

WAKEFIELD TOWNSHIP
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
November 9, 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 with the deletion of Agenda Item J:5, as a repeat. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: Motion was made by Laessig, supported by Drier, to approve the regular board meeting minutes from October 5, 2021. Motion carried.

BRIEF PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA: No public comment.

APPROVAL OF BILLS: Motion was made by Drier, supported by Laessig, 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 attended the last meeting. Treasurer Laessig summarized the meeting highlighting the following:
 - Tori Davey was there for her first meeting. She is learning a lot.
 - Approved the claims.
 - Bessemer Township is still considering the takeover of Indianhead water.
 - Renewal of the generator inspection contract.
 - There is a new auditor.
 - City of Wakefield requested a meeting with the executive committee to discuss rates.
2. SUPERVISOR/ZONING ADMINISTRATOR REPORT:
 - Needs to discuss the new Merit contract with Brandon.
 - The Indianhead sale is pending as far as we know.
 - Received an email regarding the building of a camp in the township, but camps are only allowed to be built within the Natural Resource District.
 - Melissa is going around doing the annual assessing.
3. TREASURER'S REPORT: As of October 31, 2021, the General Fund #101 had a beginning balance of \$101,298.25 with receipts totaling \$23,065.10; expenditures of \$34,544.55 payroll of \$4,837.51, leaving an ending balance of \$84,981.29. Supervisor Lake questioned what the two State of Michigan deposits were. Treasurer Laessig stated the \$15,491 was the first installment of the ARPA funds and \$5,587 was revenue sharing. Motion was made by Ahonen, supported by Heikkila, 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: C2AE is still working on the report.
5. SOLID WASTE AUTHORITY: Supervisor Lake attended the meeting. Approved a risk management grant which will be used to get a new laptop.

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. Gogebic County Board of Commissioners: Supervisor Lake has emailed the correspondence.
2. MTA Legislative Updates:
 - There is opposition to short-term rentals.
 - MDOT has released their work schedule for the next five years.
3. Gogebic County HMP update: (Hazard Mitigation Plan) We received an update from emergency management, we had completed our paperwork back in June.
4. GRWA Board Member Term Expiration: Received notice of Treasurer Laessig's term expiration.
5. City of Bessemer District Library Meeting: A meeting will be held at the Bessemer Library to discuss the future of all local libraries. Discussion will include ideas of how to lower costs and increase services.
6. VA Council Meeting Minutes: Supervisor Lake will have these available for review.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: No unfinished business.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Election Results: Clerk Ahonen discussed the recent election. The Township had 58 overall votes; 34 absentee and 24 in-person; 40 Yes votes and 18 No votes.
2. GRWA Board Member Appointment: Motion was made by Ahonen, supported by Lake to appointment Treasurer Laessig to the GRWA Board. ROLL CALL vote showed all those present voting YES. Motion carried.
3. Snowplowing bids: One sealed bid was received from Schneck Builders quoting \$85/time, 6" of snow or more and for all meetings. Motion was made by Drier, supported by Ahonen to award the bid to Schneck Builders. ROLL CALL vote showed all those present voting YES. Motion carried.
4. Township Appointed Boards: Discussion was held regarding open spots for all board/committees. Some terms are expired and others are vacant. Appointments will be held at a later date after further discussion. Motion was made by Laessig, supported by Ahonen to appoint Trustee Heikkila as the Solid Waste representative and Supervisor Lake as the alternate. ROLL CALL vote showed all those present voting YES. Motion carried.

OTHER BUSINESS: No other business.

EXTENDED PUBLIC COMMENT: No public comment.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/ADJOURNMENTS

1. REGULAR MEETING: Tuesday, December 7, 2021 at 5:30 p.m.
2. MTA MEETING: Wednesday, January 5, 2022 (tentative)
3. PLANNING COMMISSION: Meetings will be held on the third Wednesday of each quarter (March, June, September, December) at 5:00 p.m.
4. BOR – December 14, 2021 (as of current, there isn't anything for review.)

ADJOURNMENT: Motion was made by Drier, supported by Heikkila, for adjournment at 6:36 p.m. Motion carried.

Jennifer Ahonen, CLERK OF WAKEFIELD TOWNSHIP

Typed by: Michelle Wasielewski, DEPUTY CLERK