

WAKEFIELD TOWNSHIP

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

January 7, 2020, 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; Robert Brown, Wakefield City Manager; Dale White, Mayor of the City of Wakefield; and one township resident.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA: A MOTION was made by Dalman, supported by Niemi, to approve the Agenda. Motion Carried.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: A MOTION was made by Dalman, supported by Spencer, to approve the minutes of the Regular Wakefield Township Board Meeting and minutes from the Special Joint Planning Commission Meeting. Motion Carried.

BRIEF PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS: Robert Brown suggested a joint meeting with the Wakefield City Council and Wakefield Township Board to discuss joint efforts and common goals. A meeting will be set up soon.

APPROVAL OF BILLS: A Motion was made by Dalman, supported by Niemi, 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. GOGEBIC RANGE WATER AUTHORITY: Nominations for officers were taken. Operating expenses were presented and discussed. An alternate for Jim Spencer is needed. There was some replacement work done at the Blackjack pump station. The Audit presentation was rescheduled due to inclement weather. The lead and copper results for the Gogebic Range came back good.
2. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT-TAX FORECLOSURES: the tax foreclosure list was discussed. Individual residents were not on the list, but one business did make the list. INTERNET: Talked to Brandon at GogebicRange.net again about internet coverage, and the possibility of a tower on the township hall was discussed. Prices will be coming from Brandon to do such a project.
3. SUPERVISOR'S REPORT-DECEMBER BOR: three cases looked at. SNOWPLOWING AT TOWNSHIP HALL: will probably have to push back the banks for the election and BOR to be held in March. Silver Creek Excavating submitted a price of \$250 to push the banks back. SNOWMOBILE NOISE: still need signs up at Indianhead. Rapid Grafiks was contacted and 4 signs were ordered at \$50/sign. Signs will read "Noise Enforcement Area In Effect, Residential Area." MASTER PLAN: recommending that the Township pay all of the bill this year to clear the books, rather than splitting the payment up into two payments in different fiscal years.
4. TREASURER'S REPORT: As of December 31, 2019, the General Fund #101 had a beginning balance of \$31,160.66; with receipts totaling \$11,572.07, expenditures of \$5,388.21, payroll of \$4,253.01, leaving an ending balance of \$33,091.51. A Motion was made by Niemi, supported by Spencer, to

approve the Treasurer's Report as presented and placed on file. A ROLL CALL vote showed all those present voting: YES. Motion Carried.

5. SOLID WASTE REPORT: The board approved to write off bad debts that totaled \$515.36. One employee resigned, one part time CDL driver was hired. The Garbage Collection Extension (3 year contract) with Wakefield Township was approved at \$14.35/household, to include four 40 yd dumpsters for spring cleanup. Christmas bonuses were approved for the full time and part time employees.
6. SECTION 32 REPORT: Meeting is next month. Discussed that a good project to complete would be to digitize the location of the sewer lines. Maps are available but it would be helpful to have the files be electronic also.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. GOGEBIC COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
2. GOGEBIC COUNTY ROAD COMMISSIONERS: They will be plowing Old M-28, which was thought to be a seasonal road and is part of snowmobile trail 8.
3. MTA LEGISLATIVE: The State needs to come up with a road plan.
4. XCEL ENERGY: Outdoor lighting service rates
5. UPSET: Letter requesting funding.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS

1. SET BUDGET/FUTURE GOALS WORKSHOP DATE: Wednesday, January 22 at 10am.
2. CONFIRM 2020 IRS MILEAGE RATE: now \$0.58/mile. Went up from \$0.545/mile in 2019. A Motion was made by Dalman, supported by Spencer, to accept the new mileage rate. A ROLL CALL vote showed all those present voting: YES. Motion Carried.
3. CONTRACT EXTENSION WITH THE CITY OF WAKEFIELD: Discussed a worksheet that was provided to show amounts with a 3% increase each year through 2022-2023 fiscal year. The amount for 2020-2021 will be \$23,097 with an additional one-time payment of \$3,000 as a matching contribution to a Rural Development Grant that the City received to purchase a Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus Refill Station for the Fire Department. The amount in 2021-2022 will be \$23,789 and the amount in 2022-2023 will be \$24,503. A Motion was made by Spencer, supported by Niemi, to accept the Contract Extension amounts with the City of Wakefield. A ROLL CALL vote showed all those present voting: YES. Motion Carried.
4. CONTRACT EXTENSION WITH GRSWMA: The GRSWMA was contacted about continuing the solid waste collection service with them, which would be ending in April with the current contract. The GRSWMA board proposed a 3 year contract extension at the current rate with terms beginning April 2020 and ending March 2023. A Motion was made by Dalman, supported by Niemi, to continue collection with the GRSWMA with the proposed terms. A ROLL CALL vote showed all those present voting: YES. Motion Carried.
5. CONTRACT EXTENSION-AUDITOR MAKELA, POLLACK & AHONEN, P.L.L.C.: Karl Ahonen proposed a contract extension for the next three years with the following fees:

Audit of Financial Statements for fiscal year ending March 31, 2020	\$4,800
Compilation of State of Michigan Form F-65 for fiscal year March 31, 2021	\$2,700
Audit of Financial Statements for fiscal year ending March 31, 2022	\$4,900

A Motion was made by Dalman, supported by Spencer, to continue the auditor service with those rates for the next three years. A ROLL CALL vote showed all those present voting: YES. Motion Carried.

6. APPOINT MANDY LAKE AS ALTERNATE TO GOGEBIC RANGE WATER AUTHORITY: An alternate to Jim Spencer is needed for the GRWA. A Motion was made by Dalman, supported by Cox, to have Mandy Lake be Jim Spencer's alternate for the GRWA. A ROLL CALL vote showed all those present voting: YES. Motion Carried.
7. SUMMER TAX COLLECTION AGREEMENT FOR THE W-M SCHOOL DISTRICT: The school is asking us to continue to collect the school's taxes. A Motion was made by Dalman, supported by Spencer, to agree to continue to the collection. A ROLL CALL vote showed all those present voting: YES. Motion Carried.

EXTENDED PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/ADJOURNMENT

1. NEXT REGULAR MEETING- Tuesday, February 4, 2020 at 5:30 PM
2. MTA meeting- None in January.
3. BOARD OF REVIEW ORGANIZATIONAL (NO TAX APPEALS)- Tuesday, March 4, 2020, 4:30pm
4. BOARD OF REVIEW TAX APPEAL DATES-The March Board of Review which will hear tax appeals will be on the following dates: Monday, March 9, 2020, 9am-3pm, and Tuesday, March 10, 2020, 3pm-9pm.
5. PLANNING COMMISSION will meet the third Wednesday of each quarter, (March, June, September, December) at 5:00 pm or as necessary.
6. ADJOURNMENT: A Motion was made by Dalman, supported by Niemi, to adjourn at 6:08 P.M. Motion Carried.

MANDY LAKE; CLERK OF WAKEFIELD TOWNSHIP