

WAKEFIELD TOWNSHIP
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
June 4, 2024, 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 with the addition of Agenda Items H.3. Charter Letter; J.4. Road Commission Contract. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: Motion was made by Laessig, supported by Heikkila, to approve the regular board meeting minutes of May 7, 2024, as presented. Motion carried.

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.

BRIEF PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA: No public comment.

REPORTS AND APPEARANCES:

1. GOGEBIC RANGE WATER AUTHORITY: Treasurer Laessig summarized the meeting from May 9th. Other than regular items the audit was presented and approved to be filed with the State. There was discussion regarding a shut off policy. A public member asked about the emergency hook up process.
2. SUPERVISOR/ZONING ADMINISTRATOR REPORT: (Per written notes given to Clerk Ahonen)
 - Completed the ride around with the Road Commission. Work on Puumala has started.
 - Paving to start soon completing the Section 32 project at Indianhead.
 - Highland Copper grant will be going in front of the house and senate appropriations committee this week.
3. TREASURER'S REPORT: As of May 31, 2024, the General Fund #101 had a beginning balance of \$293,279.54 with receipts totaling \$8,024.46; expenditures of \$6,098.88; payroll of \$4,994.56, leaving an ending balance of \$290,210.56. 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. SPRING CLEAN UP REPORT: The spring clean up went well. The report of tonnage has yet to be received as the truck that does the pickup has broken down. Once it is repaired the dumpsters will be picked up. The Wakefield Volunteer Fire Department was there to present the jaws of life. Treasurer Laessig estimates about 30 residents participated. Trustee Drier suggested that next year we look at taking mattresses. Trustee Heikkila is going to inquire about the charge.
5. SECTION 32 REPORT: Trustee Drier summarized the meeting of May 13th. Everything is going good with the grant process, however discussions regarding the removal of the lagoon continue.
6. PLANNING COMMISSION: Meeting is scheduled for June 19th.
7. SOLID WASTE AUTHORITY: Trustee Heikkila stated the old bucket loader and dump truck have been sold by the bid process. Trustee Heikkila questioned the Wakefield Township Accounts

Receivable line at the last meeting and it was clarified that the amount shown are delinquent payments from the residents, not the Township itself.

8. PARKS & RECREATION: Trustee Heikkila stated the sand for the two regulation volleyball courts is coming from Wisconsin. It is anticipated to be about 180 tons of sand, or about 8 or 9 trucks full. Grants have been applied for.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. Gogebic County Board of Commissioners: Supervisor Lake has emailed the correspondence.
2. MTA Legislative Updates: Clerk Ahonen highlighted a few items. All members receive this correspondence.
3. Charter Letter: Channel changes coming.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: No unfinished business.

NEW BUSINESS

1. L-4029: After discussion motion was made by Heikkila, supported by Laessig to approve the tax rate request at 1.6238 and 3.0 for a total of 4.6238 mills. ROLL CALL vote showed all those present voting YES. Motion Carried.
2. AUDITOR ENGAGEMENT LETTER: Clerk Ahonen reviewed the previous process of the audit and summarized the new engagement letter. After discussion motion was made by Heikkila, supported by Laessig to retain Anderson Tackman Company, PLC for the annual audit to include the filing of the F65 and qualifying statement, not to exceed \$9,000. ROLL CALL vote showed all those present voting YES. Motion carried.
3. MTA ANNUAL DUES: After discussion motion was made by Laessig, supported by Drier to approve the annual dues base rate of \$636.26. ROLL CALL vote showed all those present voting YES. Motion carried.
4. ROAD COMMISSION CONTRACT: Clerk Ahonen read the contract outlining the work being done on Puumala Road and the costs. After discussion motion was made by Heikkila, supported by Laessig to sign the contract for 60% Township responsibility of the project for a total of \$60,000. ROLL CALL vote showed all those present voting YES.

EXTENDED PUBLIC COMMENT: Discussion was held regarding the previous MTA meeting presentation on cyber security. Also, Clerk Ahonen asked about the purchase of gift certificates for the volunteers at the cleanup.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/ADJOURNMENTS

1. REGULAR MEETING: Tuesday, July 2, 2024, at 5:30 p.m.
2. PLANNING COMMISSION: Wednesday, June 19, 2024.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion was made by Heikkila, supported by Drier, for adjournment at 6:23 p.m. Motion carried.

Jennifer Ahonen, CLERK OF WAKEFIELD TOWNSHIP

Typed by: Michelle Wasielewski, DEPUTY CLERK