

ESCANABA TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING MINUTES MAY 8, 2023 7:30 PM
ESCANABA TOWNSHIP HALL 4618 COUNTY 416 20TH RD GLADSTONE MI 49837

EscanabaTownshipmi.gov

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm by Supervisor Tom Rymkos followed by the recital of the Pledge of Allegiance. Treasurer Kim Knauf-Wyckoff offered an opening prayer.

Roll Call. Present are Supervisor Tom Rymkos. Treasurer Kim Knauf-Wyckoff. Clerk Theresa Chenier. Trustee Al Gareau. Trustee Norman Fleury.

Motion to approve agenda with corrections made by: Treasurer Knauf-Wyckoff. Second by Trustee Gareau. All in favor. Motion passed.

Motion to approve April 2023 minutes with corrections by Trustee Gareau. Second by Clerk Chenier. All in favor. Motion passed.

Motion to approve Election Commission minutes made by Clerk Knauf-Wyckoff. Second by Supervisor Rymkos. All in favor. Motion passed.

Financial Report. Treasurer Knauf-Wyckoff and Clerk Chenier reported all accounts have been reconciled with bank.

Motion to accept financial report made by Trustee Gareau. Second by Trustee Fleury. All in favor. Motion passed.

Communications. Supervisor Rymkos received a letter from Boy Scouts that they are filing bankruptcy. The township does not owe any money to them.

Public Comments. NONE

Fire Department report given by Zach Denome. 4 call outs. 1 mutual aid. **Treasurer Knauf-Wyckoff made a motion for Fire Truck #5 to participate in the Rapid River Memorial Day parade. Second by Trustee Gareau. All in favor. Motion passed.**

Audit is ongoing. Meeting scheduled for May 25th. Hoping to finalize and have report ready for the June meeting.

Website up and running escanabatownshipmi.gov Clerk Chenier requests everyone to please make her aware of any suggestions to make any improvements.

ARPA Funds-Pump & Transmission quote is being waited on.

Basement water and well concerns are being looked into. Supervisor Rymkos is following up on this.

Bittner Engineering review with drawings for renovation is waiting for basement water issue to be corrected first.

LaBumbard Blight does have the attorney involved. Current pictures have been taken. Treasurer Knauf-Wyckoff commented that there are back taxes outstanding and will follow up with attorney.

Motion made by Clerk Chenier to table decision on photographer to assist with fire scene training due to possible liability issues. Second by Trustee Gareau. All in favor. Motion passed.

Three laptops used for elections are now outdated and will be disposed.

Trustee Fleury made motion to have lumber donated by Irving and to pay handyman to assemble the 4 benches at \$50 each for the pavilion. Second by Treasurer Knauf-Wyckoff. All in favor. Motion passed.

Planning Commission Members are needed. **Trustee Gareau made motion to accept Mitchel Gagnon as new Planning Commission member. Second by Treasurer Knauf-Wyckoff. All in favor. Motion passed.**

Supervisor Rymkos will follow up with seamless gutter installation and Independent Roofing bid for seams on the township hall roof.

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Trustee Gareau made a motion to perform dust control on the 2 township gravel roads. One road by the high school and the CWA Road. Second By Treasurer Knauf-Wyckoff. All in favor. Motion passed.

Cornell Road D-7 Triple Creek. County was supposed to repair last year but the County ran out of time. The Board discussed annexation concern and when the road is scheduled to be worked on. Supervisor Rymkos will contact Delta County Road Commission, Jody Norman. Supervisor Rymkos will contact Joe Maki regarding property lines and making a turnaround for the township road in Brampton area.

An annexation petition with names of Escanaba Township residents and Cornell Township residents was received at the township office. Several people are disputing that they were not fully informed of the reason and intentions behind the annexation. **Trustee Gareau made a motion to have it known the Escanaba Township Board does not approve of the annexation. Second by Treasurer Knauf-Wyckoff. Verbal vote: Treasurer Knauf- Wyckoff YES Trustee Fleury YES. Trustee Gareau YES. Clerk Chenier YES. Supervisor Rymkos YES. All in favor. Motion passed.**

Public Comments. Tom Sabor. Ed Fleury Cornell Township Board Member, stated Cornell does not want annexation. Rodney VanBrocklin. Beth Cavadeas. Kay VanBrocklin. Barbie Clairmont. Tom Peach. Escanaba Township Resident. Vicki Gobert. Ada Knauf. All expressed to NOT be in favor of annexation. Lori Tourangeau and John Miron expressed desire for annexation.

Board Member Comments Supervisor Rymkos stated the Township has the attorney involved in the annexation issue. Treasurer Knauf-Wyckoff said several residents are coming into the office upset about the annexation. Trustee Fleury would like to see additional bleachers at the ball field. Trustee Gareau stated he is against the annexation and expressed the impact it would have on the fire departments. Clerk Chenier questioned the installation of Amish signs. The county needs a map of where to place them. The township will purchase the signs. Supervisor Rymkos will follow up with Amish sign installation process. Bleachers are done for the ballfield. Fire signs are delayed due to address errors. Encouraged residents to reach out to the county board with annexation concerns.

Steve Viau Delta County Commissioner stated he intends to follow the voice of the people.

The Board reviewed the monthly bills to be paid.

Motion to adjourn made by Trustee Gareau at 8:53 pm. Second by Treasurer Knauf-Wyckoff. All in favor. Motion passed.

Next Meeting Escanaba Township Board (Regular Meeting) will be June 12, 2023 7:30 pm EST at the Escanaba Township Hall 4618 County 416 20th Road Gladstone MI 49837. Please contact 906 280 6182 if you require assistance to attend a meeting