

WAKEFIELD TOWNSHIP BOARD

REGULAR MEETING

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2016 5:30 P.M.

Supervisor Cox called the regular Wakefield Township Board meeting to order and led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

ROLL CALL: PRESENT: John Cox, Supervisor; Mandy Lake, Clerk; Joan Dalman, Treasurer; Trustees Delmar Smith and James Spencer; Elaine Smith, Deputy Clerk; three township residents; Bob Blaskowski of the Wakefield City Council; Scott Erickson and Paul Anderson, Ironwood, of the Western Gateway Trail Group.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: A MOTION was made by Smith, supported by Spencer, to approve the Agenda as presented with one (1) addition under Correspondence and one (10 addition under Reports. Motion Carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: A MOTION was made by Spencer, supported by Smith, to approve the minutes of the regular Wakefield Township Board meeting of January 5, 2016 and the Special Wakefield Township Board Goals and Budget Workshop meeting of January 19, 2016 as presented. Motion Carried.

BRIEF PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS: None.

APPROVAL OF BILLS: A MOTION was made by Dalman, supported by Smith, to approve the bills and payroll as presented for payment. A ROLL CALL vote showed all members present voting: YES. Motion Carried.

REPORTS AND APPEARENCES

1. TRAILS: Scott Erickson & Paul Anderson – Western Gateway Trail Group: An update was given on the walking/biking trail from Ironwood to Bessemer. Various groups have been working together for about 10 years on this Regional trail concept – motorized and non-motorized trails. Various ways of funding maintenance and liability insurance for these trails, beside various grant monies, are sponsorship of trail markers, marathons, Western Trail Association membership fees, charges (licenses) for bicycles (ORV's and snowmobiles pay for stickers plus pay gas taxes). Liability Insurance cost is \$2,000 per year, required by the DNR lease, could be split five ways (cities/townships) for \$400 each.
2. GOGEBIC RANGE WATER AUTHORITY: Approved and authorized signatures on the GRWA/City of Bessemer water project right-of-way map certificate. Meeting room chairs were approved for purchase from Tri-State Business for \$91.95 each (the first company didn't work out). Approved the change of Attorney for the GRWA to Tim Dean of Dean & Pope Law Firm as Mr. Michael Pope has accepted the appointment as 32nd Circuit Court Judge in Gogebic and Ontonagon counties effective the end of January 2016.
3. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: GLOBE Progress Report –our township article will run in the February 23, 2016 issue. INDIANHEAD – new motorized trail passing by the ski hill has paid off tremendously with more meals served at the Lodge during the week and weekends.

4. SUPERVISOR'S REPORT: HOST MTA meeting on February 23, 2016 – Mike Zacharias of Extreme Tool will be our guest speaker. Refreshments will be served by the township board members. Federal PILT: Wakefield, Marenisco and Watersmeet Township Supervisors will meet with the Gogebic County Board Finance Committee at the end of the month about getting some of the PILT monies for each township. AMAR: attendance at the Gogebic County meeting was not good. Almost all entities in the state did not pass all of the AMAR requirements. Supervisor Cox sent a letter indicating our deadline will be done by the end of 2016-2017. Want mapping for tax parcels all done on computers. If a group purchase of computer software was done, maybe we would do it. INDIANHEAD EVACUATION PLAN: all interested parties have signed on to the completed plan.
5. TREASURER'S REPORT: General Fund #101 had a beginning balance of \$18,761.08 on January 1, 2016 with receipts of \$19,595.56 and expenses of \$6,935.83 and payroll of \$4,055.02 leaving an ending balance of \$27,365.79 on January 31, 2016. Renaissance Fund #244 had a beginning balance of \$3,444.47, with \$250 transferred from Savings to Checking, leaving an ending balance of \$3,694.47 on January 31, 2016. Balance Sheets for January were also provided. A MOTION was made by Smith, supported by Spencer, to accept the Treasurers report as presented and place it on file. Motion Carried.
6. ZONING ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT: One person doesn't like the location of the Casino right next to his house.
7. SOLID WASTE AUTHORITY: The board gave approval for Attorney Steven Tinti to pursue litigation against the city of Bessemer regarding the money owed to the Authority. Voted to repay Bessemer the approximately \$6,500 it owed the city so it wouldn't be an issue during the court trial. Replacing a damaged door on the east end of the recycling building at the transfer station. Will establish a maintenance plan for the Authority. Approved the Administrator's contract for her hours. Wakefield Township representative on the Authority Board was elected Vice Chairman. Requested a monthly report on how much profit/loss has been affected with Bessemer gone from the Authority.
8. SECTION 32 REPORT: In 2016 a bi-annual audit will be done by Kolemmainen, CPA. The loan has been paid off in full. Approved Attorney Tim Dean as the Authority's new attorney due to the recent appointment of Attorney Michael Pope as the 32nd Circuit Court Judge for Gogebic & Ontonagon Counties. Attorney Tim Deal swore in the full Section 32 Sewer Authority Board.
9. TRAILS REPORT: Trustee Spencer handed out an updated information sheet about the Iron Belle Trail. A discussion was held on the removal of several street lights on Johnson road.

