

WAKEFIELD TOWNSHIP
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
April 4, 2023, 5:30 PM

Supervisor Lake called the regular Wakefield Township Board meeting to order and led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance..

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.4. Wakefield 4th of July Committee Letter. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: Motion was made by Drier, supported by Heikkila, to approve the regular board meeting minutes, to include the budget hearing from March 7, 2023; and special joint meeting minutes with Section 32 from March 14, 2023, as presented. Motion carried.

BRIEF PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA: No public comment.

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.

REPORTS AND APPEARANCES:

1. GOGEBIC RANGE WATER AUTHORITY: Clerk Ahonen discussed the meeting of March 9, 2023. There was a small agenda with just operating claims, minutes, and financials. CA2E presented a proposal for a reliability study and the intent to apply for a grant. The Board voted to approve the proposal and allow CA2E to proceed.
2. SUPERVISOR/ZONING ADMINISTRATOR REPORT:
 - Supervisor Lake attended a Materials Management meeting. There was detailed discussion regarding recycling. There is a place in Marquette that will take the recyclables, but there is no way of getting it there. WUPPDR is continuing to work on what would be a feasible plan.
 - Highland Copper has completed their feasibility study and the results are more promising this year. Preconstruction could start this year as early as the end of the second quarter with construction starting in 2024. Discussion of the road repair is off the table until 2025. Concerns for housing was also discussed.
 - Supervisor Lake had a phone meeting regarding the agreement with Section 32. There is a lot of activity and things are getting closer to completion. There is a special meeting scheduled for Wednesday, April 19th at 5:00 p.m. at the Wakefield Township Hall. Township Board members, Section 32 members, and attorneys will be present to approve Act 2-33 Contract as well as the accompanying resolution.
 - The Road Commission received the HMA millings contract for Upper Mattson and Pikka Road. The total cost is \$31,000, the Township's share is \$18,600 so there is still room in the budget for an additional project.
3. TREASURER'S REPORT: As of March 31, 2023, the General Fund #101 had a beginning balance of \$248,831.41 with receipts totaling \$2,223.71; expenditures of \$6,381.75; payroll of \$5,700.57,

leaving an ending balance of \$238,972.80. Motion was made by Ahonen, 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: No update. The meeting was canceled due to weather.
5. SECTION 32 REPORT: Next meeting is the Special Joint meeting of April 19th.
6. PIPELINE MEETING REPORT: Trustee Heikkila attended the meeting. It was a very interesting meeting that was well attended. Discussion was held regarding Law 174 and the importance of calling 811.
7. PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT: Treasurer Laessig attended the March meeting. There was no agenda items.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. MTA Legislative Updates: Supervisor Lake highlighted a few items. All members receive this correspondence.
2. Gogebic County Board of Commissioners: Supervisor Lake has emailed the correspondence.
3. Gogebic County Council of Veterans Affairs Meeting Minutes: Supervisor Lake has the minutes available for review.
4. Wakefield 4th of July Committee Letter: The theme for 2023 is Stars & Stripes Forever. The Township's donation is sent with the City agreement.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS

1. SET SPRING CLEAN-UP DATE: After discussion it was decided the spring clean-up will be held on Saturday, June 3rd. Supervisor Lake will check with Waste Management and Hilborn if the date works. Approval to be held at the next meeting if the date works.
2. LAWN MOWING: After discussion, Supervisor Lake will check with Austin Ahonen to see if he is interested in continuing to mow the lawn. If yes, he is to bill us monthly. If not, we will advertise. Supervisor Lake will let us know at the next meeting.

EXTENDED PUBLIC COMMENT: No public comment.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/ADJOURNMENTS

1. SPECIAL JOINT MEETING: Section 32 and Wakefield Township Board – Wednesday, April 19, 2023 at 5:00 p.m.
2. REGULAR MEETING: Tuesday, May 2, 2023 at 5:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion was made by Ahonen, supported by Laessig, for adjournment at 6:29 p.m. Motion carried.

Jennifer Ahonen, CLERK OF WAKEFIELD TOWNSHIP

Typed by: Michelle Wasielewski, DEPUTY CLERK