

WAKEFIELD TOWNSHIP
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
March 7, 2023, 5:30 PM

Supervisor Lake called the Wakefield Township Public Hearing for the 2023-2024 Budget Meeting to order and led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

EXPLANATION OF GOALS, ROAD PROJECTS AND BUDGET: Supervisor Lake discussed the goals for the upcoming year. Supervisor Lake outlined the road projects and the budget for such. Supervisor Lake discussed the proposed budget in detail highlighting projected revenue, expenses and salaries. Copies of same were provided.

Budget Summary Fiscal Year 2023-2024

Estimated Revenues

Estimated township general fund revenues for fiscal year 2023-2024, including an allocated millage of 1.6300; voter-authorized millage of 3.0000 mills; and various miscellaneous revenues shall total \$265,790.00.

Estimated Expenditures (# 101 General Fund)

Estimated township General Fund #101 expenditures for fiscal year 2023-2024, for the various township cost centers are as follows:

#101	Township Board	19,460.00
#171	Supervisor	19,598.00
#215	Clerk	30,294.00
#247	Board of Review	850.00
#253	Treasurer	22,476.00
#257	Assessor	15,500.00
#262	Elections	1,400.00
#265	Township Hall/Grounds	38,874.00
#266	Attorney	2,000.00
#276	Cemetery	6,671.00
#366	Fire Protection	10,792.00
#448	Street Lighting	13,041.00
#449	Public Works	50,000.00
#528	Refuse/Collector	7,750.00
#684	VA Council Rep.	650.00
#721	Planning	1,660.00
#722	Zoning	3,250.00
#751	Parks/Recreation	3,467.00
#790	Library	3,332.00
#852	Insurance	6,500.00
#862	FICA	<u>6,000.00</u>

Total Expenses: \$263,565.00

PUBLIC COMMENT ON 2023-2024 BUDGET: No public comment.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion was made by Ahonen, supported by Laessig, for adjournment at 5:41 p.m.
Motion carried.

Supervisor Lake called the regular Wakefield Township Board meeting to order.

ROLL CALL: PRESENT: Mandy Lake, Supervisor; Jennifer Ahonen, Clerk; Denice Laessig, Treasurer; Robert Drier, Trustee; Michael Heikkila, Trustee; and Michelle Wasielewski, Deputy Clerk. ABSENT: None.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Motion was made by Laessig, supported by Drier, to approve the Agenda with the addition of Agenda Item H.6. Michigan Participating Plan Board of Directors letter and J.12. GRSWMA contract rates. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: Motion was made by Laessig, supported by Heikkila, to approve the regular board meeting minutes from February 7, 2023 as presented. Motion carried.

BRIEF PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA: No public comment.

APPROVAL OF BILLS: Motion was made by Drier, supported by Heikkila, to accept the bills 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: Treasurer Laessig discussed the meeting of February 9, 2023. There was a small agenda with just operating claims and the January water sales. Six members were present along with Jeff Randall and Tori Davey.
2. SUPERVISOR/ZONING ADMINISTRATOR REPORT:
 - Supervisor Lake has been in contact with the Road Commission regarding Upper Mattson Road. The Road Commission is going to get pricing for HMA millings extending down Pikka Road, as well as ditching.
 - Road restrictions go on March 8th at noon.
 - Supervisor Lake has received multiple calls regarding zoning and farming.
 - Supervisor Lake attended the Section 32 meeting on February 28th. There is a lot of activity and a lot of questions regarding the upcoming project. There is a special meeting scheduled for Tuesday, March 14th at 5:30 p.m. at the Wakefield Township Hall. Township Board members, Section 32 members, attorney, and engineers will be present to discuss the options for the project from what needs/should be done to financing of such, as well as the timeline.
3. TREASURER'S REPORT: As of February 28, 2023, the General Fund #101 had a beginning balance of \$158,489.28 with receipts totaling \$101,769.38; expenditures of \$6,316.75; payroll of \$5,110.50, leaving an ending balance of \$248,831.41. Motion was made by Ahonen, supported by Drier, 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: No update. Trustee Heikkila did not attend the last meeting.
5. SECTION 32 REPORT: As discussed under the Supervisor's Report.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. Gogebic County Board of Commissioners: Supervisor Lake has emailed the correspondence.
2. MTA Legislative Updates: Supervisor Lake highlighted a few items. All members receive this correspondence.
3. Gogebic County Council of Veterans Affairs Annual Report: Supervisor Lake emailed the correspondence.
4. Hash Creek Special Use Permit-Forest Service: This property is not in Wakefield Township. Correspondence regarding the building of a new road in this area. If the Township has any questions or concerns, Supervisor Lake will reach out to the Forest Service. No concerns expressed at this time.
5. Property visits by Township Personnel: Supervisor Lake received correspondence from a resident regarding training for township personnel in relation to quarantine for avian flu. Discussion was held on when township personnel would need to visit a resident's property. Supervisor Lake will research with MTA for any additional information.
6. Michigan Participating Plan Board of Directors: Supervisor Lake shared the correspondence if anyone would like to be nominated. Currently, Wakefield Township does not have anyone interested in becoming a board member.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS

