

WAKEFIELD TOWNSHIP BOARD

REGULAR MEETING

JULY 5, 2017, 5:30 P.M.

Supervisor Cox called the regular Wakefield Township Board meeting to order and lead 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, Jerry Niemi, Trustee; Jim Spencer, Trustee; Mable Wanink, Deputy Clerk; and Brandon Yuchasz.

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

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: A MOTION was made by Spencer, supported by Niemi, to approve the minutes of the regular Wakefield Township Board meeting of the June 6, 2017, as presented. Motion Carried.

BRIEF PUBLIC COMMENTS 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. NET- BRANDON YUCHASZ: A presentation by Brandon Yuchasz on future internet up-grades, the tower on Indianhead has problems with interference by trees and hills, has been in talks with Merrit (non-profit), they're mostly in Iron Co. Wisc. and Gogebic Co., talking about the Industrial Park in Wakefield Township, partner with the Township, provide internet to the township building, Wakefield Township needs more speed capacity, has been on the phone with John Cox about expanding from Ironwood Industrial Park to Wakefield Township, get bigger pipes, check the signal from Copper Peak tower. Putting up shop in the City of Wakefield, Township to work with Gogebic Range. Net and Merrit and Extreme Tool down the road when their current contract expires, John talked with the attorney about proposal concerns, such as going belly up, talked with Gus (auditor), about the amount of instillation, fiber optic, 2018 Wi-Fi off of the State Police tower, Charter will never invest it the cost of running internet from Ironwood to Wakefield Township. A MOTION was made by Dalman, supported by Lake, to support the internet up-dates presented.
2. GOGEBIC RANGE WATER AUTHORITY: Jerry reported a \$117,000 asset plan, 5 yr. plan to label all pieces, very costly, waterlines for Bessemer, goosenecks, problems not in the estimate, the pipes put in the 40's and 50's have lead contamination, won't burry the pipes again until the problem is solved.
3. RENAISSANCE ZONE/ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: Lost board member Barry Bolich, need to find new replacement.

4. SUPERVISOR'S REPORT-ROAD, SIGNS, HALL WORK, AMAR MTG: A nice job has been done on cutting the grass back on Co. RD 519, there hasn't been any gravel put on Old U.S.2 yet, doing a pretty good job on signs, Austin Ahonen is doing a great job, AMAR met with the State, contractor knew nothing about the government, see booklet, vacant land sales are in separate booklet, going to pass 100%, will be back in 2 yrs. 4 yr. cycles, MTA we know our jobs, we collect taxes, hold elections and assessing. Tire bill went over budget, 45 tons of tires, cutting around powerlines. A letter to Watersmeet, not happy with what they did to us, township does fire and police, we want a piece of the action because townships pay for the services.
5. TREASURER'S REPORT: General Fund #101 had a beginning balance of \$73,810.37 on June 30, 2017, with Receipts of \$7,940.27 and expenses of \$8,959.94 and Payroll of \$4,479.96, leaving an ending balance of \$68,310.74. A balance sheet also included. A MOTION was made by Spencer, supported by Niemi, to approve the Treasurer's report as presented and placed on file. Motion Carried.
6. ZONING AND PLANNING-FEES: Planning commission minutes, variance we want equal on permits, spending more on inspectors, land splits, if it costs the township nothing fine but if it costs us money Coleman Engineering gets a bill, taxes must be paid on land splits.
7. SECTION 32 REPORT: Nothing.
8. TRAILS: Several concerns on the activities of snowmobile clubs, posting on Facebook, ATV's ruining the snowmobile trails, stop ATV traffic between Indianhead and Blackjack, it's easier to use the trails instead, pulled down 69 signs between Hurley, WI, and Ramsey, MI, they've posted in the internet, they need to work together or the DNR will dismantle one of the Boards. Snowmobile Club went to the Forestry Service meeting to ask them to close the trails, trying to block access to private property.
9. SOLID WASTE AUTHORITY: Hospital coverage approved, signed the yearly contract, approved the '17-'18 budget, happy with the service. Bessemer doesn't know if they're in or out, hired summer help, they don't know if they'll need to hire more help after summer help goes back to school, different days for different municipalities.

#### CORROSPONDENCE

1. GOGEBIC COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISIONERS: Nothing.
2. GOGEBIC COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION: Nothing.
3. MTA LEGISLATIVE-PART TIME LEGISLATURE; TERM LIMITS LIFTED: Part time legislature is bad for the U.P. but if term limits were lifted Casperson and Dianda are doing a good job for the U.P.
4. ISD-L-4029: Millage's.
5. CHARTER LETTER: Channel change.
6. PAR PLAN AND WORKERS COMPENSATION POLICY FROM HANNULA: A rebate this year, limits on liability.

#### UNFINISHED BUSINESS

#### NEW BUSINESS

1. BUDGET MONITORING AND BUDGET AMENDMENTS IF NECESSARY: Wait on Budget Amendment on the tire grant that went over budget.
2. PRELIMINARY ACTION ON INTERNET PROPOSAL: Move ahead with the Attorney for the internet proposal. A MOTION was made by Dalman, supported by Lake, to move ahead with the internet

proposal as presented. A ROLL CALL vote showed all members present voting: YES. Motion Carried.

3. GOGEBIC RANGE WATER AUTHORITY BOARD APPOINTMENT: Jerry has it under control.

EXTENDED PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS/ADJOURNMENT

1. Next regular meeting- Tuesday August 1, 2017 at 5:30 PM.
2. MTA meeting- None this month.
3. July Board of Review-Tuesday, July 18, 2017-5:00 PM—Errors and Omissions.
4. Planning Commission will meet the third Wednesday of each quarter, (March, June, September, December) at 5:00 PM.

MANDY LAKE, CLERK OF WAKEFIELD TOWNSHIP

Typed by Mable Wanink, Deputy Clerk