

WAKEFIELD TOWNSHIP BOARD

REGULAR MEETING

TUESDAY, JULY 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; and three township residents.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: A MOTION was made by Smith, supported by Dalman, to approve the Agenda as presented with three (3) additions: MTA Conventions reports; Charter Communications, Michigan Public Service Commission. Motion Carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: A MOTION was made by Dalman, supported by Lake, to approve the minutes of the regular Wakefield Township Board meeting of June 7, 2016 as presented with two (2) corrections under the Renaissance Loan Payoff. Motion Carried.

BRIEF PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS: None.

APPROVAL OF BILLS: A MOTION was made by Dalman, supported by Spencer, 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: GRWA/City of Bessemer Agreements were approved and will be sent to USDA Rural Development for review and approval. Approved the GRWA 2017 Operating Budget. The GRWA Water Rate Resolution was adopted. The current rate being charged for everyone is \$3.89 per gallon.
2. RENAISSANCE ZONE/ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: INDIANHEAD - the land closing has not been completed yet.
3. SUPERVISOR'S RPORT: FIRE/ADDRES & STREET SIGNS PROGRESS – about 50 more need to be installed yet. ROAD COMMISSION EXTRA FUNDS – about \$42,000 will be received by each township to be used for gravel, ditching, brush cutting. A ride-around by the Supervisor to check out the roadsides discovered several potholes have been missed being filled in. 4<sup>TH</sup> OF JULY FIREWORKS – were awesome this year and a letter of appreciation will be sent to the fireworks committee for a job well done.
4. TREASURER'S REPORT: General Fund #101 had a beginning balance of \$81,347.91 on June 1, 2016 with receipts of \$664.22 and payroll of \$4,020.31 and expenses of \$10,476.09 leaving an ending balance of \$67,515.73 on June 30, 2016. Renaissance Fund #244 had a beginning balance of \$3,194.47, with \$250 transferred from Savings to Checking, leaving an ending balance of \$3,444.47. Balance sheets for June 2016 were also provided. A MOTION was made by Smith, supported by Spencer, to approve the Treasurers report as presented and place it on file. Motion Carried.

5. GOGEBIC RANGE SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT MEETING: approved the 2016-2017 budget; approved the purchase of new tires for the skid steer; authorized the Administrator to seek quotes to repair an issue with the transfer stations drainage system and to also seek quotes for the purchase of a new garbage truck.
6. ZONING/BLIGHT UPDATE: BLIGHT – things are getting cleaned up nicely after the blight notices were issued. ZONING – two inspections were done and one will be resolved soon (mobile home issue) and the other has a “Do NOT Occupy” notice on it issued by the Health Department.
7. TRAILS MEETINGS: meetings are now being held at business sponsor’s places. To get a web-site set up the cost would be around \$300. The DNR is giving the snowmobile club \$9,000 for maintenance, grading, culverts, graveling, repairing beaver dam damage for the Korpela Rd to Marenisco trail. Election of new officers for the club has been held.
8. PLANNING COMMISSION: An opinion is being sought from the township board about the next garbage contract. This spring the township used Gogebic Range Solid Waste for its annual cleanup. If the bid was lower (difference of \$4 more) would we still stay with Waste Management? It was the consensus of the board to stay with Waste Management. In the contract we could put in a clause that would allow us to opt out at any time.
9. MTA CONVENTION REPORTS: JOAN DALMAN - Constitutional Revenue Sharing is getting a 1.6% raise; information on board meeting minute contents; emails; when board members can contract the township attorney. JIM SPENCER – background information and facts of how many tribes and casinos are in Northern Michigan and how 2% monies are used to help communities with different projects and how much land they own. Zoning – townships should have a Master Plan in place. These were just some of the sessions they attended.

#### CORRESPONDENCE

GOGEBIC COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS & GOGEBIC COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION – minutes.  
 MTA LEGISLATIVE – PILT payments, election equipment replacement. INSURANCE RENEWALS & SAVINGS – Wakefield Township saved \$400. CHARTER Communications – channel changes and new rules for internet fees PUBLIC SERVICE Commission – changes for electric rates.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

#### NEW BUSINESS

1. DNR LAND PURCHASE in the Porcupine Mountain area: There are two land locked six (6) parcels left on South Boundary Rd. in Wakefield Township. One parcel will remain privately owned, but the DNR would like to purchase the other 6 acre parcel. We would lose some tax money (about \$400) but the long term recreation benefit to the public outweighs the loss. This parcel is surrounded by the State Park and is located where “Tiebel Creek” flows into Lake Superior. One person thought this property should be kept for historic purposes. After some discussion, a MOTION was made by Smith, supported by Dalman, to send a ‘Letter of Support’ from the Wakefield Township Board to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Parks & Recreation Division in support of their application to the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund for the purpose of purchasing a six (6) acre parcel with cabin located adjacent to the Porcupine Mountain State Park. Parcel Number 2705-26-601-000. ROLL CALL VOTE: YES – Joan Dalman, Delmar Smith, Mandy Lake, John Cox. NO – James Spencer. Motion Carried.

2. GOGEBIC COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH: – looking for available property for a group home. Supervisor Cox offered a two (2) acre parcel the township owns but it did not meet the qualifications because it would need natural gas service, well and septic.
3. WEB-SITE PREFERENCES: The township board is planning to update its web-site and several suggestions were given for a new layout. Supervisor Cox also showed several different websites to give the board more ideas.

EXTENDED PUBLIC COMMENT: Supervisor Cox showed a video of the Jackson Creek Bridge in the process of being repaired.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS/ADJOURNMENT

1. Next regular meeting (NOTE CHANGE OF DATE DUE TO ELECTION) WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 3, 2016 @ 5: 30 P.M.
2. Board of Review – Tuesday, July 19, 2016 at 5 p.m. -for errors and omissions
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 Spencer, to adjourn at 7:10 p.m. Motion Carried.

MANDY LAKE, CLERK OF WAKEFIELD TOWNSHIP

Typed by Elaine Smith, Deputy Clerk