

WAKEFIELD TOWNSHIP BOARD

REGULAR MEETING

TUESDAY, MAY 2, 2017 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: John Cox, Supervisor; Mandy Lake, Clerk; Joan Dalman, Treasurer; Trustee Jerry Niemi; and two visitors.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: A MOTION was made by Dalman, supported by Niemi, to approve the minutes of the regular Wakefield Township Board meeting of April 4, 2017, as presented. Motion Carried.

BRIEF PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS: None.

APPROVAL OF BILLS: A MOTION was made by Dalman, supported by Niemi, 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: Materials and supplies on site for Bessemer water project. Plastic pipe question brought to attention on previous jobs. Insurance company paid a little over \$46,000 for Blackjack/Indianhead frozen pipe mishap this winter.
2. RENAISSANCE ZONE/ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: RENAISSANCE ZONE—Joe and Cory Hilborn, along with Supervisor Cox met with the Gogebic County Forestry for Industrial Park Expansion. The matter was tabled at the meeting due to more information being needed. The County Forester will look at the piece of property wanting to be purchased for expansion.
3. SUPERVISOR'S REPORT: SPRING ROAD INSPECTION—Inspections have not been completed yet. SPRING CLEANUP—projected to be big this year with the City of Wakefield and the Township combined. Tire hauling is currently being organized, along with finding volunteers to work during the cleanup. Josh Schneck volunteering trailer and other township residents will clean up Old M-28. NMU INTERNET—Charter can not provide internet service to most township residents. They would have to upgrade their lines and that would be very costly. NMU received grant money for rural townships to receive internet. Watersmeet Township has already been working with NMU on that. Jim Loeper will check on Michigan State Police towers to possibly be used for internet throughout the county. Supervisor Cox will check with GogebicRange.net on their internet upgrades also. STREETLIGHT REMOVAL—Xcel Energy is behind on projects this spring, and will remove the street lights as soon as possible.
4. TREASURER'S REPORT: General Fund #101 had a beginning balance of \$95,897.08 on April 1, 2017, with Receipts of \$17,210.23 and Expenses of \$9,752.37 and Payroll of \$4,138.29 leaving an ending balance of \$99,216.65 on April 31, 2017. Balance Sheet for April 2017 was also

included. A MOTION was made by Niemi, supported by Lake, to approve the Treasurer's report as presented and place it on file. Motion Carried.

5. ZONING ADMINISTRATOR: BLIGHT OFFICER—The current blight officer, contracted from the City of Ironwood, can no longer work with us as he is getting increased duties in Ironwood. Supervisor Cox and Trustee Niemi will be conducting a ride around the Township to search for blight, and Supervisor Cox will take care of the letters to the residents. MASTER PLAN WORKSHOP—The Planning Commission received a lot of information. Land and zoning use was covered. Estimating one year for our Master Plan to be completed.
6. SECTION 32: None.
7. TRAILS: WUPTA—Forest service will be opening more trails to ORV's. ORV route from Ironwood to Marenisco will be signed. Trail 11 plan not going to work out.
8. GOGEBIC RANGE SOLID WASTE: Co-mingled recycling dumpsters to be taken away, with paper only dumpsters remaining. Free recycling will still be provided but members must use the bins at the Transfer Station. The garbage pick-up went well in the Township of Wakefield. Mediation with City of Bessemer scheduled in Marquette.

CORRESPONDENCE

GOGEBIC COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS & ROAD COMMISSION – minutes. MTA LEGISLATIVE—physical presence could be required for board votes, with exceptions. SB129 small copper mine bill on its way to Governor's desk to sign. PLANNING COMMISSION—members are going to Master Plan training. CITY OF WAKEFIELD WATER REPORT—on file with the Clerk. CHARTER—changes channel lineup.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS

1. DISPOSAL OF TREASURER'S COMPUTER AND TOWNSHIP HALL BEVERAGE COOLER: A MOTION was made by Niemi, supported by Lake, to allow Treasurer Dalman to dispose her township laptop, since it is broken. The American Legion is in need of a beer cooler, therefore, the Township will donate its beer cooler since it is no longer being used. Roll Call vote showed all members present voting: YES. Motion Carried.
2. RESOLUTION TO APPROVE ELECTION EQUIPMENT PURCHASE: A MOTION was made by Dalman, supported by Niemi, to allow Clerk Lake to purchase new election equipment required by the State of Michigan Bureau of Elections. The equipment will be purchased this year. Roll call vote showed all members present voting : YES. Motion Carried.
3. BUILDING AND ZONING PERMIT: A MOTION was made by Dalman, supported by Niemi, to allow the Supervisor and Clerk to talk with and decide on the format of the new building permit that was suggested by the building inspector. Motion carried.
4. BUDGET AMENDMENT FOR SCRAP TIRE GRANT: A MOTION was made by Dalman, supported by Niemi, to accept the following Budget Amendment:

Account	Previous Bud. Amt.	Plus or Minus	Amended Amt.
Scrap Tire Grant 101-528-804	\$0	+\$10,000	\$10,000
General Fund 101-000-680	\$531,454	-\$10,000	\$521,454

A ROLL CALL VOTE showed all members present voting: YES. Motion carried.

5. AUTHORIZATION TO HIRE AHONEN FOR GROUNDS CLEANUP: A MOTION was made by Dalman, supported by Niemi, to hire Austin Ahonen for Township Hall grounds cleanup, signs, brushing, spring cleanup, and other miscellaneous jobs. Motion carried.

EXTENDED PUBLIC COMMENT: One question on cluster fly spraying, and one question on the new speed limits on the Michigan highways.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/ADJOURNMENT

1. Next regular meeting – Tuesday, June 6, 2017 at 5:30 PM
2. MTA meeting – None this month.
3. Planning Commission will meet third Wednesday of each quarter, (March, June, September, December) at 5:00 pm.
4. Spring Cleanup Dates—Friday, May 19, 2017 (9 AM- 4 PM) and Saturday, May 20, 2017 (9 AM- 12 PM) at Western U.P. Recycling Center, located at North 519 and Planter Rd. Check-in with attendant.

With no further business to come before the board, A MOTION was made by Dalman, supported by Niemi, to adjourn at 6:27 PM. Motion Carried.

MANDY LAKE, CLERK OF WAKEFIELD TOWNSHIP