

WAKEFIELD TOWNSHIP
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
OCTOBER 3, 2017, 5:42 P.M.

Supervisor Cox called the regular Wakefield Township Board meeting to order.

ROLL CALL: John Cox, Supervisor; Mandy Lake, Clerk; Joan Dalman, Treasurer; Jerry Niemi, Trustee; Jim Spencer, Trustee; Mable Wanink, Deputy Clerk; and two township members.

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 Dalman, supported by Niemi, to approve the minutes except New Business. 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 present for payment. A ROLL CALL vote showed all those present voting YES. Motion Carried.

REPORTS AND APPEARANCES

1. GOGEBIC RANGE WATER AUTHORITY: The City of Wakefield increase, .544 in water cost, Asset Management 3-4 years for \$10,000 software and license fees, who will run the software. Money set aside for improvements, mapping process, locate valves, identify what kind and cost of valves. Highland Copper get the rights, run water from Lake Superior, 700,000 gallons a day, 500 gallons a minute, replace 1% of the pipes every year.
2. RENAISSANCE ZONE/ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: The feasibility study which is expected to be released in the second quarter of 2018, will incorporate an updated resource estimate and will be designed to consider a mining and processing capacity of 6,000 metric tonnes per day. In 2017 the Company carried out a comprehensive drilling program, this program comprised 32 HQ-diameter and three PQ-diameter drill holes for a total of 6,784 meters of core. The drilling provided 527 samples for copper and silver assaying and 607 kg taken for metallurgical testing. Highland is fully financed to complete the Copperwood FS update, which is the company's main priority and which is expected to be completed in the second quarter of 2018.
3. SUPERVISOR'S REPORT: M-28 will be closed for three months in the summer of 2018 for Jackson Creek bridge replacement, there will be a long detour, local traffic only but we get a nice new bridge. Tire Grant needs to be done by the end of October, it's a long process, partner with the City of Wakefield. People complained about some businesses were dumping tires and others were not allowed. City Manager- an idea to take the burden off the city, give a coupon to take the tires to the transfer station. News Letter, the headline is the M-28 bridge job, township will do its own clean-up and let the Tire Grant sit for a year. The Township is looking real nice.
4. TREASURER'S REPORT: General Fund #101 had a beginning balance of \$55,587.43 on September 30, 2017, with Receipts of \$11, 480.81, Expenses of \$9,136.17 and Payroll of \$4,168.11; leaving an

ending balance of \$53,763.96. A Motion was made by Niemi, supported by Spencer, to approve the Treasure's report and placed on file. Motion Carried.

5. SECTION 32 REPORT: There is a meeting next month.
6. SOLID WASTE REPORT-MANDY: Audit report looks good, they're making money, looking in to getting two smaller trucks and get rid of the big truck because it breaks down a lot, smaller trucks will only need one person. The city offered the use of their truck but not sure what they'd want in return, nothing in the contract about not using cell phones while driving.
7. TRAILS-WUPTA CLUB DISSOLVING: The DNR decided that because the relationship between the GRTA and WUPTA had eroded and the organizations could no longer work together they decided that the GRTA did a better job maintaining the trails and gave it to them. WUPTA decided to dissolve, although it doesn't go into effect until the bills are paid and they find a way to use up the sur-plus. Bridges and trails setback two years, you can't just transfer grant monies and they may need to start from scratch. WUPTA lacked someone to write grants and keep an eye on the workers.
8. MTA CONFERENCE IN HOUGHTON; JOAN, JOHN AND JIM: It was a very good conference, they're glad they went and Joan learned something new about the tax process.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. GOGEBIC COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS: None.
2. GOGEBIC COUNTY ROAD COMMISSIONERS: None.
3. MTA LEGISLATIVE: Clamping down on people who have two houses in different states and claiming both as their residence. No marijuana on billboards, no townships can have stricter gun laws than the state or they can be sued, no soda tax.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

1. TRUTH IN TAXATION L-4029 RESOLUTION: 2017 Tax Rate Request, Gogebic County; Wakefield Township, Millage Requested to be Levied December 1, 2017; 1.6300 in 2020; 2.8383 in 2018 for a total of 4.4683. A Motion was made by Cox, supported by Spencer to raise taxes. A ROLL CALL vote showed all those present voting: YES. Motion Carried.
2. OPT OUT OF MEDICAL MARIJUANA ORDINANCE: You can get a medical marijuana card and grow plants but it should be done away from residence. A Motion was made by Dalman, supported by Niemi, to opt out of the Medical Marijuana Ordinance. A ROLL CALL vote showed all those present voting: YES. Motion Carried.
3. BEAVER PROBLEMS ON US-2: The DNR has been to the location and had the permission from the land owner to lower the water levels to his likable level, but the water comes back and crosses the trail, trees are dying because of all the water. Property owners and WUPTA pulled out sticks and tore up the dams, if it lets lose it will wash out the culverts on Pikka and Sampson Roads. Interested parties are the Township, Road Commission, the Drain Commission is the only party that can fix it. Flooded trails need the Board to support John. Plan is to get the beavers out, get the creek down to where it used to be. Wildlife services will blow up the dams one part at a time. DNR would entertain paying for part of the expense. The creek can only be lowered to the property owners request. A MOTION was made by Dalman, supported by Spencer, to support John to go ahead with a plan to get rid of the beavers. Motion Carried

4. APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS: Wakefield Township Appointed Boards; ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS, Jeff Pikka; ZONING ADMINISTRATOR/BLIGHT, Donald Saari/John Cox; CONSTRUCTION BOARD OF APPEALS, Craig Talsma; PLANNING COMMISSION, Craig Talsma and Dale Marten; BUSINESS MEMBER COALITION, Tim Moon. A Motion was made by Spencer, supported by Niemi, to support the new board members. Motion Carried.
5. APPROVAL FOR TREASURER TO ATTEND THE UPPER PENINSULA LOCAL TAX MEETING: A Motion was made by Spencer, supported by Cox, to send Joan to tax software training. A ROLL CALL vote showed all those present voting YES. Motion Carried.

EXTENDED PUBLIC COMMENT

ANNOUNCEMENTS/ADJOURNMENT

1. NEXT REGULAR MEETING- Tuesday November 7, 2017, 5:30 P.M.
2. MTA MEETING- None until October 24, 2017
3. PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING: Meetings held on the third Wednesday of each quarter, March, June, September and December, at 5:00 P.M.
4. ADJOURNMENT: A Motion was made by Dalman, supported by Spencer, to adjourn at 6:45 P.M. Motion Carried.

MANDY LAKE, CLERK OF WAKEFIELD TOWNSHIP

Typed by Mable Wanink, Deputy Clerk