

Escanaba Township meeting held by Zoom on May 10<sup>th</sup>, 2021. (2)

Supervisor Thomas Rymkos called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. and led in the Pledge of Allegiance. Treasurer Kim Knauf-Wyckoff said a short prayer.

Roll Call Attendance: Clerk Patricia Beauchamp, Treasurer Kim Knauf-Wyckoff, Trustee Alfred Gareau, Trustee Theresa Chenier, and Supervisor Thomas Rymkos.

Trustee Chenier moved to approve the Agenda with the additions, seconded by Clerk Beauchamp. Roll call votes: Clerk Beauchamp-Yes, Treasurer Knauf-Wyckoff-Yes, Trustee Gareau-Yes, Trustee Chenier-Yes, and Supervisor Rymkos-Yes. The motion is carried with all yes votes.

Trustee Gareau moved to accept the April minutes with the corrections, seconded by Treasurer Knauf-Wyckoff. Roll call votes: Clerk Beauchamp-Yes, Treasurer Knauf-Wyckoff-Yes, Trustee Gareau-Yes, Trustee Chenier-Yes, and Supervisor Rymkos-Yes. The motion is carried with all yes votes.

The Financial report was presented on a separate sheet. Treasurer Knauf-Wyckoff mentioned that the C/D's were coming due this year. She would like Brian Pahnke to attend one of our meetings to discuss them with us. He is from THRIBENT Financial a NATION WIDE financial company. Clerk Beauchamp moved to accept the Financial Report as presented, seconded by Trustee Gareau. Roll call vote: Clerk Beauchamp-Yes, Treasurer Knauf-Wyckoff-Yes, Trustee Gareau-Yes, Trustee Chenier-Yes, and Supervisor Rymkos-Yes. The motion is carried with all yes votes.

Communications: FEMA-flood stages, UPPCO will have a Public Hearing on May 11<sup>th</sup> in Lansing. Equalization a clarification on Section 5 a local agreement.

Trustee Chenier mentioned she received a letter from Debby Verbrigghe stating she would like to work on the Cemetery and making a new map for the old map is nearly worn out. Trustee Chenier said Debby has a computer that would take care of this large area and the map.

Public Comments: None.

Unfinished Business: Trustee Gareau would like to see the cemetery roads black topped. A few people mentioned with the large trucks coming in for burials they were afraid that the edges would break off. Trustee Gareau mentioned that he would go look at the road and see if something else could be done if black topping it would not keep.

Supervisor brought up the property at Lake Bluff Estates. He mentioned it was talked about in the Master Plan. The land is in Section 31 Lot 8 and is 2.2 acres he would like to see a well on it for water for the fire department and other things. Clerk Beauchamp mentioned that this money could be used for other things at this time that is needed in the township also this is land is not budgeted for. Supervisor said we can discuss this more at our next meeting.

Supervisor Rymkos mentioned a bid came in for M & M Construction for the well wall in the basement. The would go down 2 feet cut out the black top and put steel poles at each end. Treasurer Knauf-Wyckoff moved to accept the bid of \$4000 from M & M Construction for the well room in the basement, seconded by Trustee Chenier. Roll call vote: Clerk Beauchamp-Yes,

Treasurer Knauf-Wyckoff-Yes, Trustee Gareau-Yes, Trustee Chenier-Yes, and Supervisor Rymkos-Yes. Motion carried with all yes votes.

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Grounds Nursery referred taking out the shrubs and trees by the Township Hall to Doug Hughes. No estimate has been given for this but will be available at our next meeting.

New Business: The Declaration of Emergency to have meeting electronic has moved to August 9, 2021. Treasurer Knauf-Wyckoff moved to have the Declaration of Emergency to be moved to August 9, 2021, seconded by Trustee Gareau. Roll call: Clerk Beauchamp-Yes, Treasurer Knauf-Wyckoff-Yes, Trustee Gareau-Yes, Trustee Chenier-Yes, and Supervisor Rymkos-Yes. The motion is carried with all yes votes.

