

WAKEFIELD TOWNSHIP  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
June 1, 2021, 5:30 PM

Supervisor Lake called the regular Wakefield Township Board meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL: Mandy Lake, Supervisor Jennifer Ahonen, Clerk; Denice Laessig, Treasurer; Robert Drier, Trustee; Michael Heikkila, Trustee; and Michelle Wasielewski, Deputy Clerk.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Motion was made by Laessig, supported by Heikkila, to approve the Agenda. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: Motion was made by Laessig, supported by Ahonen, to approve the regular board meeting minutes from May 3, 2021. Motion carried.

BRIEF PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA: No public comment.

APPROVAL OF BILLS: Motion was made by Heikkila, supported by Drier, to accept the bills as presented for payment to include the check detail report, Xcel Energy bills and payroll. Additional approval was requested to make payment to Capital One for \$385.15 which was not received in time to be processed for this meeting. ROLL CALL vote showed all those present voting YES. Motion carried.

REPORTS:

1. GOGEBIC RANGE WATER AUTHORITY: Clerk Ahonen and Treasurer Laessig attended the meeting on May 13, 2021. Clerk Ahonen summarized the meeting highlighting the following:
  - Received an updated powerpoint from C2AE Engineers of the asset management summary which is available for all to review. The transfer of the Indianhead water customers to the City of Wakefield continues to be discussed. The City of Wakefield hopes to give an answer in July. However, if the City of Wakefield turns it down, conversation will start with Bessemer Township if they would be interested in taking over these water customers. Wakefield Township would need to be involved in these discussions and there would be a lot more issues to be worked out for this to happen. In regards to the asset management, approval was made to reallocate some board designated funds that had been left over from a rural development grant that they were allowed to keep. About \$450,000 was in the account, \$350,000 of which will be set aside for capital improvement along with a couple more years of payments. There are some funds sitting in an O&M Account from when Blackjack water was transferred to Bessemer Township. Discussion is being held to come up with an amount to be transferred to Bessemer Township. The 2022 Budget and rates were approved.
2. SUPERVISOR/ZONING ADMINISTRATOR REPORT:
  - Spring Clean-up: Clean-up was held on May 22. All went really well with disposal of 9,800 lbs. of garbage from townships residents. The amount is going down from year to year. Blight letters will be sent out this week. After the clean-up some properties that were previously identified are good, some are ok and some are the same.
  - Ambulance meeting: Supervisor Lake attended the meeting virtually. The information received at the meeting was the same that was updated at the last MTA meeting.

- South Boundary Road: Supervisor Lake received correspondence that the paving has been completed as of May 18, 2021. The completed portion and the anticipated paving for next year did not cover some very large potholes that need to be addressed.
3. TREASURER'S REPORT: As of May 31, 2021, the General Fund #101 had a beginning balance of \$128,197.15 with receipts totaling \$46,033.09; expenditures of \$30,496.78; payroll of \$5,090.71, leaving an ending balance of \$138,642.75. Treasurer Laessig shared some Forestry and Parks information that was received from the County. It is available for review. At the last meeting discussion was held regarding parcels that are owned by the Township. Treasurer Laessig researched and presented her findings. Motion was made by Ahonen, supported by Drier, to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented and placed on file. ROLL CALL vote showed all those present voting YES. Motion carried.
  4. SECTION 32 REPORT: No meeting, however a special meeting is going to be scheduled to look at hiring an engineer to look at the system.
  5. SOLID WASTE AUTHORITY: No meeting as there was not a quorum.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

1. Gogebic County Board of Commissioners: Supervisor Lake forwarded any correspondence.
2. MTA Legislative Updates: American Rescue Plan Act funds will not be automatic, townships will have to apply. However, no application is currently available.
3. UPSET Letter: Upper Peninsula Substance Enforcement Team is asking for funding. They are the same as our local GIANT program.
4. MTPP Policy Change: An updated insurance policy should be received by July 1<sup>st</sup>. Supervisor Lake shared the change regarding communicable disease transmission.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: No unfinished business.

NEW BUSINESS: No new business.

EXTENDED PUBLIC COMMENT: No public comment.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS/ADJOURNMENTS**

1. REGULAR MEETING: Tuesday, July 6, 2021 at 5:30 p.m.
2. MTA MEETING: Tuesday, June 22, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. – Bessemer Township Picnic
3. PLANNING COMMISSION: Third Wednesday of each quarter (March, June, September, December) at 5:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion was made by Laessig, supported by Ahonen, for adjournment at 6:17 p.m. Motion carried.

Jennifer Ahonen, CLERK OF WAKEFIELD TOWNSHIP

Typed by: Michelle Wasielewski, DEPUTY CLERK