

WAKEFIELD TOWNSHIP
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
NOVEMBER 7, 2018, 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; Jerry Niemi, Trustee; Jim Spencer, Trustee; Mable Wanink, Deputy Clerk; and two township members.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA: Supervisor Cox added an item to the agenda. A MOTION was made by Niemi, supported by Spencer, to approve the Agenda with the added item. Motion Carried.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: There were two sets of minutes tonight, Election Commission Minutes and Regular Board Meeting Minutes. A MOTION was made by Spencer, supported by Niemi, to approve both sets of minutes. Motion Carried.

BRIEF PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS: None.

APPROVAL OF BILLS: A Motion was made by Dalman, supported by Niemi, 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. FIRE DEPARTMENT UPDATE, MIKE YON: Due to the closure of the Ojibway Correctional Facility, Mike Yon will be taking a leave of absence from the Wakefield Volunteer Fire Department. Mike will be moving to the Kinross Correctional Facility so he will be unable to continue as Fire Chief in Wakefield.
2. GOGEBIC RANGE WATER AUTHORITY: Audit is back, everything looks good. There will be a water rate increase for Wakefield, there are lots of updates needed, DEQ will run and maintain. Draw #18 done on the Bessemer water project, reduced payment because of not completing the work on time. Interesting note, when schools start up in the fall they should have their water lines flushed for better water quality.
3. RENAISSANCE ZONE/ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT-XCEL, JOHNSON RD/M-28 PROJECT: John, Mandy and Jason Allen, a former Senator, were at the Rural Development Management meeting. The History of Wakefield Township, people like Indianhead can go to their own bank and get long term loans at a very low interest rate, hopefully they will take advantage. Extreme Tool sold so hopefully there will be more jobs and tax money.
4. SUPERVISOR'S REPORT-INTERNET, HAZARD MITIGATION MEETING; NEWSLETTER: Happy to report that Merit has hooked up the Internet, hopefully soon we will get the highspeed Internet. Hazard Mitigation meeting, MSP, Homeland Security, and FEMA were there. Upgrade the culvert system, beavers are still a big problem and it will continue and we don't have the means to take care of the problem. John will be attending the MDOT meeting on 11-08-2018 on the Bessemer highway job, how many lanes, etc.

5. TREASURER'S REPORT: General Fund #101 had a beginning balance of \$55,938.27 on October 31, 2018, with Receipts of \$368.86, Expenses of \$8,477.06, and Payroll of \$4,115.04, leaving an ending balance of \$43,715.03. A Motion was made by Spencer, supported by Niemi, to approve the Treasurer's Report and placed on file. A ROLL CALL vote showed all those present voting: YES. Motion Carried.
6. ZONING AND BLIGHT CASE: The case is coming along nice and the cars and junk have been removed.
7. SOLID WASTE REPORT: An ad was placed in the paper to hire a part-time worker to replace the current part-time worker that has received full-time work elsewhere, license for the transfer station expires in March, Union contract was accepted.
8. SECTION 32 REPORT: Delinquent accounts total \$7,098, set up a meeting to find a solution, no one showed up. No improvement in the septic problem, license renewed for Section32, DEQ might take over the septic issues.
9. ELECTION REPORT: Close election in some areas, Wakefield Township had a high percentage turnout for the election. The election ran smoothly.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. GOGEBIC COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS: None
2. GOGEBIC COUNTY ROAD COMMISSIONERS: The county is looking to hire a County Manager, Interviews to start, there are 9 applicants.
3. MTA LEGISLATIVE: Lame duck Congress.
4. MPSC- GAS AND ELECTRIC RATES CREDIT: Credit for both gas and electric.
5. CHARTER- CHANNEL CHANGES: New channels.
6. UPSET-DONATION: Looking for a donation.
7. GOGEBIC COUNTY VETERANS MINUTES: The minutes were given to Jim Spencer.
8. STATE OF MICHIGAN NEARBY PROPERTY FOR AUCTION NOTICE: It's not ours, in Plymouth location in Wakefield, wanted to know if we wanted it, No.
9. THANK YOU: The township received a Thank You from the Ozzello family for the expression of sympathy.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. FLOOD INSURANCE: May be beneficial to the township, John will get more information for the next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

1. END OF YEAR CUSTODIAN SALARY ADJUSTMENT: Ron Dryer will receive a \$50.00 increase. A MOTION was made by Spencer, supported by Niemi, for a \$50.00 increase for the custodian. A ROLL CALL vote showed all those present voting: YES. Motion Carried.
2. BUDGET MONITORING: The budget was reviewed by the board members and all accounts look good.
3. CONSIDER RESOLUTION FOR SHARED COST FOR ATTORNEY FEES FOR PRISON CLOSURE: Marenisco has paid \$60,000 for Attorney's fees for the prison closure, we will be giving \$5,000. A MOTION was made by Dalman, supported by Lake, to approve the \$5,000 resolution. A ROLL CALL vote showed all those present voting: YES. Motion Carried.

4. BUDGET AMENDMENTS: A MOTION was made by Dalman, supported by Niemi, that the amendments be made to the following accounts: Township Hall/Grounds Internet Fee, account #101-265-853, Previous Budget Amount \$0, Plus \$17,230, Amended Budget Amount \$17,230; Charges for Revenue-Services Rendered, account #101-000-626, Previous Budget Amount \$0, Plus \$17,230, Amended Budget Amount \$17,230; General Fund to remain unchanged at \$498,447 as these two new accounts serve as incoming and outgoing for the Merit Internet service to be paid by GogebicRange.net. A ROLL CALL vote showed all those present voting: YES. Motion Carried. A MOTION was made by Dalman, supported by Spencer, to approve the amendments for the following accounts to help pay Marenisco's attorney fee for the prison closure case: Attorney Professional Service, account #101-266-801, Previous Budget Amount \$1,000, Plus \$5,000, Amended Budget Amount \$6,000; General Fund, account #101-000-680, Previous Budget Amount \$498,447, Minus \$5,000, Amended Budget Amount \$493,447. A ROLL CALL vote showed all those present voting: YES. Motion Carried.

EXTENDED PUBLIC COMMENT

ANNOUNCEMENTS/ADJOURNMENT

1. NEXT REGULAR MEETING- Tuesday December 4, 2018, 5:30 P.M.
2. MTA meeting: None in November.
3. BOARD OF REVIEW DATES: Tuesday, December 11, 2018 at 5:00 pm- Errors and omissions, principal resident exemption and to consider poverty exemptions.
4. TAX APPEALS DATES -Monday, March 11, 2019-9:00 am-3:00pm-Tuesday, March 12, 2019-3:00 pm-9:00 pm.
5. PLANNING COMMISSION will meet third Wednesday of each quarter, (March, June, September, December) at 5:00 pm.
6. ADJOURNMENT: A Motion was made by Dalman, supported by Niemi, to adjourn at 7:12 P.M. Motion Carried.

MANDY LAKE; WAKEFIELD TOWNSHIP CLERK

Typed by Mable Wanink; Deputy Clerk