

WAKEFIELD TOWNSHIP  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
JANUARY 5, 2021, 5:30 PM by electronic remote access  
<https://b;uejeans.com/8267610266/4805>  
Meeting ID: 826 761 026 6  
Password: 4805

Supervisor Lake 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: 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 Drier, to approve the Agenda. ROLL CALL vote showed all those present voting YES. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: Motion was made by Ahonen, supported by Laessig, to approve the regular board meeting minutes from December 1, 2020 and special board meeting minutes from December 22, 2020 as presented. ROLL CALL vote showed all those present voting YES. Motion carried.

BRIEF PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA: None

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

REPORTS AND APPEARANCES:

1. GOGEBIC RANGE WATER AUTHORITY: The December meeting was canceled, there should be a meeting in January.
  
2. SUPERVISOR'S REPORT/ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT-
  - Ms. Lake was contacted by the Ironwood Daily Globe to write an article for the Progress Edition. She is going to look at some of the other articles that were written for guidance. Once an article is drafted, it will be shared with other members for input.
  - Emergency management/COVID meeting was held on 12/2/20 and another on 12/16/20. The next meeting is 01/06/21. The numbers seem to be slowing down and vaccinations have started.
  - BOR members were all present at the last meeting. There is another meeting scheduled for March.
  - Training opportunities for board members were discussed. Ms. Lake has not been getting any updates since becoming Supervisor. Ms. Ahonen received an email regarding the updating of board members and their contact information so she will see if she can update all contacts and get Ms. Lake re-registered. Ms. Lake asked Ms. Ahonen to see how much the training budget is set for and if BOR members are included in the budget line. It is important that all members take advantage of trainings to learn their positions,

especially with the large turnover this year. Ms. Ahonen will update Ms. Lake regarding the budgeted amounts.

- The special meeting scheduled for 01/19/21 to interview and appoint the new Trustee is set. Ms. Lake heard from the attorney and the approved process is correct.
3. TREASURER'S REPORT: As of December 31, 2020, the General Fund #101 had a beginning balance of \$16,445.95 with receipts totaling \$23,963.14; expenditures of \$4,712.92; payroll of \$4,712.92, leaving an ending balance of \$31,111.02. Motion was made by Drier, supported by Ahonen, 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 report, there is a meeting scheduled in January.
  5. SOLID WASTE AUTHORITY: A new front-end loader was purchased after receiving several bids. They were able to trade in the old one and finance the new one on a 2-year 0% interest loan. Bids will be posted for the transferring and disposal of waste. The current company's contract (Hiawatha) expires in May.

#### CORRESPONDENCE

1. GOGEBIC COUNTY BOARD of COMMISSIONERS: Ms. Lake forwarded the most recent minutes to all for update.
2. GOGEBIC COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION: Ms. Lake has not received an update; she will look into why she hasn't received any minutes. These will then be forwarded to all for review.
3. MTA LEGISLATIVE: All members should be receiving the newsletter via email starting 01/08/21. Virtual meetings will continue through 03/30/21. Minimum wage increase will not go into effective due to the unemployment rate.
4. CHARTER: Township residents do not have Charter Communications, only Indianhead. But the Township always receives correspondence from them regarding the adding and deleting of channels.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

#### NEW BUSINESS

1. APPOINT PLANNING COMMISSION MEMBER: Ms. Lake discussed the need for a new member to the Planning Commission. After discussion it was decided that the appointment will be tabled until the new Trustee is appointed. The next Planning Commission meeting is scheduled for March.
2. APPOINT SECTION 32 MEMBER: Section 32 is the sewer authority at Indianhead. These meetings are held quarterly with the next one scheduled for 01/20/21. Ms. Lake recommended that Mr. Drier be appointed to be the representative. Motion was made by Ahonen, supported by Lake to appoint Mr. Drier as the Section 32 member. ROLL CALL vote showed all those present voting YES. Motion carried.
3. APPROVE TRAINING FOR NEW BOARD MEMBERS, BOR MEMBERS, PLANNING COMMISSION MEMBERS: Motion was made by Laessig, supported by Drier to approve training for the new board members, BOR members, and planning commission members per previous discussion. ROLL CALL vote showed all those present voting YES. Motion carried.

4. SET BUDGET/FUTURE GOALS WORKSHOP: After discussion regarding the upcoming meeting all members agreed to hold the budget/future goals workshop on 01/26/21 starting at 5:00 p.m. It is hopeful the meeting will be in-person at the Township Hall.
5. 2021 IRS MILEAGE RATE: The 2021 mileage rate is set by the IRS at \$0.56 per mile. Motion was made by Laessig, supported by Drier to approve the 2021 mileage rate of \$0.56 per mile. ROLL CALL vote showed all those present voting YES. Motion carried.

EXTENDED PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS/ADJOURNMENTS

1. NEXT REGULAR MEETING: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 at 5:30 p.m.
2. SPECIAL MEETING: Tuesday, January 19, 2021 at 5:30 p.m.
3. MTA MEETING: Canceled due to rising COVID-19 numbers.
4. SECTION 32 MEETING: Wednesday, January 20, 2021 at 5:00 p.m.
5. BOR: Dates to be set in March.
6. PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING: Meetings will be held the third Wednesday of each quarter, (March, June, September and December) at 5:00 p.m. or as necessary.
7. ADJOURNMENT: Motion was made by Drier, supported by Laessig, for adjournment at 6:20 p.m. ROLL CALL vote showed all those present voting YES. Motion carried.

Jennifer Ahonen, CLERK OF WAKEFIELD TOWNSHIP

Typed by: Michelle Wasielewski, DEPUTY CLERK