STAMBAUGH TOWNSHIP—Discussion on the Chicaugon Lake usage fee continued at the Stambaugh Township meeting on July 9.

In order to assist with treating the severe milfoil in the lake, the township recently passed Ordinance No. 29, which requires the purchase of a permit sticker before putting a watercraft into the lake.

Not purchasing the permit and putting a watercraft into the lake in Stambaugh Township is a violation of the ordinance and subject to fines, as is any other ordinance violation.

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This was explained and clarified at the meeting since, according to several sources, Pentoga Park Manager Pat Hingas is telling people that they do not need to purchase the permits.

“That is a big problem.” Stambaugh Township Supervisor Eugene Pellizzaro said. “It is a township ordinance and is enforceable.”

Pellizzaro added that state legislation is in the works that would help all Michigan lakes with any necessary invasive species control.

“Having the state regulate it would be a big help,” Trustee Kevin Isaacson told the public.

Chicaugon Lake was recently treated for Eurasian milfoil, costing the Home Owners Association $17,000. This included DNR permits for treatment and buoy placement to protect the treated area.

Pellizzaro clarified that no legal fees were being paid and that not one dime of township money was being used towards the treatment.

The next step will be to survey the area and see how successful the treatment was. About $12,000 worth of treatment is planned for next summer, with $8,832 already collected this year.

Area residents Mike Borske and Don Sheldon brought to the board their concerns over the permit ordinance, noting that the area will lose a lot of fishermen.

Borske also wondered why the DNR was not working with the township on treating the lake, noting that if the fee was charged by them, it might not be such a big issue.

Isaacson explained that the DNR doesn’t have the money or the resources to help with all 25-30 invasive species throughout the many Michigan lakes.

He added that DNR projects also require a plan that could take up to two years.

“We asked the DNR for help. We were shot down. We asked the county for help. Shot down. We’re just trying to help out,” Isaacson said.

“It’s not our intent to punish the fishermen.”

Maps of the Chicaugon Lake milfoil infestation are available at the Township Hall.

Pellizzaro told the public that the DNR will be invited to the August meeting.

Water supervisor Gary Pangrazzi reported on the township’s water system.

The M-73 water line replacement has been completed, and he brought to the board an option for a one- to two-week project on Division Street.

He said the section of line is a constant source of problems concentrated in one area of two-inch line, with issues two or three times a year.

The area covers seven water customers.

Pangrazzi requested replacing 500 feet of the line with new six-inch line, which he has on

hand. He was advised to get prices for the project.

Pellizzaro gave an update on the Windsor Center, stating that there were no major problems. Schematic designs for updates to the building making it a multi-purpose building with indoor tennis and bocce, among other things, was put out on bids.

U.P. Engineers got the low bid at $6,350, which is being paid for by the Economic Development Corporation.

Pellizzaro also reported that the Windsor Center had been broken into three times during the last month, with the intruders making off with four cases of Sprite.

The mysterious disappearance of road name signs in the Hagerman Lake area is an issue again this summer.

Signage for North Hagerman Lake Road, the intersection of West Hagerman and West Brule, East Hagerman and West Hagerman as well as Golden Lake Trail and Anderson Pit Road have all gone missing.

Any other missing road name signs should be brought to the attention of the board.

A candidate for Iron County treasurer, Punner Franzene, was at the meeting to ask for the public's support. Franzene said that she is a lifelong resident of the area, having been the Bates Township treasurer for five terms, nearly 20 years and if elected she ensured a smooth transition.

The next regular meeting of the township board will be Wednesday, Aug. 1, at 7 p.m. with a wellhead ordinance public hearing to be held at 6:30.