

WAKEFIELD TOWNSHIP
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
OCTOBER 3, 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 Heikkila, to approve the Agenda as presented. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: Motion was made by Laessig, supported by Drier, to approve the regular board meeting minutes from September 5, 2023, as presented. Motion carried.

BRIEF PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA: No public comment.

APPROVAL OF BILLS: Motion was made by Laessig, supported by Drier, 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 meetings of September 6th and 14th. The special meeting on September 6th was to address the resignation of the administrator and to devise a temporary plan. The current Ironwood Township Clerk accepted the role temporarily to be sure duties are taken care of until a replacement can be found. Discussion was held regarding account access and signature cards as well. Other stakeholder entities will be notified of the change. At the regular meeting on September 14th the regular items were approved. The temporary administrator provided a report regarding what is happening to date with the accounts, signatures and IT. A final copy of the posting was approved to be published.
2. SUPERVISOR/ZONING ADMINISTRATOR REPORT:
 - Supervisor Lake has received complaints regarding dogs barking on Pikka Road. She encouraged the complainant to discuss with the new neighbor. If that doesn't work the next step would be to call the police.
 - Supervisor Lake had a zoom meeting with Copperwood's site manager and environmental engineer to discuss zoning, building permits, site plan reviews, and road access. Supervisor Lake will check with the attorney and MTA for any additional information.
 - Supervisor Lake is in discussion with the State regarding the billboard permit numbers for Snow River. The transfer of the permits did not happen with the property purchase. The Planning Commission may be asked to approve a conditional use permit as well.
 - The Section 32 project has started. Should the township receive any questions or concerns from any residents, please direct them to the contractor.
3. TREASURER'S REPORT: As of September 30, 2023, the General Fund #101 had a beginning balance of \$185,765.94 with receipts totaling \$3,559.04; expenditures of \$15,095.08; payroll of \$6,860.74, leaving an ending balance of \$167,369.16. 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. SECTION 32: Trustee Drier shared that the work has started and he has been up to take a look. Supervisor Lake stated that if anyone would like to go onsite to see the project she can call and you will be able to go. The next regular meeting is later in October.
5. SOLID WASTE AUTHORITY: Trustee Heikkila attended the last meeting. There was an accident with the newest garbage truck. It will be transported to lower Michigan to be repaired.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. Gogebic County Board of Commissioners: Supervisor Lake has emailed the correspondence.
2. MTA Legislative Updates: Supervisor Lake highlighted several items. All members receive this correspondence.
3. Charter Letters: Receiving notification regarding channel changes.
4. County Wide Early Voting Plan: Gogebic County will run early voting for all municipalities. A copy of the plan is available for review.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. Industrial Park Sign: This item will be tabled until the second quote is received.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Snowplowing for 2023-2024: One bid was received from Schneck Builders for a cost of \$85 per time for the front and side at 6" or more and for special dates and \$95 per time for the internet tower parking lot at 6" or more and for special dates. A copy of the liability insurance will be requested and placed on file. Motion was made by Drier, supported by Heikkila to approve Schneck Builders for snow removal. ROLL CALL vote showed all those present voting YES. Motion Carried.

EXTENDED PUBLIC COMMENT: Clerk Ahonen discussed the new drop box ordered as well as the video surveillance. Trustee Drier will work with her and Tom Ruppe regarding placement.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/ADJOURNMENTS

1. REGULAR MEETING: Tuesday, November 7, 2023 at 5:30 p.m.
2. PLANNING COMMISSION: Wednesday, December 20, 2023 at 5:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion was made by Laessig, supported by Heikkila, for adjournment at 6:47 p.m. Motion carried.

Jennifer Ahonen, CLERK OF WAKEFIELD TOWNSHIP

Typed by: Michelle Wasielewski, DEPUTY CLERK