Treasurer Knauf-Wyckoff and Trustee Chenier are working on a new Cemetery Ordinance. They will have this completed for our next meeting.

Treasurer Knauf-Wyckoff and Trustee Chenier are working on a new Fire Department Ordinance and it will be completed for our next meeting.

The new Assessors for the Township are Joe and Coleen Maki. Their business is called Eagle Assessment Service, Inc. Clerk Beauchamp moved to accept them for our Assessors for two years, until April 30, 2021. Treasurer Knauf, Wyckoff seconded this motion. Roll call vote: Clerk Beauchamp-Yes, Treasurer Knauf-Wyckoff-Yes, Trustee Gareau-Yes, Trustee Chenier-Yes, and Supervisor Rymkos-Yes. The motion is carried with all yes votes.

Trustee Chenier would like approval for a Risk Management Schedule that would be beneficial to check out things and the Board would be aware of it. Roll call vote: Clerk Beauchamp-Yes, Treasurer Knauf-Wyckoff-Yes, Trustee Gareau-Yes, Trustee Chenier-Yes, and Supervisor-Yes. This Risk Management Schedule is agreed from all Board members.

The Planning Commission is reviewing the Master Plan which is an annual review. They will be looking at a Capital Improvement Plan, Solar Ordinance which is not valid so they will look into all sorts of solar displays.

Dan Bender from State Wide asked to be reinstated to sell land for Escanaba Township. He said we had one piece of land left off 0.8 Lane, it is 4 ½ acres. Supervisor Rymkos mentioned this land was saved for water and sewer. The Supervisor also mentioned we are not signing a contract for him for another year being we have no more land to sell. The Supervisor will look at the road and discuss it with the Road Commission to see what else has to be completed.

The Janitor mentioned that we need new curtains in the township hall. We have six windows and the curtains are getting faded and are coming down when they need to be closed and they should be longer curtains to go below the windows. Treasurer Knauf-Wyckoff moved to approve new curtain, seconded by Trustee Gareau. Roll call votes: Clerk Beauchamp-Yes, Treasurer Knauf-Wyckoff-Yes, Trustee Gareau-Yes, Trustee Chenier-Yes, and Supervisor

Rymkos-Yes. Motion carried after all yes votes.

Clerk Beauchamp mentioned we no longer have a fax machine and we are paying a separate line for it could we cancel it. Supervisor Rymkos said yes to cancel it but find out if we are going to be charged more for removing it.

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The playground wood chips are getting low and we need another load of treated cedar chips. Grounds keeper Dan Margenger called Flinn's and they charge \$210 a truck load. Trustee Chenier also mentioned to call the Gladstone recreation to see where they get theirs.

Trustee Chenier mentioned that we have an American Rescue Plan. Katherine M. from MTA mentioned that the township should receive some money but first we have to apply for DUN'S and SAM'S numbers to apply. It is free and we can use it for 1. Covid, 2. Replace loss revenue 3. Water and 4. Sewer. Trustee Chenier asked the Board to approve this American Rescue Plan application and we have until 2024 to spend it if we are accepted. Treasurer Knauf-Wyckoff said that she would get the numbers that we need.

There is a trailer at the cemetery that is not being used. Dan Marenger mentioned that the hydraulics were not working on them and it is no use any place for the township. He mentioned that the Amish are digging graves could we just give it to them to use. The Amish would make a hitch for it for the horses to pull. Supervisor Rymkos will go to the cemetery to see and have an answer for our next meeting.

A question was asked about the cost of Baby Showers and Bridal Showers at the township hall. The showers are only using the upstairs for \$75. They don't have liquor and can't use the kitchen to cook. They usually bring crock pots to heat up so no ovens need to be used. The basement use is for \$75 a day to cook for other organizations.

Public Comments: Fred minor and Vickie Gobert.

Board Member comments: Treasurer Knauf-Wyckoff mentioned the emergency signs. There is 1575 homesteads in Escanaba Township. We will heard from Mike Lange about the cost of these signs in the near future.

