

Elk Rapids Township Regular Meeting Minutes, October 10, 2022

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
Absent: Trustee Matt Soper.

Also Present: B. Derman, Chief Williamson, 5 members signed in as audience.

1. **Pledge of Allegiance**
2. **Public Comments:**
 - L. Shumate – Village of Elk Rapids Annual Report on Commissions
3. **Approval of Meeting Agenda:** Amos would like to add Neumann Law to item 15 – Closed Session on the agenda. **MOTION/S: Hults/Szymanski** to approve the agenda as amended. **MOTION APPROVED.**
4. **Consent Agenda:**
 - A. September 12, 2022 Meeting Minutes
 - B. Zoning Administrator’s Report
 - C. Treasurers Report
 - D. Paying of the Bills: General Fund- \$26,585.46, Fire Fund - \$9,108.81

MOTION/S: Boisvert/Amos to approve all the items on the Consent Agenda. Roll Call Vote: Hults, Szymanski, Amos, and Boisvert all voting Yes, 0 No (Soper is absent) **MOTION APPROVED.**
5. **Elk Rapids School Superintendent Julie Brown:** Upcoming Millage Proposals
Brown discussed the Elk Rapids Schools Millage Proposals. The non-homestead operating millage. This is part of the per pupil funding. Brown also mentioned the Special Education millage proposal for the Northwest Education Services that our district is a part of. Browns presentation and discussion with the Board can be heard on the audio for the meeting found on the elkrapids.com website, under Township Boards and Meetings: October 10, 2022.
6. **Elk Rapids Library: Presentation: Tom Stephenson: Community Update**
Stephenson provided a PowerPoint presentation highlighting Library Board goals, Community Needs and Values Assessment, Library Policies, Auditor Recommendations, Hiring a New Director, Library Operations and a chart on Library Usage. A paper copy of this presentation is available.
7. **Sheriff:** Reported as submitted
Commissioner Report: B. Hefferan-Candidate for County Commission-The Antrim County 2023 Budget process is starting and he plans to attend in an unofficial capacity.
8. **Ambulance Department:** MMR – Report as submitted
9. **Fire Department:** Chief Williamson: Report as presented
10. **New Private Road: Petobego Pines: MOTION/S: Hults/Szymanski** to **Table** this issue again because as of this date the Zoning Administrator has not received a letter of certification from the engineer for the project. **MOTION APPROVED.**
11. **Township Sewer:** Construction Bills: \$156,082.35 (Matt’s Underground, Performance Eng., Varnum Law, and B. Derman) **MOTION/S: Boisvert/Amos** to approve payment of the construction bills totaling \$156,082.35. Roll Call Vote: Szymanski, Amos, Boisvert, Hults all voting Yes, 0 No (Soper is absent) **MOTION APPROVED.**

12. Antrim County Road Commission:

- Notice to East Harbor Drive property owners regarding road closure for culvert repair.
- Amos will ride around with B. Thompson, Road Commission Manager, to look at possible projects for the 2023 season.

13. Maple Grove Cemetery: Sexton: Four letters of interest were received regarding the Sexton position for Maple Grove Cemetery. A recommendation will be brought back to the Board.

14. Charter Communications Video Franchise Renewal

MOTION/S: Szymanski/Hults moves to sign the Franchise Fee Agreement with Charter Communications to charge a 5% Franchise Fee which would appear on the Charter Communications bill to customers paying for TV and video services. Roll Call Vote: Amos, Boisvert, Hults and Szymanski all voting Yes, 0 No (Soper is absent) **MOTION APPROVED.**

15. Closed Session: Discussion of Township Options: Discussion with Varnum Law and Neumann Law Attorneys. **MOTION/S: Boisvert/Amos** to go into closed session to consider material exempt from discussion or disclosure by State or Federal law. **MOTION APPROVED. 10:09 AM the Board left to go into closed session.**

The Board returned to the chamber at 10:43 AM. **MOTION/S:** Szymanski/Amos to go back into open session. **MOTION APPROVED** (Soper is absent). Items discussed in closed session – tax tribunal cases. **MOTION/S: Szymanski/Boisvert:** For case docket: 20-003953 the Township to reimburse to the County due to a tax tribunal case, for parcels 05-06-029-011-00, 05-06-029-015-00 and 05-06-450-006-00 for 2020 and 2021 tax years a total of \$9,187.15. Roll Call Vote: Boisvert, Hults, Szymanski and Amos all voting Yes, 0 No (Soper is absent) **MOTION APPROVED.**

16. Island House Property: Property Transfer Agreement. Drafts of Agreement still being reviewed.

17. Attorney Report: As reported

18. Township Board Announcements and Correspondence:

- Hults: HERTH windows project still in process
- Szymanski: 94% of the summer taxes have been collected.
- Boisvert: My office is working very hard to get absentee ballots to all who signed up for them.

Adjourned: 10:50 am