CORRESPONDENCE

GOGEBIC County Board of Commissioners - minutes. GOGEBIC County Road Commission – a list of upcoming 2016 road projects was given. MTA Legislative – new election rules. AMAR-Coleman Engineering – a cost proposal is needed for the computer software for mapping tax parcels. EXCEL Energy – a hearing in Lansing on February 18, 2016 for a cost increase for natural gas.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS

1. SET A PUBLIC HEARING FOR 2016-2017 Budget (next meeting) March 1, 2016 at 5:30 p.m. A MOTION was made by Smith, supported by Dalman, to approve the date of March 1, 2016 at 5:30 p.m. for the Public Hearing for the 2016-2017 Budget. Motion Carried.
2. EXTENSION OF AUDITOR'S CONTRACT to cover 2016-2017 Audit: A MOTION was made by Spencer, supported by Smith, to approve the extension of the Auditor's contract to cover the 2016-2017 audit. The contract is \$100 more than last year. A ROLL CALL vote showed all members present voting: YES. Motion Carried.
3. W-M SUMMER TAX COLLECTION Agreement: A MOTION was made by Dalman, supported by Smith, to approve and sign the W-M Summer Tax Collection Agreement by the township for \$3.80 per parcel. A ROLL CALL vote showed all members present voting: YES. Motion Carried.
4. BUDGET AMENDMENTS, IF NECESSARY: None.
5. APPOINT TIM DEAN as legal counsel. A MOTION was made by Smith, supported by Dalman, to appoint Attorney Timothy Dean as legal Counsel for Wakefield Township. Motion Carried.

EXTENDED PUBLIC COMMENT: A township resident reported on a group of Wakefield-Marenisco High School girls (Juniors & Seniors) who are interested in helping to save our environment and keeping plastic out of the landfill by discontinuing the use of all plastic bags by all of the businesses in our community and also the surrounding areas of Gogebic County.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/ADJOURNMENT

1. NEXT REGULAR MEETING – Tuesday, March 1, 2016 at 5:30 p.m.
2. MTA MEETING – Tuesday, February 23, 2016 at 6 p.m. at Wakefield township
3. PLANNING COMMISSION will meeting third Wednesday of each quarter (March, June, September, December at 5 p.m.
4. BOARD OF REVIEW for PROTESTS – Monday, March 14 from 9-12 a.m. and 1-4 p.m.; Tuesday, March 15 from 9-12 a.m. and Wednesday, March 16 from 6-9 p.m.
5. BOARD OF REVIEW ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING – Tuesday, March 8, 2016 at 5 p.m.
6. PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY ELECTION – Tuesday, March 8, 2016 from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

With no further business to come before the board, A MOTION was made by Smith, supported by Spencer, to adjourn at 7 p.m. Motion Carried.

MANDY LAKE, CLERK OF WAKEFIELD TOWNSHIP

Typed by Elaine Smith, Deputy Clerk

WAKEFIELD TOWNSHIP ELECTION COMMISSION MEETING
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2016 following Regular Board Meeting

The Wakefield Township Election Commission meeting was called to order by Supervisor Cox who led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

ROLL CALL: PRESENT: John Cox, Supervisor; Mandy Lake, Clerk; Joan Dalman, Treasurer; Trustees Delmar Smith and James Spencer; Elaine Smith, Deputy Clerk.

APPOINT ELECTION INSPECTORS: Clerk Mandy Lake provided a list of five (5) township residents who have agreed to be Election Inspectors for the upcoming Presidential Primary Election to be held on Tuesday, March 8, 2016 with the polls to be open from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Such election will be held at the Wakefield Township Hall. Their names are as follows:

Mary Kosc	Margie LeBarr
Betty Best	Elaine Smith
Carole Lillar	

A MOTION was made by Dalman, supported by Cox, to approve the above named people to serve as Election Inspectors for the upcoming Presidential Primary Election on Tuesday, March 8, 2016. Motion Carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

ADJOURN: With no further business to come before the board, A MOTION was made by Dalman, supported by Lake, to adjourn at 7:10 p.m. Motion Carried.

MANDY LAKE, CLERK OF WAKEFIELD TOWNSHIP

Typed by Elaine Smith, Deputy Clerk