<i>Change</i>	<i>Account</i>	<i>Description</i>
			101-	
4,494	4,587	93	724-808	WUPPDR Contract, 2023 rate begins 10/1/22
8,200	11,800	3,600	332-205	Snowmobile Wages-Busy Spring-Room for Dec
19,000	22,000	3,000	301-742	Sheriff Gas-Gas is High, Prisoner and Training
3,700	5,750	2,050	333-716	Secondary Road, Different Employee Reporting
27,402	29,000	1,598	333-704	Secondary Road, Different Employee- OTaccrued
28,000	44,000	16,000	290-808	Integris, New PCs and work
9,000	11,000	2,000	290-850	Verizon Uncertainty (at budget thru Nov)
2,800	6,000	3,200	334-935	ORV Repairs and Outfitting
0	1,800	1,800	336-745	New Rescue Uniforms (Donation Offset)
1,200	5,200	4,000	336-934	Equipment and Batteries(Donation Offset)
1,000	8,500	7,500	351-704	Jail Guard Expenses
103,157	104,157	1,000	301-715	MERS/FICA for Hazard Pay
296,623	299,723	3,100	301-705	Full Time Deputy Hazard Pay
TOTAL		48,941		

<i>Revenue Amendments</i>			<u><i>All Other Funds</i></u>	
<i>From</i>	<i>To</i>	<i>Change</i>	<i>Account</i>	<i>Description</i>
34,000	24,000	-10,000	249-480	Building Permit Revenue
32,000	19,000	-13,000	249-486	Electrical Permit Revenue
20,000	15,000	-5,000	249-487	Mechanical Permit Revenue
13,000	8,000	-5,000	249-488	Plumbing Permit Revenue
5,000	4,300	-700	256-613	Register of Deeds Services Revenue
2,100	1,500	-600	263-612	Clerk Services-CCW Fund
90	80	-10	364-607	Jail Booking Fees-Sheriff Training Fund
TOTAL		-34,310		

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 2023, 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 2023 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 2023. **(#22-5)**

Motion by Rajala supported by Eckloff and unanimously carried to authorize the County Treasurer to make budget transfers between accounts and between activities without increasing the total board authorized fund expenditures. This is in accordance with the State’s Uniform Budgeting Act.

Motion by DeMarois supported by Eckloff and unanimously carried to approve the correction of the name on Lot 16, Block 7 of Copper Harbor from Keweenaw County to the Keweenaw County Road Commission. The correction stems from records from October 13, 1933 at the Road Commission where a list of bills and a voucher for \$100 show up. The lot also appears in the Road Commission Real Estate Ledger. The lot was purchased from the Lyon Estate by the Road Commission just in case a garage needed to be built at some point.

Motion by Rajala supported by Eckloff and unanimously carried to approve the 2023 Survey and Remonumentation grant application to the State.

Motion by Eckloff supported by DeMarois and unanimously carried to approve the Letter of Agreement with AFSCME stating that effective January 1, 2023, the employer and Union extend the current contract for one more year, expiring December 31, 2023.

Motion by Eckloff supported by Rajala and unanimously carried to approve the following reappointment:

VETERANS AFFAIRS

BARRY KOLJONEN 12/31/2026

Motion by Rajala supported by DeMarois and unanimously carried to pay Allouez Township \$250 per month for plowing the rescue garage in Mohawk. This includes moving vehicles or trailers that are outside so that everything is always accessible. Funds are to be taken from the General Fund.

Time was allowed for public comment.

There being no further business, motion by Rajala to adjourn at 7:06 p.m. Meeting adjourned.

Donald Piche, Chairman

Julie A. Carlson, County Clerk