

ELY TOWNSHIP
REGULAR BOARD MEETING

February 15, 2023 – 6pm

Meeting is being recorded

CALL TO ORDER

Supervisor Jeremy Laakso called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was in order.

ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS

Jeremy Laakso, Supervisor; Aaron Carr, Trustee; Glenn Wing, Trustee; Molly Taseris, Clerk; and Dawn Schuhknecht, Treasurer-all present.

PUBLIC PRESENT

Lou Ouellette, Jim and Lonny Janofski, Ted Pepin, Al Harris and Joe Derocha

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by Wing, supported by Taseris to approve the agenda as written. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion Carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ted Pepin stated that he would like to see the Board buy a Lawn mower with a welded undercarriage.

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Previous Minutes
- B. Treasurer's Report
- C. Clerk's Report
- D. Pay Bills
- E. Assessor Report
- F. First Responders Report
- G. Supervisor Report
- H. Water System Operator Report
- I. Planning Commission Minutes

Motion by Wing, supported by Schuhknecht to approve the Consent Agenda. Ayes – 5, Nays – 0. Motion Carried.

BUDGET REVIEW

Supervisor Laakso noted there were a few Budget adjustments as stated in the Supervisor Report. Motion by Wing, supported by Schuhknecht to approve the Budget adjustments. Roll Call Vote: Ayes- Laakso, Taseris, Schuhknecht, Wing and Carr. Nays- none. Motion Carried.

PLANNING COMMISSION

Trustee Carr updated the Board on recent Planning Commission activities including ongoing Master Plan work and they have Public hearings coming up in April.

MARIJUANA ORDINANCE PUBLIC HEARING

Supervisor Laakso started the Hearing for the Medical Marijuana Facilities and Adult Use Recreational Marijuana Establishments Licensing and Regulatory Ordinance at 6:05 p.m.

A Motion by Taseris and supported by Carr to adopt the Ordinance. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Carr, Wing, Schuhknecht, Taseris and Laakso. Nays: none. Motion Carried.

Opposition Comments: Supervisor Laakso read the letter from Jim Janofski. Mr. Janofski is not in support of the Ordinance. He is not in support of Marijuana use, he is concerned about drug problems.

1. Rescind 2017-1 Medical Marijuana Facilities Ordinance: Motion by Wing, supported by Carr to Rescind the 2017-1 Medical Marijuana Facilities Ordinance. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Carr, Wing, Schuhknecht, Taseris and Laakso. Nays: none. Motion Carried
2. Rescind 2019-1 Marijuana Establishment Ordinance: Motion by Wing, supported by Schuhknecht to Rescind the 2019-1 Marijuana Ordinance. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Carr, Wing, Schuhknecht, Taseris and Laakso. Nays: none. Motion Carried.

MARIJUANA BUSINESS PERMIT FEE AND ANNUAL RENEWAL FEE RESOLUTION

Supervisor Laakso read the Marijuana Business Permit Fee and Annual Renewal Fee Resolution and asked the Board for input on setting the Fees. The Resolution offered by Schuhknecht and supported by Taseris on February 15, 2023 charging \$250 for the Permit Fee and Annual Renewal Fee. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Carr, Wing, Schuhknecht, Taseris and Laakso. Nays: none. Motion Carried. Supervisor Laakso declared the Resolution Adopted.

RESOLUTION TO ADOPT POVERTY EXEMPTION INCOME GUIDELINES AND ASSET TEST

Supervisor Laakso read the Resolution to Adopt Poverty Exemption Income Guidelines and Asset Test. The Resolution offered by Wing and supported by Schuhknecht on February 15, 2023. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Carr, Wing, Schuhknecht, Taseris and Laakso. Nays: none. Motion Carried. Supervisor Laakso declared the Resolution Adopted.

MISS DIG INVOICE

Motion by Schuhknecht, supported by Taseris to pay the Miss Dig Invoice in the amount of \$848.39. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion Carried.

COUNTY ROAD CL STREET LIGHT

Motion by Wing, supported by Laakso to have the street light installed on County Road CL. There is no cost to install the street light, the cost would be \$25.85 per month for a minimum of 3 years. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion Carried.

AWARDED RISK REDUCTION GRANT

Motion by Wing, supported by Carr to sign and accept the Risk Reduction Grant Program Agreement. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion Carried.

Ely Township was awarded \$2,235.00 for Rubber Mulch

LAWN MOWER QUOTES

Motion by Carr, supported by Wing to go with the quote from Bergdahls, Inc. for a Riding Lawn Mower and Bagger in the amount of \$6,214.00. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Carr, Wing, Schuhknecht, Taseris and Laakso. Nays: none. Motion Carried.

TOWNSHIP HALL STORAGE SHED

Motion by Wing, supported by Schuhknecht to have the Westwood High School Building Class build the Township Hall Storage Shed with a budget of up to \$5500.00. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion Carried.

FETCH GIS MAP SERVICES ESTIMATE (ANNUAL)

Motion by Wing, supported by Carr to pay the invoice for Map Services including access to Fetch GIS in the amount of \$3,800.00. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Carr, Wing, Schuhknecht, Taseris and Laakso. Nays: none. Motion Carried.

CHANGE OF ASSESSMENT NOTICE PRINTING ESTIMATE

Motion by Wing, Supported by Schuhknecht to pay the invoice for Change of Assessment Notice Printing in the amount of \$400.00. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Carr, Wing, Schuhknecht, Taseris and Laakso. Nays: none. Motion Carried.

WATER SYSTEMS UPDATE, EGLE MEETING

Supervisor Laakso, Trustee Wing and Water Operator Harris attended the EGLE meeting.

EGLE stated that they don't believe that Ely Township could finish the project in 2023, so it would not qualify for the loan.

EGLE recommends completing the Household Income Study for both Water System Customers to see if it would lower our current Household Income for the Township in excess of \$75,000.00

Supervisor Laakso is going to contact Kevin Nancarrow and ask him if he is working on the Household Income Study and if he has a Sand Filter Plan.

ASSESSOR CONTRACT

Motion by Wing, supported by Taseris to sign the Contract for Assessing Services with Erin Bertucci. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion Carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

The letter from Mr. Janofski in opposition to the Marijuana Ordinance

PUBLIC COMMENT

Lou Ouellette stated that she would like to see the County Road CL Railroad Crossing painted.

Joe Derocha thanked the Board for all they do.

Jim Janofski also thanked the Board.

CLOSED SESSION

Not needed.

BOARD COMMENTS

Supervisor Laakso:

We paid for the work on County Road CD, in the amount of \$266,872.45, we were originally quoted \$282,335.60

He had to make 2 purchases for the Diorite Water System: \$724.95 for a pump and \$645.00 for a flow meter.

Diorite School: He called 911 because he saw smoke coming out of the middle garage. State Police and Fire Department responded and there was no smoke at the time. They figured they were running a snowmobile.

There is a court hearing with Mr. Slawski on March 23, 2023. If anyone would like to be at the hearing let him know.

The Dry Hydrant in Diorite was tested by the Fire Department and it pumped successfully.

The Landfill has a water treatment plant being built, so there will be an increase in tipping fees of \$17.30 per ton to help pay for the treatment plant and for operating cost of the plant.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Molly Taseris, Clerk