

WAKEFIELD TOWNSHIP BOARD

REGULAR MEETING

TUESDAY, JUNE 7, 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; Trustee Delmar Smith; Elaine Smith, Deputy Clerk; two township residents and Daily Globe reporter Tom Stankard. ABSENT: Joan Dalman, Treasurer and Trustee James Spencer – attending MTA conference in Harris, MI.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: A MOTION was made by Smith, supported by Lake, to approve the Agenda as presented with two (2) additions under Correspondence. Motion Carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: A MOTION was made by Smith, supported by Lake, to approve the minutes of the regular Wakefield Township Board meeting of May 3, 2016 as presented. Motion Carried.

BRIEF PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS: None

APPROVAL OF BILLS: A MOTION was made by Smith, supported by Lake, 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: Cummings NPower (an engine and power generator distributor) has offered a five (5) year planned Maintenance proposal for the generators located at the Indianhead and Powdermill Creek water pumping stations for a total of \$14,922.65. The Indianhead generator is 4 years old and the Powdermill Creek generator is 7 years old. This contract was unanimously approved. Chuck Lawson, C2AE Engineering, reported that the City of Bessemer sewer project Right-of-Way maps and certificate are finished and turned over to Rural Development. Bidding will take place in the fall (middle of July). Supervisor Cox reported on a water leak on Thunderbird Lane (Indianhead area) over the Memorial Day weekend which destroyed the chip seal on the road also. This is the second time this has happened in this same area. BINGOVILLE water leak repairs were done in one day and the system is now working fine. Need to work on a long range plan for this issue.
2. RENAISSANCE ZONE/ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: INDIANHEAD Progress – The Indianhead Casino project land closing was set to be held on May 25, 2016 but has been delayed for two weeks but at least the project is still moving forward.
3. SUPERVISOR'S REPORT: CLEAN-UP DAYS: a total of 12.4 tons was taken in filling five (5) dumpsters full with the total cost being cheaper than last year. FIRE/ADDRESS NUMBERS – have the signs and stakes (133) and will be put in soon. NEWSLETTER – Economic Development (new businesses in the township) will be more specific in the next Newsletter which will go out along with the winter Tax bills.

4. TREASURER'S REPORT: reported by Clerk Mandy Lake. General Fund #101 had a beginning balance of \$86,192.89 on May 1, 2016 with receipts of \$4,270.21 and payroll of \$4,427.60 and expenses of \$4,685.59 leaving an ending balance of \$81,347.91 on May 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 end balance of \$3,194.47. Balance Sheets for May were also provided. A MOTION was made by Smith, supported by Lake, to approve the Treasurers report as presented and place it on file. Motion Carried.
5. ZONING/PLANNING: BLIGHT ACTION – four (4) notices issued: one (1) in compliance after the Sheriff visited every week for three weeks. One (1) in tentative compliance. Building Inspector – check out two (2) buildings - possibly tear down one; one mobile home needs to be brought up to code (well, septic and set up properly).
6. SECTION 32 REPORT: next meeting will be July 20, 2016.
7. SOLID WASTE AUTHORITY: No report. Clerk Mandy Lake was unable to attend this meeting.
8. TRAILS MEETINGS: Supervisor Cox reported progress is being made on the ORV trails – 2 grants have been approved: 2016 \$12,000 2017 \$29,000 to get rid of beaver dams, culverts, gravel and trail maintenance for the Korpela Rd. to Marenisco trail. Snowmobile trails are moving ahead. The Michigan Snowmobile Association have not elected any officers yet – need more members, volunteers, groomer drivers. Plans call for the non-motorized trail from Ironwood to Bessemer to be extended sometime this fall before eventually continuing to Sunday Lake in Wakefield.

#### CORRESPONDENCE

GOGEBIC COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS – minutes. GOGEBIC COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION – the one lane light wait time at the Jackson Creek Bridge repair on N #519 is about 3 minutes long. MTA LEGISLATIVE – trying to get Townships more PILT monies. Speed limit bill has been compromised from 75 mph on freeways down to 60 mph on regular roads. This passed the House and is now in the Senate. OTTAWA NATIONAL FOREST acquiring a piece of property from KLA - Keweenaw Land is selling property to the Forest Service for access timber harvests, snowmobile trail route. Most of this property is on the Presque Isle River. NORTHERN STATES POWER CO (Excel Energy) - rate hearing on June 15, 2016 in Lansing for over-recovery on electric and natural gas. CHARTER: Emergency Contacts and phone numbers. GOGEBIC COUNTY ANNUAL REPORT – cut more timber (selective cutting) than ever before – sales have risen since 2011. GRWA WATER report – safe to drink. Level 5 with 15 being the limit. DEQ PERMITS – two (2) over Jackson Creek. DEQ – impact of construction activity on drinking water quality. AUDITOR CONTRACT CHANGE: Supervisor Cox informed the board that his Deputy Shelley Nordine is certified to do our own financial reports which will lower the cost of the Auditor's contract to \$4,700. The township relied on the auditor to draft its financial statements and related disclosures. Now we will not have any Deficiencies in our Audits. DNR – Open House at its Baraga, MI office. RISK CONTROL REPORT: Supervisor Cox met with the insurance representative and all looks good – reminder to have the fire extinguishers up to date.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

#### NEW BUSINESS

1. RENAISSANCE LOAN PAYOFF: This issue has been discussed with our auditor and all the board members. This has been an account that the auditor has had to audit individually with an extra

charge being involved. Should we move the money from this account to the General Fund and pay the quarterly loan payment from there or pay the loan off? The balance due to the State of Michigan on this zero percent interest loan is approximately \$11,600. After some discussion, A MOTION was made by Trustee Delmar Smith, supported by Clerk Mandy Lake, to approve the payoff of the Wakefield Township Board Renaissance Zone loan with the State of Michigan, with the exact amount to be determined by the Clerk and Treasurer. A ROLL CALL vote showed all members present voting: YES. Motion Carried.

EXTENDED PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS/ADJOURNMENT

1. Next regular meeting – Tuesday, July 5, 2016 at 5:30 p.m.
2. MTA meeting – Tuesday, June 28, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. Bessemer Township
3. Planning Commission will meet third Wednesday of each quarter (March, June, September, December) at 5:00 p.m.

With no further business to come before the board, A MOTION was made by Smith, supported by Lake, to adjourn at 6:05 p.m. Motion Carried.

MANDY LAKE, CLERK OF WAKEFIELD TOWNSHIP

Typed by Elaine Smith, Deputy Clerk