

ELY TOWNSHIP
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
May 19, 2021 – 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; Molly Taseris, Clerk; Art Gischia, Trustee; present. Glenn Wing, Trustee, present via Zoom; Dawn Schuhknecht, Treasurer; absent.

PUBLIC PRESENT

Kevin Nancarrow, Adam Simonsen, Cody Martin, Al Harris, Brian Kuopus and Sue Bovan

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Wing motioned, supported by Gischia, to accept the agenda with moving #16 to #10, also adding #17 First Responders Equipment, #18 Diorite Water and #19 UPSET. All Ayes, Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Laakso stated that anyone wishing to talk during Public Comment will be limited to 3 minutes and will not be allowed to speak out except under the two Public Comment sections.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

Wing made the motion, supported by Schuhknecht to accept the Consent Agenda. All Ayes, Motion Carried.

BUDGET REVIEW

Supervisor Laakso noted there was a few internal budget adjustments, and that he has listed them in his Supervisor's report.

COMPUDYNE PRESENTATION

Adam Simonsen went over the Proposal that was prepared for the Board by Compudyne. He explained the Proposal step by step. They are going to update our service. Wing made the motion, supported by Gischia to accept this proposal. Roll Call Vote: Laakso-Aye, Taseris-Aye, Schuhknecht-Aye, Wing-Aye and Gischia-Aye. Motion Carried.

WATER SYSTEMS IMPROVEMENT UPDATE

Kevin Nancarrow stated:

That we didn't qualify for the DWAM grant last month, but we could possibly still be awarded.

That Ely Township has been selected as a recipient of the Affordability and Planning Grant from EGLE.

That he talked with Katie Thrush on the C2R2 Grant, and they are overloaded with applicants and hopefully he will hear something by the end of the month.

That he would like to do Hydrant testing in the next couple of weeks.

PLANNING COMMISSION

Laakso presented the Board with the Zoning Action Requests from Kuopus and Martin.

Gischia made the motion, supported by Wing to send this back to the Planning Commission to Modify the Master Plan for these 2 parcels. All Ayes, Motion Carried.

ELY TOWNSHIP HALL RESTROOMS

Gischia showed the Board the proposed bathroom plan. He is going to put a Bid Document together.

HALL RENTAL DISCUSSION

Laakso presented the Board with a Hall Rental Fee Schedule. Taseris made a motion, supported by Gischia to accept the Hall Rental Fee Schedule. All Ayes, Motion Carried.

RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH SALARIES FOR THE 2021-2022 FISCAL YEAR

- A. TOWNSHIP CLERK: Motion by Wing, supported by Schuhknecht to establish the salary for the Township Clerk at \$1045 per month, plus \$35 per month for each water system. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Laakso, Taseris, Schuhknecht, Wing, Gischia. Nays: None. Motion Carried.
- B. TOWNSHIP SUPERVISOR: Motion by Wing, supported by Taseris to establish the salary for the Township Supervisor at \$1195 per month. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Laakso, Taseris, Schuhknecht, Wing, Gischia. Nays: None. Motion Carried.
- C. TREASURER: Motion by Wing, supported by Gischia to establish the salary for the Township Treasurer at \$1130 per month, plus \$55 per month for each water system. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Laakso, Taseris, Schuhknecht, Wing, Gischia. Nays: None. Motion Carried.
- D. TRUSTEES: Motion by Laakso, supported by Taseris to establish the salary for the Township Trustees at \$380 per month. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Laakso, Taseris, Schuhknecht, Wing, Gischia. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

HOURLY EMPLOYEE PAY ADJUSTMENT

Laakso suggested to the Board a 2% Cost of Living raise for the hourly employees. The hourly employees include: Office Assistant, Maintenance and Cleaning person. The 2% would raise their hourly wage from \$14.85 to \$15.15.

Motion by Wing, supported by Gischia to give the Hourly Employees the 2% raise. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Laakso, Taseris, Schuhknecht, Wing, Gischia. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

NON-STATUTORY OFFICE MANAGER PAY ADJUSTMENT

Laakso suggested to the Board to increase the Non-Statutory Office Manager pay from \$16.40 to \$17.00. He stated the increase due in part to the Non-Statutory Office Manager not having benefits anymore. Motion by Wing, supported by Gischia to increase the Non-Statutory Office Manager pay from \$16.40 to \$17.00. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Laakso, Taseris, Wing, Gischia. Nays: None. Schuhknecht abstained.

CONTRACT RENEWALS

- A. ZONING ADMINISTRATOR: Motion by Wing, supported by Gischia to accept the Contract, as written for the Ely Township Administrator. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Laakso, Taseris, Schuhknecht, Wing, Gischia. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

- B. WATER OPERATOR: Motion by Taseris, supported by Gischia to accept the Contract, as written for the Ely Township Water Operator. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Laakso, Taseris, Schuhknecht, Wing, Gischia. Nays: None. Motion Carried.
- C. ASSESSOR: Motion by Laakso, supported by Taseris to accept the Contract with the Assessor with the following changes: Take out the sentence “This contract will be reviewed on an annual basis.” Also, change the monthly rate from \$2250 to \$2443 (Susan Bovan, Assessor’s request). Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Laakso, Taseris, Schuhknecht, Wing, Gischia. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

FIRST RESPONDERS EQUIPMENT

Laakso updated the Board on the AED’s currently used by Ely Township’s First Responders. They are outdated and in need of replacing. Also Laakso mentioned the Ely Township First Responders do not have a vehicle that is required by the State. We are supposed to have a fully stocked vehicle ready to go.

Motion by Wing, supported by Taseris to allow Laakso to order as many AED’s that there is money for in the budget, and also to have Laakso contact the State and look for a waiver to give us some time with the vehicle by letting them know that we are planning on joining the EMS Authority. All Ayes, Motion Carried.

DIORITE WATER LEAK

Motion by Wing, supported by Taseris to hire John Holland from Michigan Rural Water, to find the leak in Diorite. All Ayes, Motion Carried.

Note: Al Harris is going to contact John Holland and set this up.

UPSET

Motion by Wing, supported by Schuhknecht to send a \$500 donation to UPSET. All Ayes, Motioned Carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

None

PUBLIC COMMENT

Al Harris asked: “What is the status of the Proposal of the Water System Study with UPEA?” Also, “What have we paid and what information have we received from UPEA?”

CLOSED SESSION

Not needed

BOARD COMMENTS

Supervisor Laakso stated:

That the Greenwood water repair is done.

That he was embarrassed at the Planning Commission meeting, May 10, 2021. He said there was a lot of chaos, and rules not being followed, including the public not being able to speak. He feels that some training should be done with each of the Ely Townships Boards.

Treasurer Schuhknecht stated that she is questioning the Hydrant Rental in Greenwood. We pay \$2400.00 yearly to Greenwood for Hydrant Rentals and she can not find out why we pay this. She asked that it be put on the July agenda to discuss this and amend the ordinance to stop paying it.

.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:19 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Molly Taseris, Clerk