

WAKEFIELD TOWNSHIP  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
MAY 3, 2022, 5:30 PM

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

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

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

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: Motion was made by Laessig, supported by Heikkila, to approve the meeting minutes from April 5, 2022. Motion carried.

BRIEF PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA: No public comment.

APPROVAL OF BILLS: Motion was made by Laessig, supported by Drier, to accept the bills and payroll as presented for payment. ROLL CALL vote showed all those present voting YES. Motion carried.

REPORTS:

1. GOGEBIC RANGE WATER AUTHORITY: Treasurer Laessig summarized the meeting that was held on April 14, 2022, attended by she and Clerk Ahonen, highlighting the following:
  - Approved the minutes with one change.
  - Claims were approved.
  - Discussed bylaws.
  - There were no applications received for the Board Member vacancy, the ad will be reposted.
  - Approved to upgrade the billing system and pay for training on that system.
  - All financial reports were presented.
  - One public member, a retired C2AE employee, spoke about the importance of the GRWA continuing to be a positive group in the community.
2. SUPERVISOR/ZONING ADMINISTRATOR REPORT:
  - Supervisor Lake gave Highland Copper a tour of the building.
  - At the MTA meeting last week the schedule was set for the upcoming year. Next meeting is scheduled for June in Bessemer. Search and Rescue will be there.
  - Working on the spring newsletter. Please let Supervisor Lake know if you would like anything added. Hope to get it out next week.
  - Blight ride around is scheduled for May 11, 2022, meet at the Township Hall at 5:30 p.m. Please check address signs at the same time.
3. TREASURER'S REPORT: As of April 30, 2022, the General Fund #101 had a beginning balance of \$215,543.59 with receipts totaling \$12,089.61; expenditures of \$20,301.06; payroll of \$4,866.46; leaving an ending balance of \$202,465.68. There is a deposit from April 29, 2022 that is reflected in this report of \$4,963. Motion was made by Drier, supported by Laessig, to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented and place on file. ROLL CALL vote showed all those present voting

YES. Motion carried. Treasurer Laessig also shared that she received a booklet from Gogebic County Parks and Forestry if anyone would like to review it.

4. SOLID WASTE AUTHORITY: Trustee Heikkila attended the meeting a proposal is being drafted to send two part-time workers to Gogebic Community College to obtain their CDL license. A garage is being built to house the electronics that are brought there.
5. SECTION 32 REPORT: A public hearing is scheduled for May 10, 2022 at 5:30 p.m.

#### CORRESPONDENCE:

1. Gogebic County Board of Commissioners: Supervisor Lake has emailed the correspondence
2. MTA Legislative Updates: Not too much going on for us.
3. Section 32 Project Plan: This is available for review in the office for anyone interested.
4. State Electrical Assistance: Notice received on April 29, 2022 regarding the enforcement of the state electrical code. Supervisor Lake will call the attorney to see about rescinding our ordinance if we have one. This will be discussed at the next meeting.

#### UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. Decibel meter: Supervisor Lake has been unable to speak with the sheriff, this will be tabled until she receives more information.
2. Lawn mowing: After discussion motion was made by Heikkila, supported by Drier to hire back the same employee and increase the hourly rate to \$40 due to rising fuel costs and the personal use of equipment. ROLL CALL vote showed all those present voting YES. Motion carried.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

1. GCRC Road Contract: Niemela Road to be done this year, our portion is 60% of the cost, approximately \$60,000. Motion was made by Laessig, supported by Drier to sign the contract. ROLL CALL vote showed all those present voting YES. Motion carried.
2. Scrap Tire Grant: There is a poster made up regarding the information of the scrap tire collection to be held in June. After discussion, motion was made by Laessig, supported by Drier to absorb the additional \$2 per tire for the township tax payers. ROLL CALL vote showed all those present voting YES. Motion carried.

OTHER BUSINESS: No other business.

#### EXTENDED PUBLIC COMMENT:

1. Joe Corullo from the Gogebic County Road Commission came to introduce himself as he has just been assigned as our region's foreman.
2. Robert Brown, Michael Yon, and Michael Singleton were present to request additional funding to upgrade the current jaws-of-life equipment. The current equipment runs on gas with hoses and is very inconvenient the upgraded one will be on battery and easier to carry into tight places. Supervisor Lake asked for more concrete numbers. This will be added to the next agenda.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS/ADJOURNMENTS

1. REGULAR MEETING: Tuesday, June 7, 2022 at 5:30 p.m.

2. Spring Cleanup Date: Saturday, June 4 2022; 8:00 a.m.-Noon at Western UP Recycling Center in Wakefield Township Industrial Park.
3. Scrap Tire Collection: June 1 – 4, 2022; 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. at City of Wakefield DPW garage.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion was made by Laessig, supported by Drier, for adjournment at 6:21 p.m. Motion carried.

Jennifer Ahonen, CLERK OF WAKEFIELD TOWNSHIP

Typed by: Michelle Wasielewski, DEPUTY CLERK