

ELY TOWNSHIP
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
October 21, 2020 – 6pm

CALL TO ORDER

Supervisor Jeremy Laakso called the meeting to order at 6pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was in order.

ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS

Jeremy Laakso, Supervisor; Kim Wing, Clerk; Dawn Schuhknecht, Treasurer; Carl Hosang, Trustee; Art Gischia, Trustee – Present.

PUBLIC PRESENT

Ted Pepin, Molly Taseris, Kevin Nancarrow, Al Harris, Glenn Wing, Susan Bovan

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Supervisor Laakso recommended the Board approve the presented Agenda, changing #16 from “Proclamation Request from School Choice Week” to “Scott Rezoning”. Motion by Gischia, supported by Hosang to approve the Agenda with the above-mentioned change. Ayes – 5, Nays – 0. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Pepin stated the RFP dollar amount should be added to the September Minutes (it was in the September Special Meeting Minutes but not brought up in the Motion for award. The Clerk will add the dollar amount to the previous Minutes. Mr. Pepin asked to reserve time under the Trailer Park rates and West End EMS.

Mr. Nancarrow noted UPEA had submitted the first draft of the water system study, has been investigating new funding options (out of their own dime), opened conversations with Ishpeming Township, and will be meeting with Mr. Harris on Friday.

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

Motion by Schuhknecht, supported by Wing to approve the items listed in the Consent Agenda including the previously mentioned change to the Minutes. Ayes – 5, Nays – 0. Motion carried.

BUDGET REVIEW

Supervisor Laakso noted there was one internal budget adjustment required this month.

PLANNING COMMISSION

Trustee Gischia updated the Board on various activities which the Planning Commission has been dealing with including the Fowl Ordinance (Public Hearing at the November Planning Commission meeting), solar power (not addressed in our Zoning Ordinance), road repairs (Twin Pines), how to generate new businesses to the Township, and updates to the Recreation Plan, Master Plan and Risk Reduction Grant opportunity.

Supervisor Laakso recommended the Board set a budget of \$2000 for boulders and a gate at the Gold Mine Lake Park. It was noted the Planning Commission recommended moving forward with this project. Motion by Hosang, supported by Gischia to approve a budget of \$2000 for boulders and a gate at the Gold Mine Lake Park. Ayes – 5, Nays – 0. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING A RISK REDUCTION PROGRAM

Motion by Wing, supported by Schuhknecht to approve the presented Resolution Establishing a Risk Reduction Program for Ely Township. Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Wing, Gischia, Schuhknecht, Laakso Hosang

Nays: None

Motion carried.

NEW PAGERS FOR FIRST RESPONDERS

Supervisor Laakso presented the Board with a quote for pagers for the First Responder Team. Mr. Laakso noted the current pagers aren't repairable and the team has been experiencing connection issues. Trustee Gischia noted he had checked various other companies online and found Wolfe Communications to be the best price. Motion by Hosang, supported by Gischia to approve purchase of eleven Unication Pagers (includes one free) at a cost of \$4037.00 with the understanding Tilden Township will pay for three of the pagers. Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Hosang, Gischia, Schuhknecht, Wing, Laakso

Nays: None

Motion carried. Trustee Hosang noted the Hall AED needs to be checked as it is flashing red.

BURIED LINE/PIPE LOCATOR

Supervisor Laakso recommended the Board approve purchase of a Schonstedt Magnetic + Pipe & Cable Locating instrument at a cost of \$2959. Mr. Harris noted the difficulty in finding lines and Tilden Township has a leak detector instrument which they would trade services for. Trustee Gischia was concerned with the cost. It was determined the instrument would be purchased through both water system funds on a percentage basis. Motion by Hosang, supported by Schuhknecht to approve purchase of the Schonstedt Pipe Locator. Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Wing, Schuhknecht, Hosang, Gischia, Laakso

Nays: None

Motion carried.

GREENWOOD BUSINESS/TRAILER PARK WATER RATES

Supervisor Laakso noted the Board would need to conduct a Public Hearing in order to raise the Commercial water rates for the Greenwood Water System. Mr. Pepin stated he felt the trailer parks should pay the residential rate for each trailer. Motion by Gischia, supported by Schuhknecht to hold a Public Hearing on November 11, 2020 for the purpose to raise the Commercial water rates for the Greenwood Water System. Ayes – 5, Nays – 0. Motion carried.

OLD TIRES AND RIMS

Motion by Hosang, supported by Schuhknecht to declare old tires and rims as salvage and place them on Marketplace for sale. Ayes – 5, Nays – 0. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION TO TEMPORARILY HALT SHUT-OFFS FOR BOTH WATER SYSTEMS

Supervisor Laakso presented the Board with a Resolution to Temporarily Halt Shut-Offs for Both Water Systems noting that this extends the current order to April 5, 2021. Motion by Laakso, supported by Wing to approve the Resolution to Temporarily Halt Shut-Offs for Both Water Systems. Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Laakso, Wing, Hosang, Gischia, Schuhknecht

Nays: None

Motion carried.

Treasurer Schuhknecht noted she would be sending out delinquent letters to all overdue accounts.

PROPOSED NAME CHANGE FROM JOHNSON LAKE TO LAKE PORK CHOP

Supervisor Laakso presented the Board with a request for a name change from Johnson Lake to Lake Pork Chop. It was noted the applicants had done everything properly. Motion by Schuhknecht, supported by Laakso to recommend to the US Board of Geographic Names Ely Township's support for the proposed name change. Ayes – 5, Nays – 0. Motion carried.

SCOTT REZONING

Supervisor Laakso brought to the Board's attention that on August 12, 2019, the Planning Commission voted their approval and recommendation to the Township Board that the Scott rezoning request 6-19-19 be approved. The Township Board failed to act on this at their August 19, 2019 Meeting. Motion by Gischia, supported by Hosang to approve the Scott Rezoning 6-19-19 request from Timber Production to Residential Two. Ayes – 5, Nays – 0. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

Supervisor Laakso reported the Township Attorney stated the Koski Violation was closed due to it being addressed to Hannah Koski instead of Heather Koski. Mr. Laakso noted the property has been cleared up substantially. Summons delivery was unsuccessful for the Carello and Webb violations. Mr. VanLuven will follow up.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Pepin stated concerns with our responders making calls to Champion. Supervisor Laakso stated he met with the Champion Township Board on Monday. He is gathering people interested in a potential West End Authority and indicated Ishpeming Township may be interested.

BOARD COMMENTS

Supervisor Laakso indicated he would like to take two classes on zoning at a cost of \$350 each. It was noted there is \$3000 budgeted for education and training for Board members.

Treasurer Schuhknecht reported our website is up and running and people are responding to it. The top two searches are for basketball courts and camping.

Condolences were extended to Mr. Harris on the recent loss of his mother.

CLOSED SESSION

The Board moved into Closed Session at 7pm. The Board reopened the regular meeting at 7:05pm.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Hosang, supported by Wing to adjourn the Meeting at 7:05pm. Ayes – 5, Nays – 0.
Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Kim D. Wing Clerk

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Hosang, supported by Wing to adjourn the meeting at 7:16pm. Ayes – 5, Nays – 0.
Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Kim D. Wing, Clerk