Trustee Chenier mentioned that MTA, TAKING TOWNSHIP MINUTES (REFERENCE) said it was ok for the township to use the Action News to put our ads in for the public to see.

Trustee Chenier mentioned that the MICHIGAN CRISES AND ACCESS LINE FOR Health Crisis should be put on the website for Health Care to pass along AS WELL AS A LINE FOR EMOTIONAL SUPPORT.

Trustee Gareau mentioned that Cornell Township has their emergency signs up and they look good. They have red signs with white letter and the green signs don't stand out.

Fire Department Report: Matt Ryan mentioned that the Sam's and Dun's number has to be renewed each year. A semi-truck will be at Bessie's Fire Hall on September 21<sup>st</sup> and October

31<sup>st</sup>. They applied for the two % grant from Hannahville Casino and we will receive a reply within a week or two. The dehumidifier they bought for the Fire Department in Flat Rock is working very well. They are planning a landing zone for the helicopter that will be at Bessie's Fire Hall. They had three fire alarm call outs and one mutual aid for Nahma's grass fire.

Delta County Commissioner Bob Barron was not on the telephone to give his monthly report.

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AT THE MAY 3, 2021 PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING, THE MASTER PLAN AND ITS ANNUAL REVIEW. AT THIS TIME THE PLANNING COMMISSION DOES NOT FEEL ANY AMENDMENTS NEED TO BE DONE TO THE MASTER PLAN.

CHAPTER 9-PAGE 2

HAS A STATEMENT THAT SECTION 65 OF THE MPEA REQUIRES THE PLANNING COMMISSION TO "PREPARE" A CIP-CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN. THE MPEA REQUIRES THIS IF THE TOWNSHIP HAS SEWER AND WATER. THE RECENT BYLAWS PASSED BY THE PLANNING COMMISSION ALSO STATE THAT THE PLANNING COMMISSION MAY PREPARE A CIP. THE PLANNING COMMISSION WOULD LIKE THE TOWNSHIP BOARD TO BE AWARE OF THIS, AND WILL PREPARE A CIP IF DIRECTED BY THE TOWNSHIP BOARD.

IN CHAPTER 10-PAGE 3 THERE IS A STATEMENT THAT, **SOLAR ENERGY GENERATION FACILITIES ARE ALREADY A PERMITTED USE IN THE ZONING ORDINANCE.** AT THE TIME OF THE ADOPTION OF THE MASTER PLAN, THE PLANNING COMMISSION WAS UNAWARE THAT THE SOLAR ORDINANCE WAS NOT VALID. THIS MAKES THIS STATEMENT UNTRUE. THE PLANNING COMMISSION IS WORKING ON A SOLAR ORDINANCE AND THE PLAN IS THAT THE SOLAR ORDINANCE WILL ADDRESS ALL TYPES OF SOLAR. SO, NO NEED TO CHANGE THE MASTER PLAND AND THIS STATEMENT THEN WILL BE VALID.

THE MASTER PLAN HAS HAD ITS ANNUAL REVIEW THIS MONTH.

Trustee Gareau moved to pay bills, seconded by Treasurer Knauf-Wyckoff. Roll call votes: Clerk Beauchamp-Yes, Treasurer Knauf-Wyckoff-Yes, Trustee Gareau-Yes, Trustee Chenier-Yes, and Supervisor Rymkos-Yes. With all yes votes the motion is passed.

NEXT MEETING WILL BE MAY 24, 2021 TELECOMUNICATION AT 7:30 P.M.

Clerk Beauchamp moved to adjourn at 10:15 p.m., seconded by Trustee Chenier. Roll Call votes: Clerk Beauchamp-Yes, Treasurer Knauf-Wyckoff-Yes, Trustee Gareau-Yes, Trustee Chenier-Yes, and Supervisor Rymkos-Yes. With all yes votes the motion is passed.

Patricia J. Beauchamp

Escanaba Township Clerk