

WAKEFIELD TOWNSHIP
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
October 7, 2025, 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; Denice Laessig, Treasurer; Robert Drier, Trustee; Michael Heikkila, Trustee; and Michelle Wasielewski, Deputy Clerk. ABSENT: Jennifer Ahonen, Clerk.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Motion was made by Drier, supported by Heikkila, to approve the Agenda with the addition of J.4. Section 32 Discussion. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: Motion was made by Laessig, supported by Heikkila, to approve the regular board meeting minutes from September 2, 2025 as presented. 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: No public comment on agenda items.

REPORTS AND APPEARANCES:

1. SUPERVISOR/ZONING ADMINISTRATOR REPORT:

- The road signs have been ordered for the Indianhead area. Address signs to be ordered.
- The \$50 million grant has been pulled from the budget. However, federal funding is still being sought. The Township will continue to support pursuit of funding.
- Supervisor Lake received one email complaint regarding the mine and it was from someone downstate.

2. TREASURER'S REPORT: As of September 30, 2025, the General Fund #101 had a beginning balance of \$298,901.28 with receipts totaling \$13,553.32; expenditures of \$13,124.88; payroll of \$6,306.00, leaving an ending balance of \$293,023.72. Motion was made by Heikkila, 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.

3. GOGEBIC RANGE WATER AUTHORITY: Treasurer Laessig was not at the meeting but summarized Clerk Ahonen's notes. Other than usual standing items, the new pump has been installed but now the second one is failing. This month's meeting has been cancelled.

4. SECTION 32: Next meeting is scheduled for October 21st.

5. PLANNING COMMISSION: There was not a quorum at the last meeting. Supervisor Lake shared that she and Treasurer Laessig are attending zoning and planning training and will likely have items for the next meeting.

6. SOLID WASTE AUTHORITY: Trustee Heikkila attended the last meeting. The audit will be starting on October 22nd. The new assistant will be resigning effective the end of November and they will

be searching for a replacement. Mass City is increasing the rates for dumping, the committee will be looking for an alternative location. The hauling contract is coming due in April, bids will go out starting in November.

7. PARKS AND RECREATION REPORT: No meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. Gogebic County Board of Commissioners: Supervisor Lake has emailed the minutes to all members.
2. MTA Legislative Updates: All members receive this correspondence. Supervisor Lake highlighted several items.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: No unfinished business.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Snow Plow Bids: One bid was received from Schneck Builders at the same rate as last year. \$85 per time for the side and front and \$95 per time for the big lot that is billed to Gogebic Range.net. After discussion motion was made by Laessig, supported by Heikkila, to approve the bid from Schneck Builders. ROLL CALL vote showed all those present voting YES. Motion carried.
2. Xcel Energy Franchise Agreement: Supervisor Lake highlighted that the agreement has previously been in effect for 30 years and this will be a 30 year agreement as well. It ensures that the Township and Xcel Energy work together on projects. After discussion, motion was made by Heikkila, supported by Laessig to approve the Agreement as presented. ROLL CALL vote showed all those present voting YES. Motion carried.
3. Earned Sick Time: After discussion this item was tabled until next month.
4. Section 32 Discussion: After discussion motion was made by Drier, supported by Heikkila to allow Supervisor Lake to utilize our new attorney, Steve Tinti to help clarify the Articles of Incorporation, GRWA proposed agreement, lagoon abandonment, and fiscal responsibility. Supervisor Lake will work with the attorney and other municipalities to schedule a special meeting. ROLL CALL vote showed all those present voting YES. Motion carried.

EXTENDED PUBLIC COMMENT: Public member in attendance thanked the Board for all the great work they do!

ANNOUNCEMENTS/ADJOURNMENTS

1. REGULAR MEETING: Tuesday, November 4, 2025 at 5:30 p.m.
2. PLANNING COMMISSION: Third Wednesday of each quarter at 5:00 p.m.
3. MTA: Tuesday, November 25, 2025 at Wakefield City Hall.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion was made by Laessig, supported by Heikkila, for adjournment at 7:03 p.m. Motion carried.

Jennifer Ahonen, CLERK OF WAKEFIELD TOWNSHIP

Typed by: Michelle Wasielewski, DEPUTY CLERK