

## **Elk Rapids Township Regular Meeting Minutes, August 8, 2017**

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 Supervisor Amos at 9:00 am. The meeting was recorded to provide accuracy.

**Present:** Supervisor Dorance Amos, Clerk Shelley Boisvert, Treasurer Mike Szymanski, Trustee Richard Hults, and Trustee Aaron Isenhart

**Also Present:** B. Derman, Fire Chief VanDenBerge, L. Nix, A. Nordman: Performance Eng. and 44 members in the audience.

1. **Pledge of Allegiance**
2. **Public Comment:** There were 23 public comments. 18 comments in favor of the Township supporting a new Trail system from Maple Bay through Elk Rapids and 5 comments against the concept. Public comment ended at 9:45 am.
3. **Approval of Meeting Agenda:** Motion/S: Hults/Szymanski to approve the agenda as presented.  
**MOTION APPROVED.**
4. **Consent Agenda:**
  - A. July 11, 2017 Meeting Minutes
  - B. Zoning Report
  - C. Treasurer's Report
  - D. Paying of the Bills: General Fund - \$22,584.56, Fire & Amb. Fund – \$1,199.47**MOTION/S Isenhart/Boisvert** to approve all the items on the Consent Agenda. Roll Call Vote: Hults, Szymanski, Isenhart, Amos and Boisvert all voting Yes, 0 No. **MOTION APPROVED.**
5. **Sheriff/Commissioner Report:** Report as presented
6. **Ambulance Department:** Report as presented
7. **Fire Department:** Chief VanDenBerge: Report as presented
8. **HERTHA:** no report at this time
9. **Purchase of New Voting Booths:** Boisvert presented a quote from Inclusion Solutions in the amount of \$1,960 for new voting booths. There was no objection from the Board so Boisvert will order them.
10. **Antrim County Road Commission:** Motion/S: Hults/Szymanski to submit a letter of concern from the Township Board to the Road Commission with regards to their current budget, general operation and financial situation for road repairs. **MOTION APPROVED.**
11. **Sportsman Club:**
  - A. Woodland Drive Access: A request for an access easement off of Woodland Drive was received from Tom Reed who is interested in purchasing some property (05-06-010-005-10) adjacent to the Sportsman Club. There was also a letter received from Richard Ford of Running Wise and Ford law firm representing the Bard family who currently owns the parcel mentioned above.  
**MOTION/S Boisvert/Hults** to have B. Derman respond to Running, Wise and Ford, stating that the Board is not ready to address any easement requests down Woodland Drive at this time.  
**MOTION APPROVED.**
12. **Maple Harbor Sewer:** Performance Engineering has been working on the plan and development stage of the sewer project and have met with the Road Commission regarding an area where there is a road encroachment. They have also finalized the assessment district boundaries and have submitted a map to the

Township along with some updated costs. Preliminary documentation has been submitted to the DEQ for comment and other than that they are ready for the next steps. Derman stated that the next steps will be:

- Certification of signatures, then a special meeting to accept the petition
- Plans and maps showing the final boundaries for the district will be available for review at the Township office.
- Propose a schedule for public hearings, send mailings to everybody in the district
- Publish notices for public hearings in the newspaper

A special Township Board meeting was set for Tuesday August 15<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 AM at the Governmental Center at 315 Bridge Street. At this meeting the Board will accept the petition and acknowledge and accept the engineering plans and costs. A schedule for the public hearings will also be set.

- 13. Trail Connection between Acme and Charlevoix:** Julie Clark, Executive Director from TART Trails gave a presentation to the Board describing the work done from the planning group for the conceptual plan for the non-motorized route between Traverse City and Charlevoix beginning back in 2004. Clark stated that the one thing that can be counted on is that the line on the map for the conceptual route for the trail will change. Everything up to this point is a product of many representatives getting together shuffling through concepts and ideas. Until preliminary engineering is completed, everything is just an idea with no real way to tell if what is proposed is even feasible. As of right now the proposed route is along the M-Dot right of way down US 31 North. When asked what the cost of engineering might be Clark stated it is estimated to be around \$30,000. They are looking for grants but Tart would contribute \$10,000 and they were hoping that the Village and the Township would contribute \$5,000 each.

A Motion came later: **MOTION/S Boisvert/ Isenhart**, in the interest of Township residents in favor of creating a trail through Elk Rapids Township and the Village of Elk Rapids, that Elk Rapids Township contribute \$5,000 out of our recreation fund to the trail project for preliminary engineering design so that we will know if it is a conceivable project or not. Discussion: Isenhart stated that this is not approving the trail but it gives the Township an opportunity to be involved in how the trail gets built. If we get to a standstill and feel that the project is not in the best interest of the residents and the property owners involved then we can step away. That is Boisvert's understanding too. Amos said that even in the Department of Transportation right of way the land owners are opposing it as it stands today. Hults thinks we should hold where we're at until the project gets further north. Szymanski agrees with Hults. Roll Call Vote: Hults-No, Isenhart-Yes, Szymanski-No, Amos-No, Boisvert-Yes. **MOTION Fails.**

- 14. Attorney Report:** As presented

**15. Township Board Announcements and Comments:**

- Historical Society Marker: A Historical Marker Dedication Ceremony will be held on September 16, 2017 at the Elk Rapids History Museum at 3:00 pm.
- Wolverine Sculpture Donation – Commemorates President Ford: A letter from Douglas Radcliffe North asked if the Village of Elk Rapids would accept a donation gift of this Wolverine Sculpture that Commemorates President Ford. The Village Manager will find out more information.

- 16. Adjourn: 11:58 am**