

## ESCANABA TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING AUGUST 8, 2022 MINUTES

4618 COUNTY 416 20<sup>TH</sup> RD GLADSTONE, MI 49837 7:30 PM

Supervisor Tom Rymkos called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm followed by recital of the Pledge of Allegiance. Treasurer Kim Knauf-Wycoff opened the meeting with a prayer of guidance and thanks.

Roll Call: Present are Supervisor Tom Rymkos, Clerk Theresa Chenier, Treasurer Kim Knauf-Wycoff, Trustee, Al Gareau and Trustee Norman Fleury. All members are present.

**Trustee Gareau made a motion to accept the agenda with additions. Second by Clerk Chenier. All in favor. Motion passed.**

**Treasurer Knauf-Wycoff made a motion to accept July 2022 meeting minutes with corrections. Trustee Gareau second. All in favor. Motion passed.**

**Treasurer Knauf-Wycoff made a motion to accept the election report as presented. Trustee Gareau second. All in favor. Motion passed.**

The Financial Report, year to date, was reviewed at this time to check the account balances compared to the budgeted amounts. **Treasurer Knauf-Wycoff made a motion to transfer \$1000 (One thousand dollars) from the contingency fund into election supplies. Clerk Chenier second. All in favor. Motion passed.**

**Clerk Chenier made a motion to accept the financial statement. Trustee Gareau second. All in favor. Motion passed.**

Communications: Supervisor Rymkos said he received the billing from Delta County \$34200.00 for repairs to the Westridge Area roads.

Public Comments: NONE

Fire Chief Matt Rian gave his monthly report. There were 3 fire calls. Truck # 6 is in Lansing for repairs. The Hannahville community night out was successful and they expressed gratitude for the fire truck on display. The truck was requested to attend Mission of Hope at the UP State Fair. The Cascade system has been repaired. Radios received through a DNR grant are waiting to be programmed. ERS and fire fighter safety training took place. The department is working on a "No Beard Policy" due to masks may not perform properly with facial hair. Fuel cards are in order. The department would like to change their phone app to *I AM RESPONDING*. It has better technology that will display a mapped location, record messages, audio alert that is compatible with cell phones. It can serve up to 32 phones. The price is the same as previous system used at \$300.

**Treasurer Knauf-Wycoff made a motion to approve truck #5 outing to UP State Fair, Mission of Hope. Trustee Gareau second. All in favor. Motion passed. Trustee Fleury made a motion to approve the new app *I AM RESPONDING* for the fire department. Trustee Gareu second. All in favor. Motion passed.**

Clerk Chenier updated that the audit report finalization is still being waited on.

Job bids are still being accepted to remove the shrubs at the township hall. Supervisor Rymkos will contact Bradfield Construction as a follow up on the basement water prevention job. He will continue looking into options such as aluminum bleachers, at the ball park. Clerk Chenier mentioned the roof at the township hall needs re-sealing. This is an option to use the ARPA funding. Supervisor Rymkos said he will get quotes for roof repairs.

Verso Grow has become a huge concern of area residents. Supervisor Rymkos would like to see who holds the permits.

Bidding policy-TABLED

**Motion to approve the cash handling policy and remove cash receipt report was made by Treasurer Knauf-Wycoff. Second by Trustee Gareau. All in favor. Motion passed.**

Further discussion on the carpeting installation was tabled.

**Trustee Gareau made motion to approve resolution of MABAS (Mutual Aid Box Alarm System). Second by Treasurer Knauf-Wycoff. All in favor. Motion passed. (MABAS is used to streamline fire and emergency responses.)**

Clerk Chenier made a motion to add line item for fire department grant monies. Second by Treasurer Knauf-Wycoff. All in favor. Motion passed.

Clerk Chenier informed that Delta County is requesting 3 new ordinances to be completed. They are Land Division, Plat & Land Split and Boundary line adjustment. Township Assessor, Colleen Maki spoke to the Board. She first commented how well she has been able to work with our Clerk and Treasurer. Maki continued by explaining the reasons why these ordinances are needed and or required.

Platted Lot  
cmc

Clerk Chenier made a motion to accept Escanaba Township Boundary Line Adjustment Ordinance as prepared by Township Attorney. Second by Treasurer Knauf-Wycoff. All in favor. Motion passed.

Clerk Chenier made a motion to accept Escanaba Township Land Division Ordinance as prepared by the township attorney. Second by Trustee Fleury. All in favor. Motion passed.

Clerk Chenier made a motion to accept Escanaba Township Plat & Land Split Boundary Ordinance as prepared by the township attorney. Second by Treasurer Knauf-Wycoff. All in favor. Motion passed.

EGL permit for a culvert on the Days River Road is in need of signature.

Trustee Gareau made a motion to approve Election Inspectors wages for August 2, 2022 primary election. Trustee Fleury second. All in favor. Motion passed.

Treasurer Knauf-Wycoff relayed a message from a resident that was billed for a fire call. The resident had called the police because of an unusual smell and wanted that documented. Supervisor Rymkos suggested the billing may be covered by the landlord or landlord's insurance. Kim will follow up with the concern

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Ilsa Minor – ZBA Hearing scheduled. Maradee Luft- Thanked Board for their concerns of the Verso Grow and explained her bad experience with VERSO Grow near her home. She also brought an article to share with others on soil chemical contamination. Dean VanLoon encouraged the Board to expedite the house fire numbers. Theresa Piche also spoke of concerns of Verso Grow. She added decommission of solar panels should be the responsibility of the farm land owners for the clean-up. Matt Rian stated PFAS (one of the chemicals mentioned in the article) is no longer allowed to be used with foam on fire calls.

Clerk Chenier gave the Board-Planning Commission Liaison Report: The Escanaba Township Planning Commission held a Special Meeting August 26, 2022 to review the Draft Solar Ordinance. A Public Hearing will be scheduled. The fire signs were discussed at the Planning Commission meeting and she did explain part of the delay is due to the addresses not matching with the grid. She will continue to keep us informed.

Theresa Nelson gave the Delta County Commissioner's report. She encouraged public attendance at the county meetings. Meetings are held at the Service Center at the new jail complex. Ms Nelson also said the County is continuing to work on the road sign issue.

Trustee Gareau made a motion to pay bills at 8:49pm Trustee Fleury second. All in favor. Motion passed.

Trustee Gareau made motion to adjourn at 9:14 pm. Second by Clerk Chenier. All in favor. Motion passed.

The next scheduled meeting of the Escanaba Township Board is TUESDAY September 6, 2022 at 7:30 pm at the Escanaba Township Hall 4618 County 416 20<sup>th</sup> Rd Gladstone MI 49837.

Please contact Cathy at 906-280-6182 if you need assistance to attend a meeting.