

ELY TOWNSHIP
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
October 20, 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; Molly Taseris, Clerk present

PUBLIC PRESENT

Susan Bovan, Al Harris, Ted Pepin

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by Wing, supported by Gischia to approve the Agenda. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Ted Pepin commented:

1. His opinion about the Clarksburg ball field is that if we as a Board decide to do any improvements out there, we should have a survey done. He is concerned about the 40 ft. easement from the State.
2. He is also concerned about the 40 acres of property that we own behind the Legion, he stated that it is wetlands and the only access is a private road.
3. He also stated that the Garbage Millage was used to free up money from the General Fund, to pay for Roads.

Mr. Jeremy Laakso (as a resident, not the Supervisor) commented:

1. That he would like to have his rental property, which is a duplex, maintenance fee brought down from \$40 to \$20 per month. His reasoning is that there is only one service line going in to the house.

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 Schuhknecht to approve the Consent Agenda, with Supervisor Laakso's comment added to his report: That the letter written to Andrew Slawski is sitting in the Post Office, it has not been picked up. The letter is posted on the school. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.

BUDGET REVIEW

Supervisor Laakso stated that he made a few internal adjustments

PLANNING COMMISSION

Trustee Gischia said that the Planning Commission discussed the resignations on the PC and ZBA Boards. They also discussed the Chip and Seal vs Paving and that he would like to get recommendations on Playground equipment for the budget next year.

WATER SYSTEMS

Kevin Nancarrow sent an email to the office, he and Matt were not able to make it to the meeting. He sent the following information.

- a. Engineering Study (UPEA)- He stated-Last week UPEA provided a draft Diorite water system capital improvement plan for Jeremy, Al, and EGLE's review. This was listed as a deficiency in the recent Sanitary Survey performed by EGLE and was listed as a requirement to be addressed this year. This is subject to change with potential funding options for improvements.
- b. Since the last board meeting when AP grant work was approved UPEA staff have begun modelling the Ishpeming Twp-Greenwood connection to begin our assessment process. This involves combining both system models and checking for what needs to be done from a hydraulic engineering standpoint.
- c. Since the last board meeting when the USDA-RD grant application was approved to be preformed at no cost to the Twp, UPEA staff have begun gathering the necessary information for the application and will be reaching out for additional information as needed. UPEA will be setting a pre-application meeting with USDA-RD prior to the next board meeting.

- d. UPEA attended the UP City Managers meeting and provided an update presentation on the current State and Federal funding and new requirements such as lead service reporting.
- e. UPEA received the attached plan put together by the Michigan Municipal League (MML) that details their recommendations for use of the remaining \$5.8 billion of State of Michigan ARP funds. This is in addition to ARP funds currently being distributed and indicates plans for additional and significant water system infrastructure funding.
- f. UPEA is currently anticipating the new Federal Infrastructure bill to be finalized by legislators at end of this month/early November and is awaiting this legislation to analyze how Ely Township can benefit from the new bill with water system improvements and/or eliminating cost burdens mandated through DSMI.

Electrical Service Drop for Greenwood Water Tank

Supervisor Laakso explained to the Board that the wiring is fraying and needs to be replaced. Motion by Gischia, supported by Taseris to accept the lower bid, from Frailing Electric to do the work. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.

Diorite Water Tank Improvements

Supervisor Laakso explained that the Diorite Water Tank is in need of Improvements. Resurface and Coat Interior Walls of the Cement Cast Potable Water Tank, Overflow Discharge Modifications and Install Rain Shield over the vent opening.

Laakso stated the cost of the Diorite repairs will be funded by the American Rescue Grant and whatever amount is spent for Diorite repairs, the same amount will be spent in the Greenwood water system.

Motion by Wing, supported by Schuhknecht to use the funds from the American Rescue Grant to pay for the repairs. St. Germain Sandblasting will do the work. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.

ASSESSOR VACANCY MAY 2022

Sue Bovan will be done at Ely Township as Assessor, May 2022.

Gischia talked about advertising for a new Assessor

SOLAR ORDINANCE

The Solar Ordinance needs to be sent to the County Planning Commission for their approval before the Board can vote on it.

ELY TOWNSHIP HALL RESTROOM UPDATE

Gischia told the Board that the restrooms are near completion. There are functioning toilets now. They are waiting for faucets to come in.

Gischia also gave the Board a bill from A & F Construction Co. with some options:

- a. Replace restroom sink and faucet \$405.00
- b. Replace Mop-sink and New faucet \$818.00
- c. Replace Mop-sink and re-use existing faucet \$305.00

Motion by Taseris, supported by Schuhknecht to go with options a and b. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.

Schuhknecht told the Board that she is ordering new hands-free paper towel dispensers, and toilet paper holders with Visa gift points that the office has accumulated.

WASTE DISPOSAL BIDS PER RESOLUTION FROM 1995. OPEN DISCUSSION

Motion by Schuhknecht, supported by Gischia to let North Country that we have to put bids out for Garbage collection according to our Resolution. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.

Gischia to put together an RFP

ORDINANCE NUMBERING

Taseris let the Board know that she contacted MTA and asked if we could add numbers to the Ordinances that are in our Ordinance book that don't have numbers. They said we could as long as we don't change the title or the Ordinance at all.

NOISE ORDINANCE

Motion by Wing, supported by Schuhknecht to adopt the Noise Ordinance. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Gischia, Wing, Schuhknecht, Taseris and Laakso, Nays: None. Motion Carried.

BS&A CONTRACT

Motion by Gischia, supported by Schuhknecht to renew the contract with BS&A and to pay the invoice for \$1,674.00. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.

CHAMPION TOWNSHIP RESIDENT FIRST RESPONDER APPROVAL

Motion by Wing, supported by Taseris to waive that First Responders be from Ely or Tilden Twp. Only and approve Jeff Wood from Champion Township as a First Responder for Ely Township. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion Carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

None.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Ted Pepin stated that he had talked with Greg Anderson about him snowplowing out the dry hydrant on 581. Mr. Pepin stated there has always been a verbal agreement with Mr. Anderson. Mr. Pepin also stated that if Ely Township sent our maintenance guy out to clean out this hydrant, the cost would be so much more than what Mr. Anderson was being paid.

Mr. Pepin also stated that the Request for Bids Resolution should be rescinded, because the bidding limit goes up all the time.

CLOSED SESSION

Not needed.

BOARD COMMENTS

Schuhknecht stated that: she was asked to be the Treasurer for the Sesquicentennial Celebration. She accepted. She also stated that she is getting checks for the Sesquicentennial in the mail written out to Ely Township. Her concern is can she keep these checks under the Ely Township umbrella without it causing any issues. She is going to check with the Auditors.

Also, Schuhknecht stated that: She received notice that the Grant from the Rec Partnership has been approved for the rolling carts. This is half the money needed for carts.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:13 pm by Supervisor Laakso.

Respectfully submitted,

Molly A. Taseris
Clerk