

WAKEFIELD TOWNSHIP BOARD

REGULAR MEETING

TUESDAY, APRIL 5, 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; Shelley Nordine; and four township residents.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: A MOTION was made by Spencer, supported by Smith, to approve the minutes of the Wakefield Township Board Public Hearing on the 2016-2017 Budget and the regular meeting of the Wakefield Township Board following the Public Hearing on the 2016-2017 Budget of March 1, 2016 as presented. Motion Carried.

BRIEF PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS:

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 APPEARANCES

1. GOGEBIC RANGE WATER AUTHORITY: Chuck Lawson, C2AE Engineering, updated the board on the progress of the upcoming GRWA/City of Bessemer water/sewer project. Easements for the sewer portion are still being obtained. GRWA agreements have been received from Attorney Frank and are being reviewed. GRWA will be developing a procedure manual to dictate the maintenance of the GRWA facilities and log to record when work has been done using Kelly Heidbrier of C2AE to do the technical writing.
2. RENAISSANCE ZONE/ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: INDIANHEAD update - the tribe has changed to a different bank offering (2) two points lower interest. Hope to have all the paperwork done by January 2017 and then the architectural work will begin. We are working with the Gogebic County Road Commission regarding Indianhead Rd work with costs to be covered under Indian Affairs money.
3. SUPERVISOR'S REPORT: MTA Up North Summit – June 8-9 at Escanaba – two board members are interested in attending – Treasurer Dalman and Trustee Spencer. A MOTION was made by Cox, supported by Lake, to approve the payment of expenses for the two board members to attend this conference, with arrangements to be made by Clerk Mandy Lake. A ROLL CALL voted showed all members present voting: YES. Motion Carried.  
ELECTRICAL problem at township hall – nothing completed yet. FEDERAL PILT Fund - the Gogebic County Board will not share any of this money with the townships. Supervisor Cox has called the MTA for help in this matter and they will get back to us with more information. These monies can only be used for fire and roads and our township does both (our contract with

the City of Wakefield for fire protection and our share of monies for road repair to the Gogebic County Road Commission). The County Board does not provide any monies to the County Road Commission.

BOARD OF REVIEW: quiet – no problems. UPDATE WEBSITE – Tom Ruppe will do the update.

4. TREASURER'S REPORT: General Fund #101 had a beginning balance of \$94,612.43 on March 1, 2016 with receipts of \$15,755.55 (\$10,625 is from the County delinquent tax fund) and Payroll of \$4,130.43 and expenses of \$8,142.50, leaving an ending balance of \$98,095.06 on March 31, 2016. Renaissance Fund #244 had a beginning balance of \$3,694.47, with a loan payment of \$750 to the State of Michigan, and \$250 transferred from Savings to Checking, leaving an ending balance of \$3,194.47. The balance due on the no interest loan is approximately \$9,000. Balance Sheets for March 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.
5. ZONING ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT: Blight report – 5 cars in one yard – only allowed 2 licensed ones. The Blight Inspector has been notified. Another property owner is planning on expanding his logging business and is working with the Building Inspector.
6. SECTION 32 REPORT: Next meeting is April 20, 2016.
7. TRAILS REPORT: Trustee Spencer gave the board an up-date on the various trails meetings he has attended. The new DNR Trails Coordinator, Paul Yauk, said there is much work yet to be done to complete the hiking and bicycling portions of the Iron Belle Trail. The DNR has awarded funds for the Michigan Western Gateway Trail Authority to assist with easement acquisition costs for the Bessemer to Wakefield portion. The Korpela Rd to Marenisco trail is about 9 miles long and needs grading, culverts and signage and is part of the main Iron Belle Trail. There will be a charge of \$900 by MDOT for the signage and ideas for fund raisers have been discussed – 50/50 raffle, maybe ORV sticker charges. The end of August will be the annual Veterans ride. The Youth Safety Class will be held the end of April with 4-5 openings still available.
8. SOLID WASTE AUTHORITY: discussed the possibility of increasing tipping fees by \$2 per ton but this was tabled to the July meeting. Sold various old pieces of electronic equipment: laptop, credit card machine. Watersmeet Township wants a new transfer station – both the Township and the Tribe each want their own. Waiting for Audit bids to come in.

#### CORRESPONDENCE

GOGEBIC County Board of Commissioners – will not share with the townships the Federal PILT monies the County receives. GOGEBIC County ROAD Commission – chairman has resigned.

MTA Legislative – Flint water issues and Detroit schools are the main topics of discussion.

PLANNING Commission – minutes received. CHARTER – Video Tier – different packages available.

FOURTH of JULY COMMITTEE – Donation: our budgeted donation is \$500 - \$250 each for the Fireworks Committee and 4<sup>th</sup> of July Committee which is included in the Parks portion of the township's contribution for services with the City of Wakefield..

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

#### NEW BUSINESS

1. COLEMAN CONTRACT FOR GIS/AMAR: Coleman Engineering will do the software development for all of Gogebic County for the GIS/AMAR program required by the State of Michigan for the assessing of properties – geographic land maps, use tables, etc. Our share of the cost, to be

shared by participating municipalities, is \$700. A MOTION was made by Dalman, supported by Smith, to approve the payment of \$700 to Coleman Engineering for this work. A ROLL CALL vote showed all members present voting: YES. Motion Carried.

