

WAKEFIELD TOWNSHIP PUBLIC HEARING
FOR THE 2020-2021 BUDGET MEETING
TUESDAY, MARCH 3, 2020, AT 5:30 PM

Supervisor Cox called the public hearing to order, leading all those present in The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

Roll Call of in attendance; Supervisor John Cox; Treasurer Joan Dalman; Clerk Mandy Lake; Trustee Jerry Niemi; Trustee Jim Spencer; Deputy Clerk Mable Wanink. Also, in attendance, Chris Lake, Brandon Yuchasz and members of the township.

BRIEF EXPLANATION OF THE BUDGET:

WAKEFIELD TOWNSHIP GOALS 2020 AND 2021

HIGH FOCUS GOAL-EXPANDED INTERNET SERVICE:

- Phase I- (Summer 2020)- Internet Tower at Wakefield Township Hall capable of reaching out from Hopkins RD to N519, then north through the Thomaston neighborhoods.
- Phase II- (Summer 2021)- Internet service expansion in the Southern and Eastern ends of the township. (Subject to funding)
- Phase III- (Summer 2021-22)-Provide office space for lease in the upper floor of the Township Hall so that companies and individuals can live and work from remotely.

CONTINUING AND COMPLETION GOALS

- Continue to provide support to all current and future businesses in Wakefield Township.
- Devote township funds and work as partners with Gogebic County Road Commission to continue road projects throughout the township.
- Complete work on the Master Plan for the township.
- Blacktop the west area of the township hall parking lot.

WAKEFIELD TOWNSHIP BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS 2020-21

REVENUE

No increase in quarterly rates for garbage collection or building per fees for our residents.

Categories of revenue fine-tuned to be similar to past history.

Mileage rate set for 4.63 mills.

Interest Income remains flat due to low interest rates.

State revenue sharing increased by 2.6%.

Property tax revenue increased from \$110,000 to a projected to be \$135,064 thanks to our new and expanded business investments.

EXPENDITURES

Categories of expenditures fine tuned to be similar to past history.

Health and Life Insurance continues to be estimated for all officers and board members saving up to \$100,000.

Salary increases of (cost of living 3%) for Board Members, Deputy, Custodian, and summer help. Election workers increased to \$14.00 an hour.

Salaries for Treasurer, Clerk, and Supervisor include use of vehicle for local travel (Ironwood, Bessemer and Wakefield.)

Per Diems held at the same levels as last year for all appointed boards and elected board. Education budgets continue to emphasize training for board members, especially newly elected ones, appointed boards and employees to increase efficiencies.

Compensation for Board Members attending workshops and meetings limited to an average of two meetings per month.

Public Works category funded at \$51,500 for road improvements around the township.

Spring Cleanup funded for spring for one and a half days.

Fund improvements at the Township Hall including new pavement on the parking lot.

Continue contracts for services from the City of Wakefield.

Maintains fund balance to fund 2 years of expenditures in case of an emergency. (over \$500,000)

Considers funding for Phase I of internet service.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON 20-21 BUDGET

ADJOURN PUBLIC HEARING

1. Public Hearing was adjourned at 5:51 PM.

WAKEFIELD TOWNSHIP BOARD

REGULAR MEETING

TUESDAY, MARCH 3, 2020, 5:51 PM

Supervisor Cox called the Wakefield Township Board meeting to order and lead those present in the Pledge Allegiance to the Flag of United States of America,

ROLL CALL: PRESENT: John Cox, Supervisor; Mandy Lake, Clerk; Joan Dalman, Treasurer; Trustees, Jim Spencer and Jerry Niemi; Mable Wanink, Deputy Clerk. Also, in attendance Chris Lake, representing Silver Creek Trucking, Brandon Yuchasz, representing Gogebic Range.Net, and members of the township.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: A MOTION was made by Dalman, supported by Niemi, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: A MOTION was made by Spencer, supported by Niemi, to approve the minutes of the regular Wakefield Township Board meeting as presented. Motion carried.

