

WAKEFIELD TOWNSHIP BOARD

REGULAR MEETING

March 1, 2016

6:00 p.m.

Supervisor Cox called the regular board meeting to order after closing the Public 2016-2017 Budget Hearing at 6:00 p.m.

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: A MOTION was made by Smith, supported by Spencer, to approve the Agenda as presented. Motion Carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: A MOTION was made by Dalman, supported by Smith, to approve the minutes of the regular Township Board meeting of February 2, 2016 and also the Election Commission meeting following the regular board meeting. 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. ROLL CALL vote showed all members present voting: Yes. Motion Carried.

REPORTS AND APPEARANCES

1. GOGEBIC RANGE WATER AUTHORITY: approved payment of employee health insurance with a monthly cost increase. Authorized signatures on the Legal Services Agreement with Timothy Dean Legal Services for the GRWA/City of Bessemer Water project. Still waiting for signed easements on the Bessemer Sewer project.
2. RENAISSANCE ZONE/ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: INDIANHEAD update – a public announcement should be forthcoming soon regarding the Casino development. PROGRESS Edition – our Township article was done up nicely in the February 23, 2016 issue.
3. SUPERVISOR'S REPORT: SPRING Weight Restrictions – regular garbage pickup is OK yet for next Monday and from there on, it depends on the weather. LETTER to Residents regarding elections, spring cleanup – will go out soon. Deadline for filing petitions for township officials is April 19, 2016 to be on the August ballot cleanup is scheduled for May 13 and 14, 2016. ASPIRUS Ironwood Hospital luncheon – Supervisor Cox & Treasurer Dalman attended. Updates were given on the \$6 million dollar expansion of the hospital to be completed in November 2016. EMERGENCY Evacuation Plan for Indianhead has been completed with one signature required. BID OPENING for Spring Cleanup to done at the township hall on March 14, 2016 at 4 p.m. Arrangements have been made for the township board members to tour Extreme Tool at 4 p.m. on April 5, 2016 prior to the regular board meeting.
4. TREASURER'S REPORT: General Fund #101 had a beginning balance of \$27,367.93 on February 1, 2016, with receipts of \$77,555.71 (mostly tax dollars) and payroll of \$3,954.02 and expenses of \$6,361.98, leaving an ending balance of \$94,607.64 on February 29, 2016. Over

\$11,000 in taxes has not been collected yet. Renaissance Fund #244 had a beginning balance of \$3,694.47 with a loan payment to State of Michigan of \$750. And \$250 transferred from Savings to Checking, leaving an ending balance of \$3,194.47. Balance Sheets for February were also provided. A MOTION was made by Smith, supported by Spencer, to accept the Treasurer's report as presented and place it on file. Motion Carried.

5. ZONING ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT: None.
6. SECTION 32 REPORT: Next meeting is Wednesday, April 20, 2016 at 5 p.m.
7. TRAILS: Funding is almost done for the Western Gateway Trail section from Ironwood to Bessemer, a walking-biking trail. A portion of the regional trail, from the Montreal River to Sunday Lake in Wakefield, is owned by Ironwood Township and will be turned over to the DNR. The Road Commission will construct the trail and eventually will take over and assume liability for operation and maintenance. WUPDR will hold a youth safety course sometime in April. To raise fund, a 50-50 raffle is being considered with the possibility of a basic side-by-side as the grand prize. The multi-use trail on Korpela Rd. needs two bids for the work to be done.
8. SOLID WASTE AUTHORITY: Purchased a used garbage truck to be used as a back-up for the main truck. Appointed the law firm of O'Dea, Nordeen & Burink as the Authorities legal counsel.

#### CORRESPONDENCE

GOGEBIC County Board of Commissioners – minutes. GOGEBIC County Road Commission – 4 new trucks will be purchased. Some of the older trucks will be refurbished. The new garage is on hold for now. MTA Legislative-Governor Budget: Constitutional revenue sharing increased. Statutory revenue sharing reduced. Disabled Veterans –pepeal on reduction on taxes; possibly change to Income Tax credit instead. Commercial Forest – two bills to return land to township ownership or turn in to qualified forest instead. PIPELINE Safety meeting at Indianhead Mt. Ski High on Thursday, March 31 at 5:30 p.m. Five board members will attend. GOGEBIC County Veterans – minutes given to Trustee Spencer. MEDQ – water rule change – E-coli levels. ISO Rating---Fire Department – 6x6x (over 5 miles from hydrant -10) THANK You for sympathy card from Roger Suomi family.

UNIFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

#### NEW BUSINESS

1. APPROVAL OF 2016-2017 BUDGET: A MOTION was made by Spencer, supported by Smith, to adopt the Fiscal Year 2016-2017 Operating Budget as presented beginning April 1, 2016. A ROLL CALL vote showed all members present voting: YES. Motion Carried. All board members are to sign the appropriate paperwork.
2. FUND BALANCE COMMITMENT: The State of Michigan requirements say that we need to have 10% of the Wakefield Township General Fund in the Fund Balance to cover operating costs/specific things. Supervisor Cox recommend: \$300,000 for roads; \$100,000 for Economic Development, with the remainder of the fund balance uncommitted. A MOTION was made by Smith, supported by Dalman, to approve the above recommendations for the Fund Balance Commitment. A ROLL CALL Vote showed all members present voting: YES. Motion Carried.
3. ADOPT SAME COMPENSATION schedule as 2015-16 for 2016-2017 for appointed Boards and employees with only changes to include minimum wage. A ROLL CALL vote showed all members present voting: YES. Motion Carried.

