

ESCANABA TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING MINUTES JANUARY 15, 2024

7:30 PM Escanaba Township Hall 4618 County 416 20th Road Gladstone MI 49837

906-786-6200 www.escanabatownshipmi.gov

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

Verbal Roll call. All members present. Supervisor Tom Rymkos, Treasurer Kim Knauf-Wyckoff, Clerk Theresa Chenier, Trustee Al Gareau, Trustee Norman Fleury.

Trustee Al Gareau made a motion with Second by Treasurer Knauf-Wyckoff to approve agenda as written. All in favor. Motion passed.

Treasurer Knauf-Wyckoff made a motion with Second by Trustee Gareau to approve December 11, 2023 meeting minutes with spell correction. All in favor. Motion passed.

The Financial Report was present in Board member packets. Funds were explained by Treasurer Knauf-Wyckoff. Individual sheets with 6 different fund accounts. Both Treasurer Knauf-Wyckoff and Clerk Chenier stated all accounts are reconciled with the bank statements. **Clerk Chenier made a motion with second by Trustee Gareau to approve the Financial Statement presented. All in favor. Motion passed.**

Communications. none

Public Comments. none

Fire Department. **Treasurer Knauf-Wyckoff made a motion with second by Trustee Fleury to approve \$970 for lights and drill kit. All in favor. Motion passed. Treasurer Knauf-Wyckoff made a motion with second by Trustee Fleury to approve \$1368 to Meier Signs, Escanaba for Fire Department retro graphics and logo. All in favor. Motion passed.**

Unfinished Business.

Information requested has been sent out regarding the audit for year 2023. Clerk Chenier stated she has not heard a response back as of today. **Treasurer Knauf-Wyckoff made a motion with second by Trustee Fleury to sign Letter of Agreement with S.L.H. All in favor. Motion passed.**

ARPA Funds. Township Hall renovation. A stove, refrigerator, and sink has been ordered from Hiawatha Supply of Escanaba for the new kitchen location at the Township Hall.

Township Road. Supervisor Rymkos will try to reach out. Phone appears disconnected.

Trustee Fleury presented the blight update. LaBombard court date is cancelled until February 27, 2024 at 10:00am. Bouchard was sent a letter from attorney. Regina Bates is supposed to mail letter back for extension. 30 day time-limit to see if in compliance.

Fire and Road signs are still in progress

Fire Department Grant. \$10,000 grant deadline December 31, 2023. Treasurer Knauf-Wyckoff has a sigma number. Supervisor Rymkos may have a phone number. The paper work for grant has been submitted by Clerk Chenier.

Dump Passes. Treasurer Knauf-Wyckoff said the average amount per pass was \$13.10. She inquired if the amount for 2024 should be increased. **Trustee Gareau made a motion with second by Clerk Chenier to keep the amount at \$30 for landfill passes. All in favor. Motion passed.**

New Business.

M-35 Jake Brake concerns. Resident Barry King requested Jake Brake sign on M35. Noise Ordinance was questioned. Supervisor Rymkos will order signs, if he can. He will also speak to Delta County Road Commissioner.

Parking Lot lighting. Solar lighting on poles for the parking lot was discussed to install at both driveways and the Fire Truck Entrance. There will be more discussion on decision

Office Hours- Blight Officer will have office hours on the first Monday of each month 12pm-5pm. No additional pay will be received. Trustee Fleury will require a key to the office.

Fire Truck damaged. The township can buy back the damaged fire truck for \$4100. Trustee Gareau will check to see if there is someone interested to buy it.

MTA Education.

Public Comments. Barbie Clairmont

Board Member Comments. Clerk Chenier notified that the voting drop box has been placed. Security cameras are being discussed and will be placed to protect the ballot box and the township hall property. The process for notifications and mailings for zoning map hearing is being worked on.

Planning Commission Liaison report given by Clerk Chenier. The Planning Commission met January 8, 2024. All members were present. The Zoning Map concerns continued and mailings and notices are being prepared to hold a public meeting.

Delta County Commissioner's Report by Steven Viau. Mr. Viau talked about Citizens Ballot Initiative to Restore Local Control for Renewable Energy. Amendment P.A. 203. 500,000 signatures are needed to try to placed on the ballot for November 2024. Four people have applied to assist the Commission regarding the opioids grant for Delta County.

Board members proceeded to review and pay monthly billings.

Treasurer Knauf-Wyckoff made a motion with second by Trustee Fleury to adjourn at 9:07 pm. All in favor. Motion passed.

The next scheduled meeting of the Escanaba Township Board is February 12, 2024 at 7:30 pm Escanaba Township Hall 4618 County 416 20th Rd Gladstone MI 49837. Please call 906-786-6200 if you require assistance to attend a meeting.

Meeting minutes prepared by Cathy Culliton, Recording Secretary. *Minutes approved as presented February 12, 2024*