

Elk Rapids Township Regular Meeting Minutes, October 13, 2020

The regular meeting of the Elk Rapids Township Board was held at the Elk Rapids Government Center located at 315 Bridge St. Elk Rapids. The meeting was called to order by Treasurer Szymanski at 9:00 am. The meeting was recorded to provide accuracy.

Present: Treasurer Mike Szymanski, Clerk Shelley Boisvert, Trustee Richard Hults, Trustee Aaron Isenhart

Absent: Supervisor Dorance Amos

Also Present: B. Derman, Chief Williamson, B. Thompson- Road Commission and 3 members in the audience.

1. Pledge of Allegiance
2. Public Comments: Gabriel Hill-Chairman of the Friends of the District Library: Hill is informing our Board that she has filed a complaint with the Attorney General's Office with regards to concerns and issues she is seeing and experiencing with the Capital Campaign Committee in charge of raising funds for the library expansion project.
N. Miller-District Library Director: Brief summary of current Library events and grants that have been obtained. Miller also stated that starting in November they plan to open the library back up to the public.
3. Approval of Meeting Agenda: **MOTION/S: Hults /Boisvert** to approve the agenda as presented. **MOTION APPROVED.**
4. Consent Agenda:
 - A. September 8, 2020 Meeting Minutes
 - B. September 10, 2020 Special Meeting Minutes
 - C. Zoning Report
 - D. Treasurers Report
 - E. Paying of the Bills: General Fund- \$24,154.72, Fire Fund - \$1,226.51

MOTION/S: Isenhart/Boisvert to approve all the items on the Consent Agenda. Roll Call Vote: Hults, Szymanski, Boisvert and Isenhart all voting Yes, 0 No (Amos is absent) **MOTION APPROVED.**
5. Tax Tribunal Petition: K. Helmreich, the Township Assessor, submitted a statement to advise the Board that an Entire Tribunal Valuation appeal has been filed with the Michigan Tax Tribunal against the Township of Elk Rapids. To address this and to stand by our assessing information the Township may have attorney fees and probably an appraisal fee in the future.
6. Sheriff Report: as submitted
7. Ambulance Department: MMR Report: As submitted
 - News Release: MMR and NorthFlight EMS Merger
8. Fire Department: Chief Williamson: As reported:
 - Former firefighter Matt Rainey has moved back to the area. **MOTION/S: Isenhart/Hults** to approve re-hiring Rainey to our Fire Department. **MOTION APPROVED.**
9. Road Commission: Burt Thompson from the Antrim County Road Commission said repairs for North Bayshore Drive should start near the end of November and hopefully finish by the end of the year with some clean up in the spring. He left a set of plans at the Township for review.

10. Planning and Zoning Commission Township Board Appointments: Three (3) Yr Terms
 - Planning Commission: **MOTION/S: Hults/Szymanski** to approve the appointment of A. Isenhart as the Township representative. **MOTION APPROVED.**
 - Zoning Board: **MOTION/S: Boisvert/Isenhart** to approve the appointment of R. Hults as the Township representative. **MOTION APPROVED.**
11. Maple Grove Cemetery: Still working on road signs. They should be installed this month.
12. Government Building Maintenance: Hults
 - The HVAC Digital Control System work by Temperature Control is ongoing.
 - There have been no new roof leaks yet so we are thinking that the water proofing to the masonry has solved the problem.
13. District Library: Hults gave a time line of what has happened in the last 30 to 60 days with the Library Board.
14. Township Sewer: Hendershot-7236 Birch Lake Rd Sewer Connection. The sewer permit for this location had expired and the house is not connected to the sewer yet. A new permit will be necessary before they can connect but this new permit will now include a benefit fee in the amount of \$4,000. Mr. Hendershot was in attendance at the meeting to confirm that they have contracted with an excavator now for the connection but was concerned about the cost of the extra benefit charge.
MOTION: Boisvert to create a new sewer permit for 7236 Birch Lake Rd that includes a benefit charge in the amount of \$4,000 that will be amortized over a two year period and will be billed on a monthly basis along with the sewer utility bill under the conditions that this house make connection to the available sewer before December 31, 2020, with \$20.00 due today for the permit fee. **Second by Szymanski:** A last condition to be added to the **Motion by Boisvert** is: All of this will be documented on the sewer permit and signed by Mr. Hendershot as a contract between the Township and the owner. **Second by Szymanski** again. Roll Call Vote: Szymanski, Boisvert, Isenhart, Hults Yes, 0 No (Amos is absent) **MOTION APPROVED.**
15. Traverse City to Charlevoix Trail: The Village is still working on the route of the trail through the Village. Boisvert stated that it may be a good idea for the Township to discuss starting a reserve fund for the Trail and or Trail Maintenance while working on the 2021/2022 budget.
16. Attorney Report: As reported
17. Township Board Announcements and Comments:
 - Boisvert stated that her office is very busy with the election and absentee ballots and that the purchase and installation of the drop box was very timely. It is being used a lot.
 - Hults asked attorney Derman if our appointed Board members were covered in case there is an issue based on the Attorney General findings at the Library Campaign Committee level. Our Insurance company will be contacted.

Adjourned: 10:15 am

Shelley Boisvert, Elk Rapids Township Clerk, 231-264-9333
Meeting minutes are subject to approval at the next regular Board Meeting