

ELY TOWNSHIP
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
December 15, 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; Glenn Wing, Trustee; Art Gischia, Trustee; Molly Taseris, Clerk present. Dawn Schuhknecht, Treasurer; absent-excused.

PUBLIC PRESENT

Al Harris, Ted Pepin, Randy Ruppel

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by Wing, supported by Taseris to approve the Agenda. Ayes-4, Nays-0. 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 (moved to Water Systems)
- I. Planning Commission Minutes

Motion by Wing, supported by Taseris to approve the Consent Agenda. Ayes-4, Nays-0. Motion carried.

BUDGET REVIEW

Supervisor Laakso stated that he made a few internal adjustments. He explained that he is still working on the Direct Hauler budget. He did add a \$5.00 Administration Fee to the permits.

PLANNING COMMISSION

Trustee Gischia updated the Board on the Planning Commission Meeting, December 13, 2021.

Some of the things discussed were that Ryan Carrig is going to finalize the Recreation Plan. The Picnic Tables were discussed, Gischia estimates the tables and hard pack to be around \$3,000.00 each. Gischia also stated that the Supervisor gave a copy of the By-laws to the Board. Steve Bertucci, Jr. is a new Planning Commission member and Aaron Carr is working on the Zoning Compliance Permits for Annual Report.

WATER SYSTEMS

A. Greenwood Hydrant #11 out of service

There are 2 hydrants that are in need of replacement with #11 being out of service, the Fire Department knows about this. Al Harris is looking into the cost to replace these.

B. Diorite Dry Hydrant out of service

The Dry Hydrant in Diorite was struck by a vehicle. It is cracked. Needs to be repaired.

C. Water System Operator Report

Al Harris stated in his report that additional testing in Diorite is needed.

He also stated that we are required to complete a long-range capital improvement plan for EGLE. Harris said that when we get the results of the UPEA study we will be able to make some long-range plans.

Kevin Nancarrow from UPEA sent a Water System Improvements Update. He was not able to attend the meeting due to a close-contact Covid quarantine.

MISS DIG CONTRACT

Motion by Wing, supported by Gischia to pay the invoice for the Miss Dig Contract for \$1,127.79. Ayes-4, Nays-0. Motion carried.

UPEA INVOICES

Motion by Wing, supported by Taseris to pay the 2 invoices from UPEA. The amount of each invoice is \$1,447.80 and \$813.00, totaling \$2,260.80. Ayes-4, Nays-0. Motion Carried.

JEREMY LAAKSO RENTAL PROPERTY; LINE MAINTENANCE FEE (DIORITE WATER)

Mr. Laakso stated that he has a tenant in one of his apartments as of December 1, 2021. He has paid up to date \$130.00 (\$40.00 last 2 months Line Maintenance Fee, and \$90.00 for December Water) for that apartment.

The other Line Maintenance Fee bill, for the second apartment, has been sent to the attorney for review.

2022 BOARD MEETINGS SCHEDULE

Motion by Taseris, supported by Wing to accept the 2022 Board Meeting dates. Ayes-4, Nays-0. Motion carried.

1270 COUNTY ROAD 496 ZONING VIOLATION

Supervisor Laakso presented the Board with the Zoning Violation letters from Northern Design Works, Richard Uren Owner. Mr. Uren attended the hearing, on December 2, 2021 on a violation of the Ely Township Dangerous Building Ordinance as the Hearing Officer. The hearing was to address the parcel 52-03-212-041-00, also known as 1270 County Road 496, Ishpeming, MI 49866. There are Zoning Violations, including the building being “unsafe” and “unsanitary and unfit for human habitation”.

557 COUNTY ROAD CKK (DIORITE SCHOOL UPDATE)

Supervisor Laakso presented the Board with the reports from MIOSHA on the 2 buildings known as the Diorite School. On July 21, 2021, the Michigan Occupational Safety and Health Administration (MIOSHA), Construction Safety and Health Division, began a referral inspection at the worksite located at the former Diorite School at 557 Road CKK in Champion, MI. 49814. Mr. Slawski has numerous violations.

The Owner Andrew Slawski was sent the letter and reports. He was fined \$2,000.00.

Supervisor Laakso is going to move forward with the Dangerous Building Ordinance to Mr. Slawski.

TOWNSHIP HALL BATHROOM OCCUPANCY PERMIT

Gischia signed the copy of the Bathroom Final Pay Request. Clerk Taseris to file it.

APPROVAL OF GARBAGE RFP DATES

Motion by Gischia, supported by Wing to approve the RFP Solid Waste and Recycling Collection Services dates as presented. Ayes-4, Nays-0. Motion carried.

WEST END RESPONDERS PACKET

Supervisor Laakso presented the Board with an Informational Packet pertaining to the West End First Responders. Gischia said he would like to see the Budget Impact that this will have. Laakso is going to send this Packet Agreement to the attorney to have him review it.

BOARD OF REVIEW ALTERNATE

Supervisor Laakso is recommending Erin Stratton for the position. Motion by Gischia, supported by Wing to appoint Erin Stratton to the position contingent on there not being a conflict of interest. Ayes-4, Nays-0. Motion carried. Laakso to check with MTA to see about conflict of interest.

CORRESPONDENCE

Laakso stated that Mr. Gregg Anderson finally called and they had a conversation about his plowing the hydrant on 581. Laakso told Mr. Anderson to send in a bid.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Ted Pepin stated that the Direct Haulers Permits used to have a fee. He also stated that the \$90.00 a ton fee for the Transfer Station is a “good deal” for the residents. He said the Zoning Compliance Permits, in the past, were made into a list each month and given to the Supervisor. He also asked Al Harris why he needs to dig up all 30 Greenwood water lines, when not too long ago, all but 20 were dug up. Al stated that they have to have pictures. No pictures were taken.

CLOSED SESSION

Not needed.

BOARD COMMENTS

Taseris wished everyone a “Merry Christmas!”

Laakso stated that there was a request for fire numbers and signs with the numbers on them for all of Ely residents.

Laakso also stated that in the past our average donation to the Fire Department for Fire Prevention Week has been \$300-\$500.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:51 pm by Supervisor Laakso.

Respectfully submitted,

Molly A. Taseris
Clerk