1. APPROVAL OF 2023-2024 BUDGET and SUPPORTING MILLAGE: Prior discussion was held in detail regarding the new budget. Motion was made by Ahonen, supported by Heikkila, to approve the 2023-2024 Budget and Supporting Millage as presented. ROLL CALL vote showed all those present voting YES. Motion carried
2. SALARY RESOLUTIONS for BOARD MEMBERS: Each member of the Board read out loud the Salary Resolution pertaining to their position.
 - Motion was made by Lake, supported by Ahonen to approve the Salary Resolution for the Township Supervisor as follows: effective April 1, 2023, the salary of Supervisor shall be \$18,700 including local travel and economic development administration. ROLL CALL vote showed all those present voting YES. Motion carried.
 - Motion was made by Ahonen, supported by Lake to approve the Salary Resolution for the Township Clerk as follows: effective April 1, 2023, the salary of Clerk shall be \$18,700 including local travel; \$200 for duties performed for special election called by the State of Michigan and is reimbursed by the State. ROLL CALL vote showed all those present voting YES. Motion carried.
 - Motion was made by Laessig, supported by Drier to approve the Salary Resolution for the Township Treasurer as follows: effective April 1, 2023, the salary of Treasurer shall be \$18,700 for duties performed, collecting both winter and summer taxes, along with the regular duties of treasurer including local travel. ROLL CALL vote showed all those present voting YES. Motion carried.
 - Motion was made by Drier, supported by Heikkila to approve the Salary Resolution for the Township Trustees as follows: effective April 1, 2023 the salary for the office of trustee shall be \$3,754 for duties performed as trustee. ROLL CALL vote showed all those present voting YES. Motion carried.

3. FUND BALANCE COMMITMENT: Supervisor Lake discussed the commitment of the fund balance dollars. After discussion motion was made by Drier, supported by Heikkila to commit \$200,000 to roads and \$100,000 to economic development. ROLL CALL vote showed all those present voting YES. Motion carried.
4. ADOPT COMPENSATION SCHEDULE for 2023-2024: Changes to the compensation schedule from the previous year were discussed. Motion was made by Ahonen, supported by Laessig to accept the compensation schedule for 2023-2024 as presented. ROLL CALL vote showed all those present voting YES. Motion carried.
5. BOARD MEMBER TRAVEL and EDUCATION for 2023-2024: Supervisor Lake discussed travel and training for 2023-2024. After discussion motion was made by Ahonen, supported by Laessig to approve board member travel and education for 2023-2024. ROLL CALL vote showed all those present voting YES. Motion carried.
6. MEETING DATES: All regular board meetings will be held on the first TUESDAY of each month at 5:30 pm. The following are the meeting dates for the fiscal year 2023-2024:

April 4, 2023
May 2, 2023
June 6, 2023
July 11, 2023
August 1, 2023
September 5, 2023
October 3, 2023
November 7, 2023
December 5, 2023
January 2, 2024
February 6, 2024
March 5, 2024

BANKS OF RECORD: First National Bank of Wakefield; Incredible Bank; Gogebic Range Bank.

NEWSPAPER OF RECORD: Wakefield-News Bessemer Pick & Axe.

After discussion motion was made by Laessig, supported by Heikkila to accept the meeting dates, banks, and newspaper of record as presented. ROLL CALL vote showed all those present voting YES. Motion carried.

7. GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT: Supervisor Lake read the resolution incorporating all budget numbers. Motion was made by Heikkila, supported by Drier to accept the General Appropriations Act as presented. ROLL CALL vote showed all those present voting YES. Motion carried.
8. BUDGET AMENDMENTS for 2022-2023: No budget amendments were presented.
9. APPROVAL for ATTENDANCE at Pipeline Training: This was approved at the last meeting. No action needed at this time.
10. ROAD COMMISSION LETTER OF SUPPORT: Supervisor Lake discussed the Road Commission's attempt to receive bridge funding for Chaney Lake Road. Their attempts have been unsuccessful in the past. The Road Commission is requesting a letter of support from all townships. Motion was made by Laessig, supported by Heikkila to allow Supervisor Lake to write a letter of support for the Road Commission. Motion carried.

11. XCEL ENERGY ROAD CROSSING PERMITS: Correspondence was received requesting a return email with approval to rebuild a transmission line. Motion was made by Laessig, supported by Drier to allow Supervisor Lake to email the approval. Motion carried.
12. GRSWMA CONTRACT RATE INCREASE: Supervisor Lake discussed the increase of 50 cents per customer for garbage collection. After discussion, motion was made by Laessig, supported by Ahonen for the township to absorb the 50 cent increase. ROLL CALL vote showed all those present voting YES. Motion carried.

EXTENDED PUBLIC COMMENT: No public comment.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/ADJOURNMENTS

1. SPECIAL JOINT MEETING: Section 32 and Wakefield Township Board – Tuesday, March 14, 2023 at 5:30 p.m.
2. REGULAR MEETING: Tuesday, April 4, 2023 at 5:30 p.m.
3. BOR (Tax Appeals): Monday, March 13, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. at Wakefield Township Hall; Tuesday, March 14, 2023 at 2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. at Erwin Township Hall and 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. at Bessemer Township Hall.
4. MTA MEETING: Tuesday, March 28, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. at Marenisco Township.
5. 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.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion was made by Drier, supported by Heikkila, for adjournment at 7:23 p.m. Motion carried.

Jennifer Ahonen, CLERK OF WAKEFIELD TOWNSHIP

Typed by: Michelle Wasielewski, DEPUTY CLERK