

WAKEFIELD TOWNSHIP
SPECIAL BOARD MEETING
DECEMBER 22, 2020, 5:30 PM by electronic remote access
<http://bluejeans.com/8267610266/4805>
Meeting ID: 826 761 026 6
Password: 4805

Supervisor Lake called the special 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: Mandy Lake, Supervisor; Jennifer Ahonen, Clerk; Denice Laessig, Treasurer; Robert Drier, Trustee and Michelle Wasielewski, Deputy Clerk.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Motion was made by Laessig, supported by Lake, to approve the Agenda. Motion carried. A ROLL CALL vote showed all those present voting YES. Motion Carried.

BRIEF PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA: None

NEW BUSINESS

1. PASSING OF JERRY NIEMI, TRUSTEE: Supervisor Lake discussed the passing of Trustee Niemi and the technicalities of filling the vacant position. The Township has 45 days to advertise, review applications, interview, and appoint a new Trustee. If the Township fails to do so within the 45 days, the Gogebic County Clerk will schedule a special election. The 45-day countdown started on Sunday, December 20, 2020. After discussion, motion was made by Ahonen, supported by Laessig to advertise in the Wakefield News-Bessemer Pick 'n Axe for applicants to fill the four-year-term in the 12/31/20 and 01/07/21 editions with the application deadline of January 15, 2021. A special open meeting will be held January 19, 2021 at 5:30 p.m. for interviews and appointment of the new Trustee. A ROLL CALL vote showed all those present voting YES. Motion carried.

Clerk Ahonen expressed her condolences to the Niemi family. Supervisor Lake expressed her pleasure of working with Trustee Niemi over the years and all the knowledge he brought.

2. APPROVE DESIGNATED ASSESSOR CONTRACT WITH GOGEBIC COUNTY: Supervisor Lake reviewed the previous discussion regarding the contract. Several cities and townships have now approved this contract. Supervisor Lake has contacted Melissa Prisbe for clarification. Ms. Prisbe stated this is another layer of protection that the State is implementing should current township or city assessors fail. Supervisor Lake was assured this will never be the case for Wakefield Township. After discussion, motion was made by Laessig, supported by Ahonen to approve the Designated Assessor Contract with Gogebic County (Kathy Jo Koval), as presented. A ROLL CALL vote showed all those present voting YES. Motion carried.

EXTENDED PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/ADJOURNMENTS

1. NEXT REGULAR MEETING: Tuesday, January 5, 2021 at 5:30 PM.

2. ADJOURNMENT: Motion was made by Laessig, supported by Ahonen, for adjournment at 6:07p.m.
A ROLL CALL vote showed all those present voting YES. Motion carried.

Jennifer Ahonen, CLERK OF WAKEFIELD TOWNSHIP

Typed by: Michelle Wasielewski, DEPUTY CLERK