

WAKEFIELD TOWNSHIP  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
TUESDAY, JULY 10, 2018, 5:30 PM

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; Jim Spencer, Trustee; Jerry Niemi, Trustee; Mable Wanink, Deputy Clerk. Also present were Anna Talaska, candidate for Probate Judge, Representatives from Highland Copper and members of the township.

APPROVAL OF THE ADGENDA: Candidate, Anna Talaska and a Budget Amendment were added to the Agenda. A Motion was made by Niemi, supported by Spencer, to accept the agenda, with the addition of Talaska and the Budget Amendment. Motion Carried.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: A Motion was made by Dalman, supported by Niemi, to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. Motion Carried.

BRIEF PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

APPROVAL OF THE BILLS: A Motion was made by Dalman, supported by Spencer, to accept the Bills and Payroll as presented for payment. A ROLL CALL vote showed all those present voting: YES. Motion Carried.

REPORTS AND APPEARANCES

1. HIGHLAND COPPER: Silvain Collard, from Highland Copper, made a presentation about the future of the Highland Copper Project, the results of the feasibility study, the projected timeline of the project, the equipment that will be used and the locations of the future mines sites were also laid out. If everything goes as planned, the economic growth for this area would be very beneficial.
2. ANNA TALASKA: Anna is a candidate for Probate Judge in the up coming Primary Election. Anna is currently a Family Law/Defense Attorney. She was licensed in Michigan in 2005 and Wisconsin in 2006.
3. GOGEBIC RANGE WATER AUTHORITY: Report that the GRWA is well run and maintained, DEQ reports a new pollutant, reduced water rates for Indianhead and Blackjack, legislature to sponsor a bill to help with health issues.
4. RENAISSANCE ZONE/ECONOMICAL DEVELOPMENT-X-CEL JOHNSON/M-28 PROJECTS: Xcel Energy project is moving along pretty good and the M-28 bridge job is on schedule.
5. SUPERVISOR'S REPORT; M-28 BRIDGE; INTERNET PROGRESS; AND MEETING WITH CHARTER; ROAD PROJECTS AND SIGNS: Auditor's are looking at the paperwork for the gogebicrange.net and Merit project, signs are getting put up, the M-28 bridge project and the Xcell Energy Johnson RD projects are moving along and on schedule.
6. TREASURER'S REPORT: As of June 30, 2018, the General Fund #101 had a beginning balance of \$118,967.31, with receipts totaling \$2,986.27, expenditures of \$10,064.93, payroll of \$4,398.35,

leaving an ending balance of \$107,490.30. A MOTION was made by Dalman, supported by Niemi, to accept the Treasurer's as presented and place it on file. Motion Carried.

7. ZONING ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT: Barking Dog issue has been taken care of because we've heard nothing back.
8. PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT: None
9. SECTION 32 REPORT: No meeting until next week.
10. TRAILS-PROGRESS WITH WUPTA DONATIONS; U.S. FOREST SERVICE RESOURCE COMMITTEE: The Gogebic Resource Advisory Committee(RAC) has been active for 8 years, recommending projects totaling nearly \$600,000, including projects monitoring and eradicating invasive species, maintaining Black River Harbor Rd, and recreation projects across the county, to name a few. Jim Spencer's appointment has come to an end because appointments cannot extend beyond 8 years. No one wants to handle WUPTA.
11. SOLID WASTE AUTHORITY: Approved the Budget, still no new garbage trucks, and one employee was terminated.

#### CORRESPONDENCE

1. GOGEBIC COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS: None
2. GOGEBIC COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION: Meeting on Monday, July 16, 2018.
3. MTA LEGISLATIVE: Personal Property technicality has been fixed.
4. MDEQ WATER REPORT: Check over the water report.
5. MILLER CANFIELD LAW FIRM NOTICE: Hearing before MPSC to changes in rates of all Michigan rates, regulated electric, steam, and natural gas utilities, Northern States Power, to reflect effect of Federal tax cuts and Jobs Act of 2017. A change in rates to reflect Federal tax cuts.

#### UNFINISHED BUSINESS

#### NEW BUSINESS

1. INSURANCE POLICY RENEWAL-CONSIDERATION OF ADDITIONAL INSURANCE: There have been no claims, policy cost went down, can add things to the policy anytime. A Motion was made by Dalman, supported by Niemi, to renew the Insurance Policy as is, without adding more coverage. A ROLL CALL vote showed all board members present voting: YES. Motion Carried.
2. PRISON CLOSURE: Once again the Ojibway Correctional Facility is being considered for closure. Bessemer has been proactive in their support for the Facility, Casperson has been contacted, Mandy will attend the first meeting.
3. METRO ACT ROW PERMIT EXTENSION: A Motion was made by Niemi, supported by Spencer, to approve the Right of Way permit extension. A ROLL CALL vote showed all board members present voting: YES. Motion Carried.
4. RESOLUTION OPPOSING PROPOSED ASSESSING REGULATIONS HB6049 AND SB1025: Proposed change is we send our tax billing to the county under the assumption that there will be a higher level of education. We have an excellent Assessor and we feel there is no need for the change. A Motion was made by Dalman, supported by Niemi, to make a resolution to continue with the current policy. A ROLL CALL vote showed all board members present voting: YES. Motion Carried.
5. MDEQ PUBLIC MEETING FOE COPPERWOOD MINE TUESDAY, JULY 17, 2018; AT 5-8 PM AT GCC: Public meeting.

6. BUDGET ADMENDMENTS: A Motion was made by Dalman, supported by Spencer, that the amendments be made to the following account: Ambulance Contract; Budget Account #101-651-805, Previous Budget Amt: \$0, Plus \$1,760, Amended Budget Amt \$1,760. General Fund Budget Account # 101-000-680, Previous Budget Amt \$500,207, Minus \$1,760, Amended Budget Amt. \$498,447. A ROLL CALL vote showed all board members present voting: YES. Motion Carried.

EXTENDED PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS/ADJOURNMENT

1. NEXT REGULAR MEETING: Wednesday, August 8, 2018, at 5:30 pm.
2. MTA MEETING- None in July.
3. PRIMARY ELECTION: Tuesday, August 7, 2018.
4. BOARD OF REVIEW- Tuesday, July 17, 2018 at 5:00 PM (Errors, Omissions, Poverty Exemptions only.)
5. ADJOURNMENT: A Motion was made by Dalman, supported by Spencer, for adjournment at 6:53 pm. Motion Carried.

MANDY LAKE, CLERK OF WAKEFIELD TOWNSHIP

TYPED BY MABLE WANINK, DEPUTY CLERK