

WAKEFIELD TOWNSHIP BOARD

REGULAR MEETING

SEPTEMBER 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. Also present is Tim Lynott from Highland Copper, Melissa Prisbee, Township Assessor; and three Township members.

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

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: A MOTION was made by Spencer, supported by Dalman, to accept the minutes from the regular Township Board Meeting of August 1, 2017, as presented. Motion Carried.

BRIEF PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS: None

APPROVAL OF BILLS: A MOTION was made by Dalman, supported by Spencer, to accept the bills and payroll as presented. Motion Carried.

REPORTS AND APPEARANCES

1. TIM LYNOTT, HIGHLAND COPPER: Primarily looking for a resolution showing support, improving County RD. 519 to an A class road from Wakefield City limits out to the mine, received approval from the State of Michigan for 20 million grant to cover the cost, focus on Copperwood location, process the oar to a concentrate that leaves by train, doing a study to see where the product will be transported to. Highland will be in the U.P. working with the County Board, looking for local support and no cost will go to the Township, Highland Copper with continue to keep the Township up to date.
2. MELISSA PRISBE, ASSESSOR-L4029: The truth in taxation, after you add the pluses and minuses, county prepares a study, Township must vote to pass, if it doesn't pass it will cost \$1174, it can only raise at the rate of inflation.
3. GOGEBIC RANGE WATER AUTHORITY: Short meeting, \$300,000 to contractor and engineering firm, removed some unnecessary valves, Bessemer will wait until new counsel is in place, Asset Management Plan.
4. RENAISSANCE ZONE/ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: Industrial Park, good experience with Mike Zacharias at Extreme Tool, get together for Jake Zelinski, getting the younger folks involved, doing tours or job shadowing, training programs. Verso Paper in Chapter 11, not a log left in the yard, not using storage sheds, lumber going straight to the mill from the woods.
5. SUPERVISOR'S REPORT-ROADS; REGIONAL CONF. IN HOUGHTON SEPTEMBER 18, 2017: Roads, we had extra gravel leftover so it was used on Jack Spur Rd and used it up, we have nice gravel roads in the Township, Regional Conference is in Houghton on Sept. 18, Joan, John and Jim will be attending. We haven't charged for land splits. We can't make money on the process but we can't spend more than we take in either. AMAR review was approved, everything was correct.

6. TREASURER'S REPORT: General Fund #101 had a beginning balance of \$63,366.19 on August 31, 2017, with Receipts of \$2,332.46, Expenses of \$5,825.28 and Payroll of \$4,290.70, leaving an ending balance of \$55,582.67. A MOTION was made by Niemi, supported by Spencer, to approve the Treasurer's report as presented and placed on file. Motion Carried.
7. ZONING ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT: Joe Pikka's trailer is cleaned up, few issues left.
8. SECTION 32 REPORT: None
9. SOLID WASTE REPORT: Auditor was doing the audit, Scale is in good shape, fire in a trailer, still getting estimates on a new box for the truck, leak in the truck, hydraulic.
10. TRAILS MEETING: End of September will be working on trails, bridges, beaver dams Wakefield to Sampson RD.
11. INTERNET REPORT: N.M.U. not in on it but will help, mapping out who has what kind of internet, Connect the U.P. weekly reports, survey's. Merit and Gogebic Range.Net getting it up and running, bouncing over Indianhead and getting it to the Township.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. GOGEBIC COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS: None
2. GOGEBIC COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION: None
3. MTA LEGISLATIVE: None
4. GOGEBIC COUNTY ROAD ACT 51 INFO: John will email to us.
5. MPSC LETTERS-ELECTRIC AND GAS HEARINGS: Gas will get a little money back, electric will get none back.
6. SCRAP TIRE GRANT AMENDMENT-DEQ: We got all of the grant money and all the paperwork has been done.
7. SBA COMMUNICATIONS-COMMUNICATION TOWER IN THE TOWNSHIP: More hooked up for 911.
8. VA COUNCIL MNUTES: None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS

1. RE-VISIT CHECK SIGNING POLICY: Tax account does not need two signatures on tax checks but you must show the receipts, Called Gus (accountant), according to MTA they only require one signature, good internal controls. A MOTION was made by Dalman, supported by Spencer, to rescind the previous policy that required two signatures on tax checks. A ROLL CALL vote showed all those present voting: YES. Motion Carried.
2. TRUTH IN TAXATION L-4029: Do a hearing for Truth in Taxation before the next meeting. A Motion was made by Dalman, supported by Lake, to hold a hearing before then next meeting. A ROLL CALL vote showed all those present voting: YES. Motion Carried.
3. RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR HIGHLAND COPPER: A Motion was made by Niemi, supported by Dalman, to support the Highland Copper Mine. A ROLL CALL vote showed all those present voting: YES. Motion Carried.

EXTENDED PUBLIC COMMENT

1. Michael Heikkila wanted to know if there was already tours for the students at Extreme Tool.
2. Tim Lynott thanked for the Board for their time and support for the Highland Copper Project.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/ADJOURNMENT

1. NEXT REGULAR MEETING-Tuesday, October 3, 2017, at 5:30 P.M.
2. MTA MEETING- None in September.
3. PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING: Will meet the third Wednesday of each quarter, (March, June, September, December) at 5:00 P.M.
4. A MOTION was made by Dalman, supported by Niemi, for adjournment at 6:36 P.M.

MANDY LAKE, CLERK OF WAKEFIELD TOWNSHIP

Typed by Mable Wanink, Deputy Clerk