BRIEF PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS: None

APPROVAL OF BILLS: A MOTION was made by Dalman, supported by Spencer, to approve 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 .NET- BRANDON YUCHASZ: A proposal for an Internet tower at the township hall. It would be 150 ft tall, there would be no need for a flashing light at this height, there would be 3 anchor points, a small shed would be put up, the broadcast would be strong enough for all of Thomaston, New 25mg service to update all old customers and reach new customers. The wires would be marked for safety, the township could put an office up in the township hall. AT&T is abandoning all copper wire, up-grade their equipment.
2. CHRIS LAKE-SILVER-CREEK TRUCKING: Silver Creek Trucking proposes to buy 3 acres of land by Extreme Tool to put up a home base building, approximately 40 ft by 60 ft, to use for storage and repairs.
3. GOGEBIC RANGE WATER AUTHORITY: Asset Management, flow charts, Bingo's has been put off until next month, emergency funds for generators and updating the computers will be discussed at the next meeting.
4. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT-PROGRESS EDITION: It showcases our area to show all the good things going on in Wakefield Township.
5. SUPERVISORS REPORT-PIPELINE TRAINING THURSDAY, APRIL 2, 2020 AT 5:30 PM AT INDIANHEAD; MDOT PAVING PROJECT FROM BESSEMER TO WAKEFIELD ON US 2 STARTING JULY UNTIL SEPTEMBER 11; BLACKJACK BRIDGE TO BE STARTED THIS SUMMER: Pipeline Training is at Indianhead on April 2, 2020 at 5:30 PM, MDOT will be chip sealing US 2 between Bessemer and Wakefield starting in July until September 11, 2020.

6. TREASURER'S REPORT: The General Fund #101 had a balance of \$54,204.61 as of February 29, 2020, with Receipts of \$121,544.46, Expenditures of \$5,574.34 and Payroll of \$4,501.25, leaving an ending balance of \$164,673.48. A Motion was made by Niemi, supported Spencer, to approve the Treasure's report as presented and placed of file. Motion Carried.
7. ZONING ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT: It's very slow.
8. SECTION 32: No meeting.
9. SOLID WASTE AUTHORITY: They need new doors on the building.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. GOGEBIC COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS:
2. GOGEBIC COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION:
3. MTA LEGISATIVE: There's not much happening until after the election.
4. VETERAN'S COUNCIL-REQUEST: They are requesting a 10% increase over last year because of our increase in S.E.V.
5. GCC SKILLED TRADES OPEN HOUSE: John will tour the new skilled trades building.
6. MPSC GAS COST RECOVERY PLAN AND OTHER STUFF: Normal correspondence.
7. CHARTER: Raising prices.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS

1. APPROVAL OF THE 20-21 BUDGET AND SUPPORTING MILLAGE: A Motion was made by Dalman, supported by Spencer, to adopt the Fiscal 20-21 Operating Budget as presented beginning April 1, 2020. A ROLL CALL vote showed all those present voting YES. Motion Carried.
2. SALARY RESOLUTIONS FOR BOARD MEMBERS: Each board member read their own base salary resolution to be effective April 1, 2020.

A Motion was made by Supervisor Cox that the salary of the office of Supervisor shall be as follows: Effective April 1, 2020, the salary of the office of Supervisor shall be \$17,627, including local travel and Economic Development Administration. Treasurer Dalman supported this motion. A ROLL CALL vote showed all those present voting YES. Motion Carried.

A Motion was made by Treasurer Dalman that the salary of the office of Treasurer shall be as follows: Effective April 1, 2020, the salary of the office of Treasurer shall be \$17,627, for the duties preformed collecting winter and summer taxes, along with the regular duties of the township treasurer and local travel. Trustee Spencer supported this Motion. A Roll Call vote showed all those present voting YES. Motion Carried.

A Motion was made by Clerk Lake that the salary of the office of Clerk shall be as follows: Effective April 1, 2020, the salary of the office of the Clerk shall be \$17,627, for duties performed by the Clerk, including travel. \$200 for duties performed by the Clerk for a special election called by the State of Michigan and reimbursed by the State. Supervisor Cox supported the Motion. A Roll Call vote showed all those present voting YES. Motion Carried.