4. BOARD MEMBER TRAVEL AND EDUCATION for 2016-2017 to local, district, and state conferences. A MOTION was made by Spencer, supported by Smith, to approve the travel and educational conference expenses for any or all board members interested in attending these events. A ROLL CALL vote showed all members present voting: YES. Motion Carried.
5. MEETING DATES: The following meeting dates for the fiscal year 2016-2017 were presented:

April 5, 2016	August 3, 2016	December 6, 2016
May 3, 2016 (Wednesday)	September 6, 2016	January 3, 2017
June 7, 2016	October 4, 2016	February 7, 2017
July 5, 2016	November 1, 2016	March 7, 2017

ALL REGULAR BOARD MEETINGS will be held on the first TUESDAY of each month at 5:30 p.m. with one exception due to an election on August 2, 2016.

BANKS OF RECORD: The following institutions were chosen as depositories of Wakefield Township funds:

First National Bank of Wakefield, MI	State Bank of Ewen, MI
Well Fargo, Ironwood, MI	Gogebic Range Bank, Bessemer, MI
First Merit Bank, Ironwood, MI	Gogebic County Federal Credit Union
River Valley Bank, Ironwood, MI	of Bessemer, MI

NEWSPAPER OF RECORD: Wakefield News/Bessemer Pick & Axe, Wakefield, Michigan with the Daily Globe, Ironwood, Michigan as back-up.

A MOTION was made by Dalman, supported by Smith. To approve the above meeting dates, Banks of Record and Newspaper of Record for the fiscal year of 2016-2017 for Wakefield Township. ROLL CALL vote showed all members present voting: YES. Motion Carried.

6. GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT: (allows the township to spend dollars in the appropriate categories of the budget, not by line item, but activity, on April 1, 2016) A MOTION was made by Dalman, supported by Spencer, to approve the General Appropriations Act for 2016-2017. A ROLL CALL vote showed all members present voting: YES. Motion Carried.
7. BUDGET AMENDMENTS FOR 2016-17 IF NECESSARY: None.
8. SALARY RESOLUTIONS FOR BOARD MEMBERS: Each board member read their own base salary resolutions to be effective April 1, 2016.  
A MOTION was made by Supervisor Cox that the salary of the office of Supervisor shall be as follows: Effective April 1, 2016, the salary of the office of Supervisor shall be \$15,815 (not directly performing assessing), but including local travel and Economic Development Administration. Trustee Smith, supported his motion. A ROLL CALL vote showed all members present voting: YES. Motion Carried.

A MOTION was made by Clerk Mandy Lake that the salary of the office of Clerk shall be as follows: Effective April 1, 2016 the salary of the office of Clerk shall be \$15,815 for duties

performed by the Clerk including local travel. \$200 for duties performed by the Clerk for a special election called by the State of Michigan and is reimbursed by the State. Treasurer Dalman supported her motion. A ROLL CALL vote showed all members present voting: YES. Motion Carried.

A MOTION was made by Treasurer Joan Dalman that the salary for the office of Treasurer be as follows: Effective April 1, 2016 the salary of the office of Treasurer shall be \$15,815 for duties performed collecting both winter and summer taxes, along with the regular duties of the Township Treasurer and local travel. Trustee Smith supported her motion. A ROLL CALL vote showed all members present voting: YES. Motion Carried.

A MOTION was made by Trustees James Spencer and Delmar Smith that the salary for the office of Trustee shall be as follows: Effective April 1, 2016 the salary for the office of Trustee shall be \$3,173 for duties performed as Trustee. Supervisor Cox supported this motion for the Trustees salary. A ROLL CAL vote showed all members present voting: YES. Motion Carried.

EXTENDED PUBLIC COMMENT: Question: How do our salaries compare with other townships? Supervisor Cox answered that statewide ours is just below 50%.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS/ADJOURNMENT

1. NEXT REGULAR MEETING: Tuesday, April 5, 2016 at 5:30 p.m.
2. BOARD OF REVIEW: Monday, March 14 from 9-12 am and 1-4 p.m. Tuesday, March 15 from 9-12 am and Wednesday, March 16 from 6-9 pm
3. SPRING CLEAN-UP DATES: Friday, May 13, 2016 (9 am until 4 pm) and Saturday, May 14 (9 am until 12 pm) at Western UP Recycling Center located on Chippewa Drive at North 5119 and Planter Rd. PLEASE BRING I.D. FOR CHECK-IN.
4. PLANNING COMMISSION will meet the third Wednesday of each quarter (March, June, September, and December at 5 p.m.

With no further business to come before the board, A MOTION was made by Smith, supported by Spencer, to adjourn at 6:50 p.m. Motion Carried.

MANDY LAKE, CLERK OF WAKEFIELD TOWNSHIP

Typed by Deputy Clerk, Elaine Smith