2. DEPUTY TREASURER/SUPERVISOR COMPENSATION: Supervisor Cox has been looking for a Deputy for his position, as well as Treasurer Dalman needing a Deputy for her position to learn the duties of the Treasure due to the resignation of her present Deputy Dennis Ferson. After an interview with the applicant, by both the Supervisor and Treasurer, they both agreed to recommend to the Township Board the appointment of her to the Deputy Supervisor/Treasurer position. Supervisor Cox then introduced Shelley Nordine to the board members and audience. She gave a brief summary of herself – she has lived in Wakefield Township since 1985 and has worked as an accountant for 21 years and is studying to pass her CPA exams and very interested in the future growth of Wakefield Township to be able to provide its residents with jobs and services. A MOTION was made by Spencer, supported by Smith, to approve the appointment of Shelley Nordine to the position of Deputy Supervisor/Treasurer of the Wakefield Township Board with pay to be \$20 per hour plus mileage for conferences, education, etc. A ROLL CALL voted showed all members present voting: YES. Motion Carried.  
Clerk Mandy Lake then proceeded to swear in Shelley Nordine as the Deputy Supervisor/Treasurer for Wakefield Township with the proper paperwork signed off.
3. SPRING CLEANUP PROPOSAL AWARD: Three bids were requested and two were received.  
GOGEBIC Range Solid Waste \$110 all inclusive – dumpsters/disposal  
WASTE Management 40 yard dumpster \$320 Disposal Charge \$108/ton = \$428

A MOTION was made by Dalman, supported by Spencer, to approve the bid from Gogebic Range Solid Waste at the cost of \$110 – all inclusive – for the Wakefield Township Spring Clean-up to be held on Friday, May 13 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturday, May 14, 2016 from 9 a.m. to noon at Western U.P. Recycling Center located at North 519 and Planter Rd. . A ROLL CALL vote showed all members present voting: YES. Motion Carried. Board members will be on hand on Friday and Saturday to help out. Three dumpsters will be brought down on Friday morning.

4. IRON-BARAGA CONSERVATION: Invasive Species Program – This is a Federal program dealing with invasive plant species and will come and treat our township properties with no charge to the township. Supervisor Cox recommended we take part in this program. A MOTION was made by Smith, supported by Dalman, to take part in this program and for the Supervisor to sign/return the Agreement form. All board members approved. Motion Carried.
5. DEQ WATER STANDARDS-ADDRESSES GRWA-OUR WELLS: Indianhead area has all new lines. Our residents – their own private wells. Filters should be changed every 6 months. Lead pipes are the problem. If your home is built after 1980, there should be no problem with the water pipes. A note about this issue will be put in the next township Newsletter with a testing water/well site to check out or call the local Health Department.
6. ADDRESS SIGNS: ORDER and Hire Austin Berg: Supervisor Cox will order 124 signs and requested help installing the signs with the hiring of Austin Berg with pay to be \$10 per hour. A MOTION was made by Smith, supported by Spencer, for the Supervisor to order the signs and also the hiring of Austin Berg to help install the address signs. A ROLL CALL vote showed all members present voting: YES. Motion Carried.

7. AUTHORIZATION FOR SUPERVISOR TO SIGN TOTAL PATCHER CONTRACT WITH ROAD COMMISSION: A MOTION was made by Dalman, supported by Smith, for Supervisor Cox to sign/return the Total Patcher contract with the Gogebic County Road Commission in the amount of \$10,000 for the patching of township roads for the 2016-2017 budget season. A ROLL CALL vote showed all members present voting: YES. Motion Carried.
8. CITY OF WAKEFIELD CONTRACTS: Wakefield Township contracts for services from the City of Wakefield for the following services: These prices were for the 2015-2016 Fiscal year.  
 Library \$2,880          Park \$2403          Cemetery \$5,755          Street Lights \$221  
 Fire \$9,347  
 With 0% increase in the Cost of Living and no increase in salaries for the township board members or many of our senior citizen residents, the board unanimously agreed to keep our contribution for services for 2016-2017 the same as last year. A MOTION was made by Spencer, supported by Smith, to renew our contribution to the City of Wakefield for services for fire, library, cemetery, park and street lights for the 2016-2017 year at the same rate that we paid for these services for 2015-2016. A ROLL CALL vote showed all members present voting: YES. Motion Carried. Our donation of \$500 (\$250 each for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Committee and Fireworks Committee) is included in the Parks services contract amount.
9. WESTERN GATEWAY TRAIL - \$400 INSURANCE BILL: A discussion was held and the board agreed to fund our portion for the Trail Insurance for this year only. We are very concerned about how this group plans to keep funding the insurance bill and other maintenance expenses that may arise in the future. We are taking this money from a fund that we established for donations from private citizens and not our General Fund A MOTION was made by Dalman, supported by Smith, to approve the payment of \$400 towards the Western Gateway Trail insurance for THIS YEAR ONLY. A ROLL CALL vote showed all members present voting: YES. Motion Carried.

EXTENDED PUBLIC COMMENT: Prior to tonight's board meeting, the township board members took a very informative guided tour of Extreme Tool, with Mike Zacharius as our guide, to see all the new machinery and products that this company makes. Thank you Mike for this very appreciative tour.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS AND ADJOURNMENT

1. NEXT REGULAR MEETING: Tuesday, May 3, 2016 at 5:30 p.m.
2. MTA MEETING: Tuesday, April 26, 2016 at 6 p.m. Erwin Township Speaker – Dave Anderson
3. SPRING CLEANUP DATES: Friday, May 13, 2016 (9 a.m. until 4 p.m.) and Saturday, May 14 from 9 a.m. until 12 noon at Western UP Recycling Center located on Chippewa Drive at North 519 and Planter Rd. Check-in with attendant and have your I.D. card ready.

With no further business to come before the board, A MOTION was made by Smith, supported by Dalman, to adjourn at 6:45 p.m. Motion Carried.

MANDY LAKE, CLERK OF WAKEFIELD TOWNSHIP

Typed by Elaine Smith, Deputy Clerk