A Motion was made by Trustee Spencer that the salary of the office of Trustee shall be as follows: Effective April 1, 2020, the salary of the office of Trustee shall be \$3,537, for the duties performed as Trustee. The Motion was supported by Supervisor Cox. A Roll Call vote showed all those present voting YES. Motion Carried.

3. FUND BALANCE COMMITMENT-\$200,000 FOR ROADS; \$100,000 FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: State of Michigan requirements say that the township must have 10% of the Wakefield Township General Fund Balance to cover operating cost for specific things. Supervisor Cox recommends \$200,000 for roads and \$100,000 for Economic Development. A Motion was made by Niemi, supported by Dalman, to accept the motion. A Roll Call vote showed all those present voting YES. Motion Carried.
4. ADOPT COMPENSATION SCHEDULE FOR 20-21 FOR APPOINTED BOARDS AND EMPLOYEES: See attached compensation schedule. A Motion was made by Spencer, supported by Dalman, to accept the motion. A Roll Call vote showed all those present voting YES. Motion Carried.
5. BOARD MEMBER TRAVEL AND EDUCATION FOR 20-21 TO LOCAL, DISTRICT AND STATE CONFERENCES: A Motion was made by Spencer, supported by Niemi, to accept the motion. A Roll Call vote showed all those present voting YES. Motion Carried.
6. MEETING DATES; BANKS OF RECORD; AND NEWSPAPER:

MEETING DATES:

| | | |
|---------------|-------------------|------------------|
| April 7, 2020 | August 5, 2020 | December 1, 2020 |
| May 5, 2020 | September 1, 2020 | January 5, 2021 |
| June 2, 2020 | October 6, 2020 | February 2, 2021 |
| July 7, 2020 | November 4, 2020 | March 2, 2021 |

The Regular Board Meetings will be on the first Tuesday of each month at 5:30 PM, except for August, it will be on Wednesday, August 4th is the Primary Election, and November, it will also be on Wednesday because November 3rd is the General Election.

BANKS OF RECORD

The following institutions were chosen as depositories for Wakefield Township funds:

First National Bank of Wakefield, MI

Gogebic Range Bank of Ironwood, MI

Incredible Bank of Ironwood, MI

NEWSPAPER OF RECORD

Wakefield News/Bessemer Pick and Axe

A Motion was made by Dalman, supported by Spencer, to approve the meeting dates, banks of record and Newspaper of record. A Roll Call vote showed all those present voting YES. Motion Carried

- 7. GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT: Board of Trustee’s resolve. A Motion was made by Dalman, supported by Lake, to accept the motion. A Roll Call vote showed all those present voting YES. Motion Carried.
- 8. BUDGET AMMENDMENTS 19-20: A Motion was made by Dalman, supported by Niemi, to accept the following Budget Amendments:

| Account | Previous Bud. Amt. | Plus or Minus | Amended Bud. Amt |
|-------------|--------------------|---------------|------------------|
| 101-721-956 | \$7,850.00 | +\$7,850.00 | \$15,700.00 |
| 101-000-680 | \$507,969.26 | -\$7,850.00 | \$500,119.26 |

A Roll Call vote showed all those present voting YES. Motion Carried.

- 9. VETERAN’S COUNCIL PAYMENT: A Motion was made by Dalman, supported by Spencer, to approve a payment increase this year. A Roll Call vote showed all those present voting YES. Motion Carried.
- 10. AUTHORIZATION TO PROCEED WITH THE ROAD COMMISSION/TOWNSHIP ROAD PROJECTS FOR 20-21: A Motion was made by Dalman, supported by Niemi, to proceed with signing of the contracts. A Roll Call vote showed all those present voting YES. Motion Carried.
- 11. AUTHORIZATION TO PROCEED WITH PAVING OF THE TOWNSHIP HALL PARKING LOT: A Motion was made by Dalman, supported by Spencer, to sign the contract to proceed with paving the parking lot. A Roll Call vote showed all those present voting YES. Motion Carried.
- 12. AUTHORIZATION TO PROCEED WITH THE INTERNET TOWER PROJECT: A Motion was made by Dalman, supported by Niemi, to proceed with the Internet Tower Project. A Roll Call vote showed all those present voting YES. Motion Carried.
- 13. AUTHORIZATION TO PROCEDD WITH SALE OF INDUSTRIAL PARK LAND: A Motion was made by Spencer, supported by Niemi, to approve the sale of the Industrial Park Land. With Lake abstaining from the vote, A Roll Call vote of the remaining board members voting YES. Motion Carried.
- 14. CANDIDATES FOR ELECTED TOWNSHIP OFFICES: Not a lot of interest.

