

WAKEFIELD TOWNSHIP
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
November 4, 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; Jennifer Ahonen, Clerk; Denise Laessig, Treasurer; Robert Drier, Trustee; Michael Heikkila, Trustee; and Michelle Wasielewski, Deputy Clerk. ABSENT: None.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Motion was made by Drier, supported by Heikkila, to approve the Agenda with the addition of G. 1. CFA Properties, Rod Ritter (all other items will shift down); H.3. Santa's Headquarters; H.4. Uniform Video Services for Local Franchise Act. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: Motion was made by Laessig, supported by Heikkila, to approve the regular board meeting minutes from October 7, 2025 as presented. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF BILLS: Motion was made by Heikkila, 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 on agenda items.

REPORTS AND APPEARANCES:

1. CFA Properties: Rod Ritter was present to ask for Township support in bringing attention to what he feels is inadequate oversight by the DNR for upholding The Commercial Forest Act of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act. After discussion, Supervisor Lake encouraged these concerns be brought to MTA and State Representatives. Supervisor Lake agreed to reach out to other supervisors for discussion as well.
2. SUPERVISOR/ZONING ADMINISTRATOR REPORT:
 - The road signs have not been received yet.
 - Busy with Section 32.
3. TREASURER'S REPORT: As of October 31, 2025, the General Fund #101 had a beginning balance of \$293,023.72 with receipts totaling \$12,898.34; expenditures of \$13,614.25; payroll of \$5,747.16, leaving an ending balance of \$286,560.65. 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. GOGEBIC RANGE WATER AUTHORITY: No meeting.
5. SECTION 32: There have been several meetings held. The latest version of the agreement has been emailed for review today, version 8. The GRWA Executive meeting is scheduled for this Thursday to review the latest agreement.

6. SOLID WASTE AUTHORITY: Trustee Heikkila attended the last meeting. The hauling contract is coming due in April, bids will go out. Another search for an assistant manager will take place.
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.
3. Santa's Headquarters: Letter received soliciting donations before December 5th.
4. Uniform Video Services for Local Franchise Act: An electronic survey is available for opinions and complaints.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. Earned Sick Time Act: After review motion was made by Laessig, supported by Ahonen to approve the proposed ESTA Policy as of November 4, 2025 with the sick time being accrued as of October 1, 2025. ROLL CALL vote shows all those present voting YES. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Budget Amendments: Clerk Ahonen reviewed the budget amendment #1 for FY25/26. Four changes in line items creating an overall change of the budget of \$4,405.00. They are as follows:

Revenues:
101-000-436 Local CSA: +1,400
101-000-491 Building Permits: +3,400
F101-000-665 Interest-All: +300

Expenses:
101-852-935 Property Liability: +695

Motion was made by Heikkila, supported by Drier, to approve the Budget Amendment bringing the approved budget from \$287,823 to \$288,518. ROLL CALL vote showed all those present voting YES. Motion carried.

2. InvestUP Regional Site Readiness Grant: Supervisor Lake applied for and was awarded a grant for wetland delineation in the Industrial Park. After discussion, motion was made by Ahonen, supported by Heikkila to allow Supervisor Lake to seek information regarding the cost of surveying the land to complete the grant requirements prior to November 11, 2025. Motion carried.

EXTENDED PUBLIC COMMENT: Trustee Heikkila asked other members if they received a letter from EGLE regarding well testing. Supervisor Lake stated the letters are legit, but not mandatory to participate in the testing.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/ADJOURNMENTS

1. REGULAR MEETING: Tuesday, December 2, 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.
4. BOR: December

ADJOURNMENT: Motion was made by Ahonen, supported by Laessig, for adjournment at 7:28 p.m.
Motion carried.

Jennifer Ahonen, CLERK OF WAKEFIELD TOWNSHIP

Typed by: Michelle Wasielewski, DEPUTY CLERK