

WAKEFIELD TOWNSHIP
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
JULY 5, 2022, 5:30 PM

Clerk Ahonen called the regular Wakefield Township Board meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Motion was made by Laessig, supported by Heikkila, 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 June 7, 2022. Motion carried.

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

BRIEF PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA: Township resident in attendance discussed issues on his property line after a road work project two years ago. Clerk Ahonen is to discuss with Supervisor Lake. Trustee Drier will go to the property with the resident to see the concerns.

REPORTS:

1. GOGEBIC RANGE WATER AUTHORITY: Treasurer Laessig summarized the meeting that was held on June 9, 2022, highlighting the following:
 - Appointed Brandon Tauer as the member at large.
 - EGLE will be making grant opportunities available with their ARPA funds.
 - Water fees for contractors doing special projects.
 - Also attended the budget meeting on 06/21/22 which was not attended by a quorum. It was rescheduled to 06/28/22 and the operating budget was approved.
2. SUPERVISOR/ZONING ADMINISTRATOR REPORT:
 - Supervisor Lake was absent but left a report that was shared by Clerk Ahonen: 5.34 Tons were collected during the Spring Clean-up. Niemela Road work will start during July. The MTA meeting was well attended.
3. TREASURER'S REPORT: As of June 30, 2022, the General Fund #101 had a beginning balance of \$203,425.36 with receipts totaling \$7,085.26; expenditures of \$29,225.84; payroll of \$5,409.87; leaving an ending balance of \$175,874.91. Additional EFT deposits were received on June 30, 2022 of \$15,552.95 and \$5,269 adding to the previous ending balance making it \$196,696.86. Motion was made by Drier, supported by Heikkila, to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented and place on file. ROLL CALL vote showed all those present voting YES. Motion carried.
4. SOLID WASTE AUTHORITY: Trustee Heikkila attended the meeting that was held on 06/16/22. Discussion surrounded rate increases for tonnage and a fuel surcharge. Trustee Heikkila has a copy of the budget if anyone is interested in reading it. Also discussed changing the employee health insurance.

5. PLANNING COMMISSION: Treasurer Laessig attended the meeting on Wednesday, June 15, 2022. There wasn't anything on the agenda. However, Treasurer Laessig updated the commission on the Township's scrap tire grant and spring clean-up.
6. SECTION 32 REPORT: A meeting is scheduled for the end of July.

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. Gogebic County Board of Commissioners: Supervisor Lake has emailed the correspondence.
2. MTA Legislative Updates: Clerk Ahonen had nothing to highlight, however the Board assured that all they receive all updates via email.
3. WVFD Letter: Correspondence was received regarding the recent donation to purchase the new jaws of life. The WVFD and the City of Wakefield are very appreciative.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None at this time.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Par-Plan Insurance Renewal: After discussion, motion was made by Heikkila, supported by Drier to renew the insurance at a rate of \$4,964, an increase of \$160 from last year. ROLL CALL vote showed all those present voting YES. Motion carried.
2. Resolution to Adopt Ballot Millage Language: Clerk Ahonen read the ballot wording for the November vote. Motion was made by Laessig, supported by Drier to approve the wording as presented. ROLL CALL vote showed all those present voting YES. Motion carried.
3. IRS Mileage rate increase: Effective July 1, 2022 the IRS has increased the mileage reimbursement rate 4 cents per gallon (\$.585 to \$.625). Motion was made by Laessig, supported by Heikkila to accept the mileage rate change. ROLL CALL vote showed all those present voting YES. Motion carried.
4. Board Member internet reimbursement rates: Clerk Ahonen discussed reimbursement options for the board members' internet costs. Current practice it was to reimburse the full cost. Members all have different rates. With higher rates should there be a cap on the reimbursement. After discussion, motion was made by Laessig, supported by Drier to table the discussion until Supervisor Lake can be in attendance. Motion carried.
5. Budget Amendments: Clerk Ahonen shared the current budget numbers for the first quarter. Revenues and Expenses should be at about 25% at this time. Some line items are showing over budget due to accruals from the prior fiscal year. Clerk Ahonen is not recommending any budget amendments at this time.

OTHER BUSINESS: No other business.

EXTENDED PUBLIC COMMENT: No public comment.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/ADJOURNMENTS

1. REGULAR MEETING: Tuesday, August 9, 2022 at 5:30 p.m.
2. BOR for Errors and Omissions: Tuesday, July 19, 2022 at 6:00 p.m.
3. State Primary Election: Tuesday, August 2, 2022, polls are open 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion was made by Drier, supported by Heikkila, for adjournment at 6:11 p.m. Motion carried.

Jennifer Ahonen, CLERK OF WAKEFIELD TOWNSHIP

Typed by: Michelle Wasielewski, DEPUTY CLERK