EXTENDED PUBLIC COMMENT

- 1. The chip seal spots on Johnson RD. by the culvert need to be looked at.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/ ADJOURNMENTS

- 1. NEXT REGULAR WAKEFIELD TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING, TUESDAY, April 7, 2020 AT 5:30 PM
- 2. PRIMARY ELECTION AND 911 BALLOT ISSUE-TUESDAY, MARCH 10, 2020, 7:00 AM-8:00 PM
- 3. MARCH BOARD OF REVIEW FOR TAX APPEALS WILL BE ON THE FOLLOWING DATES: MONDAY, MARCH 9, 2020, 9:00 AM TO 3:00 PM AND Tuesday, March 10, 2020 from 3:00 pm to 9:00 pm.

4. SPRING CLEANUP FRIDAY, MAY 15, 2020 9:00 AM TO 4:00 PM AND SATURDAY, MAY 16, 2020 FROM 9:00 AM TO 12:00 PM. Tires will not be accepted this year.
5. PETITIONS TO RUN FOR WAKEFIELD TOWNSHIP BOARD OFFICERS ARE DUE BY TUESDAY, APRIL 21, 2020 AT 4:00 PM. CONTACT CLERK MANDY LAKE FOR A PETITION AT 906-364-0669
6. ADJOURNMENT: A Motion was made by Dalman, supported by Spencer, for adjournment at 6:50 pm. Motion Carried.

MANDY LAKE, WAKEFIELD TOWNSHIP CLERK

Typed by Mable Wanink, Deputy Clerk

WAKEFIELD TOWNSHIP PAY RATES FOR 2020-2021
Effective April 1, 2020

| | |
|--|------------------------|
| BOARD MEMBERS- PER DIEM 4 HOURS OR LESS--- | \$58.00 |
| 4 HOURS PLUS----- | \$116.00 |
| MILEAGE----- | \$.58 PER MILE |
| VA COUNCIL PER DIEM----- | \$58.00 |
| ZONING BOARD PER DIEM----- | \$58.00 |
| PLANNING COMMISSION PER DIEM----- | \$58.00 |
| BOR PER DIEM----- | \$58.00 |
| BOR ORGANIZE/ALL DAY MON/TUES/WEDS----- | \$290.00 TOTAL |
| ELECTION WORKER- CHAIRPERSON----- | \$14.00 PER HOUR |
| ELECTION WORKER- BOARD----- | \$14.00 PER HOUR |
| DEPUTIES: | |
| CLERK: REG MEETING----- | \$67.00 |
| SPECIAL MEETING----- | \$40.00 |
| CLERK----- | \$15.00 PER HOUR |
| TREASURER----- | \$22.00 PER HOUR |
| SUPERVISOR----- | \$22.00 PER HOUR |
| BUILDING INSPECTOR----- | \$22.00 PER INSPECTION |
| ZONING ADMINISTRATOR----- | \$22.00 PER HOUR |
| ROBERT DRIER EXTRA MAINTENANCE WORK----- | \$19.50 PER HOUR |
| SUMMER HELP----- | \$10.00 PER HOUR |
| SNOWPLOWING----- | \$35.00 PER HOUR |
| LAWN MOWING----- | \$35.00 PER HOUR |

SALARIES (ANNUAL)

| | |
|----------------------|----------|
| SUPERVISOR----- | \$17,627 |
| CLERK----- | \$17,627 |
| TREASURER----- | \$17,627 |
| TRUSTEE----- | \$3,537 |
| CUSTODIAN----- | \$3,208 |
| ASSESSOR (EMPLOYEE)- | \$3,520 |
| ASSESSOR (CONTRACT)- | \$11,580 |