

ESCANABA TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING MEETING MINUTES MAY 9, 2022 7:30 PM
ESCANABA TOWNSHIP HALL 4618 COUNTY RD 416 20TH RD GLADSTONE, MI 49837

Supervisor Rymkos called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm followed by recital of the Pledge of Allegiance. Clerk Knauf-Wycoff presented a prayer.

ROLL CALL: Supervisor Tom Rymkos, Treasurer Kim Knauf-Wycoff, Clerk Theresa Chenier, Trustee Al Gareau, Trustee Norman Fleury. All members are present.

Motion to approve agenda with additions: under 10. Unfinished Business B) Roads added 1) Township Roads and 11. New Business G. County Zoning H. Ball Park Bleachers, made by Clerk Knauf-Wycoff. Second by Trustee Gareau. All in favor. Motion passed.

Motion to approve May 5, 2022 regular meeting minutes and Closed May 5, 2022 meeting minutes (one copy of the Closed meeting minutes was passed down after being read and reviewed by each Board Member then returned to Clerk Chenier who placed them in a sealed envelope) with the addition of the statement: Closed meeting held pertaining to confidential attorney/client privilege, was made by Clerk Chenier. Second Al Gareau. All in favor. Motion passed.

Trustee Fleury made the motion to approve the Financial Report as presented. Second by Trustee Gareau. All in favor. Motion passed.

COMMUNICATIONS: Supervisor Rymkos had communications with the Boy Scouts, Library Advisory Committee and UP Power

PUBLIC COMMENTS: NONE

FIRE DEPT REPORT: Chief Matt Ryan gave report. There were 5 calls within the last month. They held a mock car emergency training at the Besse Hall. It went very well. Fire Trucks were displayed at the ISD School resulting in possible one new recruit to the department. Personnel had CPR Training. Requested the Board to consider a new logo. Mutual Aid Agreement between other area fire departments was discussed. Supervisor Rymkos voiced concerns of the high cost of fuel. He also asked for more information on Mutual Aid Agreement. Chief Rain said Truck #1 is worth refurbishing. Truck #1 and #4 are in need of repairs and estimates are being waited on. The Escanaba Township Fire Department will be flying the American flag from the extension of the ladder truck to welcome the Honor Flight Veteran return to the Delta County Airport. Chief Rian completed and passed the Instructor 1 Class so he will be able to teach classes.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Trustee Fleury made the motion to accept the pest control bid from A Plus Pest Control. Second by Clerk Knauf-Wycoff. All in favor. Motion passed. Trustee Fleury made motion to repair road D7. Second by Clerk Knauf-Wycoff. All in favor. Motion passed.

Supervisor Rymkos said Ed Brunette charged \$150 to till up, grind and level off township road by the Gladstone High School.

Clerk Chenier stated the Board has been receiving zoning complaints and they are working on a policy and held a Special Meeting May 5, 2022 for client/attorney consultation.. Clerk Chenier informed it was recommended sending a letter for non-compliance. **Treasurer Knauf-Wycoff made a motion to draft a letter per recommendations. Clerk Chenier second. All in favor. Motion passed.**

Supervisor Rymkos contacted Bradfield to take a look at the town hall basement water leak issue for repair recommendations. He has not heard back from him yet.

The Cemetery needs clean up in tree line areas and fence updates including removal of barb wire in some areas. Custodian Marenger will measure the fence areas and perform clean up. Clerk Chenier will stay in contact with Tri-Media which performs cemetery mapping. She also announced there will be a Memorial Day Flag ceremony at 11 am performed by the American Legion. Clerk Chenier said she will compose a contract between the township and the Amish group that performs digging grave sites.

Trustee Gareau made a motion to purchase the Gravely lawn mower for ground maintenance. Trustee Fleury second. All in favor. Motion passed.

Clerk Chenier announced there needs to be changed and updates to the Township Policy. It will define deadlines, conflict of interest, minute publishing among other items. **Treasurer Knauf-Wycoff made the motion to precede with changes and updates to the Township Policy. Second by Trustee Fleury. All in favor. Motion passed.**

Trustee Gareau made the motion to accept tree removal bid from Great Heights. Second by Trustee Fleury. All in favor. Motion passed.

Trustee Fleury made motion to approve sending out response letter pertaining to FOIA appeal. Second by Treasurer Knauf-Wycoff. All in favor. Motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS:

Trustee Fleury made a motion to remove Pat Beauchamp and Linda Trombley-Robitaille as contacts and administrators for Mission Square deferred comp account and add Clerk Theresa Chenier and Treasurer Kim Knauf-Wycoff as contact and administrators and Supervisor Rymkos as contact person. Second by Clerk Knauf-Wycoff. All in favor. Motion passed.

Motion to accept and authorize ACH (American Clearing House) policy resolution made by Trustee Gareau. Second by Clerk Chenier. Verbal vote: Kim YES Norm YES Theresa YES Al YES Tom YES. All in favor. Motion passed.

Clerk Chenier made a motion to accept credit card terms for Staples and Menards. Second by Trustee Gareau. All in favor. Motion passed.

The Pavilion kitchen needs a good working stove. Clerk Chenier offered to look into pricing.

Supervisor Rymkos announced he attended a meeting with Delta County. The County is considering repealing zoning & planning for 10 townships. They discussed the possibility of townships joining together as partners in zoning and planning. Supervisor Rymkos felt there is a lot to consider, research and discuss before any decision is made. Clerk Chenier informed the members that the MTA legal opinion is to approach this very carefully. The Board tabled discussion for a later date.

Trustee Fleury will proceed to get estimates to repair the ball park bleachers at Chenier Field.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Fred Minor regarding ZBA request

BOARD COMMENTS: Treasurer Knauf-Wycoff announced the audit process is completed and they are waiting on an official response. May 25, 2022 is the date for the Mission 18 Honor Flight. Public is encouraged to attend the return reception for our veterans at the Delta County Airport.

Clerk Chenier gave liaison report of the Planning Commission. There were 5 new permits. They are continuing working on solar overlay and draft solar ordinance. Education and training is being completed. Announced there should not be a quorum of the Board at Planning Commission meetings. It could have an effect involving risk management.

DELTA COUNTY COMMISSIONER REPORT: Commission Barron not present

The Board continued with paying bills at 9:52 pm. 9:59 pm Clerk Chenier retreated then returned at 9:59 pm to gather electrical power billings.

Motion to adjourn the meeting made by Trustee Gareau. Second by Trustee Fleury. All in favor. Motion passed to adjourn meeting at 10:11PM.

Next scheduled meeting of the Township Board is June 13th, 2022 at the Township Hall 4618 County 416 20th Rd Gladstone, MI 49837 7:30 pm.

If you need any assistance to join a meeting, please contact Cathy at 906-280-6182 or cathyculliton@gmail.com.

Meeting minutes prepared by Cathy Culliton, Recording Secretary.