

ELY TOWNSHIP
REGULAR BOARD MEETING

August 18, 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; Dawn Schuhknecht, Treasurer; Glenn Wing, Trustee; Art Gischia, Trustee; present. Molly Taseris, Clerk; absent-excused. Deputy Clerk Kim Wing present for Minute taking.

PUBLIC PRESENT

Chris & Kelly Lorge, Susan Bovan, Matt Treado, Randy Ruppel, Kevin Nancarrow, Dan Dobson

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Supervisor Laakso recommended the Board approve the agenda with the following changes: 18. Snowplowing at West Branch Dry Hydrant and 19. Recycling Cart Grant Update. Schuhknecht moved to approve the Agenda as presented with the above mentioned changes. Supported by Wing. Ayes - 4, Nays - 0, Absent - 1. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

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

Motion by Wing, supported by Gischia to approve the Consent Agenda. Ayes – 4, Nays – 0, Absent – 1. Motion carried.

BUDGET REVIEW

Supervisor Laakso noted there were two internal budget adjustments which were listed in his monthly Report.

WATER SYSTEMS IMPROVEMENT UPDATE

Matt Treado and Kevin Nancarrow updated the Board regarding discussions with Ishpeming Township about combining with the Greenwood customers along with funding updates regarding possible grants as well as a loan possibility through Rural Development. Mr. Treado presented an agreement which will be added to the September Board Agenda.

PLANNING COMMISSION

Trustee Gischia updated the Board on the August meeting which mainly dealt with prioritizing the CUPPAD recreation survey. In order the priorities are handicap accessibility, picnic tables, replacing outdated equipment at all parks, trails, ballfield, and the possibility of a disc golf course at the 40 acre parcel the Township owns. Supervisor Laakso noted he gave a copy of the Bylaws to Don Magnuson for review.

ELY TOWNSHIP HALL RESTROOM UPDATE

Trustee Gischia noted Swick would be starting rough-in plumbing work tomorrow. There may be potential septic issues. Hamel will be evaluating the site during its next pumping.

PUBLIC HEARING – NOISE ORDINANCE

Supervisor Laakso opened the Public Hearing for the proposed Noise Ordinance at 6:39pm. Chris and Kelly Lorge spoke in support of the Ordinance and described issues they have been experiencing at the Trailer Park. Dan Dobson also spoke in support of the Ordinance stating his concerns with gun discharge. Motion by Gischia, supported by Wing to send the proposed Noise Ordinance to the Township Attorney for his review. Ayes – 4, Nays – 0, Absent – 1. Motion carried. Mr. Laakso closed the Public Hearing at this time.

UPPCO FRANCHISE AGREEMENT/ORDINANCE

Motion by Schuhknecht, supported by Wing to approve the presented UPPCO Franchise Agreement/Ordinance. Ayes – 4, Nays – 0, Absent – 1. Motion carried.

MCTA FALL BANQUET

Motion by Laakso, supported by Gischia to approve payment of \$20 per person (\$40 per couple) for Board, Planning Commission, ZBA, BOR, and First Responder members to attend the MCTA Fall Banquet being held October 6 at Bay Cliff as well as provide a \$25 gift certificate to Jerzi's for a door prize. Ayes – 4, Nays – 0, Absent – 1. Motion carried.

DANGEROUS BUILDINGS ORDINANCE AMENDMENT

Motion by Schuhknecht, supported by Wing to amend the recently approved Dangerous Buildings Ordinance by adding the number. The title will now read "Dangerous Buildings Ordinance No. 2021-2." Ayes – 4, Nays – 0, Absent – 1. Motion carried.

CHANGE ORDER FOR RESTROOMS

A&F Construction provided a change order quote for additions necessary for the restroom project in the amount of \$14,714.40. Motion by Gischia, supported by Wing to approve the change order. Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Gischia, Wing, Schuhknecht, Laakso

Nays: None

Absent: Taseris

Motion carried.

METER CALIBRATION DIORITE WATER

Motion by Wing, supported by Schuhknecht to approve purchase from Hach in the amount of \$622.50 for meter calibration. Ayes – 4, Nays – 0, Absent – 1. Motion carried.

GICOA AGREEMENT

Supervisor Laakso presented the Board with the agreement the Ishpeming Senior Center has with the City of Ishpeming. Mr. Laakso recommended the Board approve a \$1000 donation to the Senior Center for Chore Services. Motion by Wing, supported by Gischia to donate \$1000 to the Ishpeming Senior Center for Chore Services for the fiscal year 2021-2022. Ayes – 4, Nays – 0, Absent – 1. Motion carried.

SNOWPLOWING WEST BRANCH DRY HYDRANT

Gregg Anderson contacted the office to state he hadn't been paid the past two years for snowplowing services for the dry hydrant off of 581. There was an unwritten agreement that he would receive \$300 per year. He is now requesting \$450 per year. Motion by Wing, supported by Laakso to pay Mr. Anderson \$300 and use Township employees for the future. Ayes – 2, Nays – 2, Absent – 1. Motion failed.

Discussion was held regarding ownership of the property as well as easements and the need to investigate the easement issue further. Motion by Gischia, supported by Laakso to pay Mr. Anderson \$300 and to develop a written contract for future services. Ayes – 4, Nays – 0, Absent – 1. Motion carried.

RECYCLING CART GRANT UPDATE

Treasurer Schuhknecht noted the Recycling Cart Grant has been submitted. Discussions have been had with North Country regarding the need to move to every other week recycling pick-up as it is required for one of the grants.

CORRESPONDENCE

None.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

CLOSED SESSION

Not needed.

BOARD COMMENTS

Trustee Gischia noted the Board will need to look at improvements to the Miscellaneous Debris Ordinance at the September Board Meeting and also has questions regarding enforcement of Ordinances. Mr. Gischia noted Ted Pepin has requested the First Responder Report include the number of missed calls. Mr. Pepin will be directed to contact Central Dispatch for that information.

Supervisor Laakso updated the Board on progress regarding the West End Authority. Every community has signed on except for Tilden Township. Mr. Laakso will attend their next Board

Meeting in order to clear up any confusion regarding the Authority and costs. Mr. Laakso noted the Township owns a 1.8 acre parcel located by the old Evergreen Movie Theater which would make an excellent location to house an ambulance.

Discussion was also held on the Garbage Millage and the need for the millage collection to cover the garbage costs which it currently isn't. Deputy Clerk Wing noted the ballot wording will remain the same (as it isn't eligible for renewal until next year), the only thing that will change is the dollar amount and the Board will have to determine if they want to raise the millage or leave it the same. There will need to be discussions regarding an extension with North Country or going out for bids.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:12 pm by Supervisor Laakso.

Respectfully submitted,

Kim Wing
Deputy Clerk