

Elk Rapids Township Regular Meeting Minutes, December 12, 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, A. Nordman and 5 members in the audience

1. **Pledge of Allegiance**
2. **Public Comment:** Thirteen Circuit Court Judge Kevin Elsenheimer-Distributed the 2016 Annual Report and to talk about items he thought local units should know. First, crime cases have been down in northern Michigan over the last year but he also noted that actual crime cases going in front of the court seem to be down even lower than 15 years ago. It seems this may be starting to change because court cases this year have increased. Second, the number one crime over the past two years is the manufacture or delivery of controlled substances. He said that this is an everyday event now in the courts.
3. **Approval of Meeting Agenda: MOTION /S: Szymanski/ Hults** to approve the agenda as presented. **MOTION APPROVED.**
4. **Consent Agenda:**
 - A. November 14, 2017 Meeting Minutes
 - B. Assessor's Report
 - C. Zoning Report
 - D. Treasurer's Report
 - E. Paying of the Bills: General Fund - \$9,654.66, Fire & Amb. Fund – \$126,041.42,

MOTION/S: Hults/ Isenhart to approve all the items on the Consent Agenda. Roll Call Vote: Hults, Isenhart, Szymanski, Amos and Boisvert all voting Yes, 0 No. **MOTION APPROVED.**

5. **Sheriff/Commissioner Report:** Commissioner Boetcher: Amos asked the commissioner about the County 911 system. There are still major issues with the communication system. Chief VanDenBerge stated that there have been some small changes but there are no long term answers yet. Boetcher said that there have been improvements but it is never going to be perfect. They will continue to work on it. Amos then asked about the County Road Commission. He asked if Boetcher had any opportunity to discuss our concerns about the financial status of the Road Commission with the County Board. He stated that the County Board appoints three commissioners to the Road Commission Board and after that appointment the County Board has no direct control. He mentioned one item of concern for him is the unfunded pension liability. Amos stated that the financial reports our Board members received showed that the labor cost for the Road Commission was dominating the budget. Hults stated that the benefits to labor cost is at 106% and there doesn't seem to be any attempt to adjust that. Commissioner Boetcher said that there has been a little downsizing and that some capital investments will help with the amount of labor needed to do some tasks. Isenhart stated that he doesn't know the solution but that having a 106% labor burden just does not work. Boetcher said that the issues will have to come up with the unions and negotiations. Amos said the Road Commission has been watching this problem since 2007 and it just gets bigger. Boetcher said that the Commissioners will continue to look at this and for the Road Commission to continue operating at status quo isn't acceptable to him.

6. **Ambulance Department:** Steve Myers, MMR presented a report covering the last three years. The end summary points were 1)What privatization could bring to a community 2) Sustainable high quality EMS 3) Transparency and 4) Community Partner. Township Treasurer Mike Szymanski provided the last slide of the presentation showing the following financial information based on Fiscal Year expenditures.

Fiscal Years	14 - 15	15 - 16	16 - 17	17 - 18	18 - 19	19 - 20
Previous Service *	549,980	577,479	606,353	636,671	668,505	701,930
MMR Fixed Price	225,000	453,000	463,000	463,000	463,000	463,000
Savings per Year		124,479	143,353	173,671	205,505	238,930

**Previous Service expenditures were projected after FY 2014-2015 at a 5% increase per year*

Projected Three Year Savings: \$441,503
Projected Five Year Savings: \$885,938

7. **Fire Department:** Chief VanDenBerge: Report as presented

A. Service Fee Schedule

The Board reviewed the draft schedule and will work on an ordinance.

8. **HERTHA:** No report at this time

9. **Maple Harbor Sewer: Aaron Nordman: Performance Engineering:**

Sealed Bids for the sewer project were opened at 11:00 am on December 6, 2017. All the bids came in higher than projected. Nordman discussed modifying the scope of the project by providing force main instead of gravity along Cairn Hwy and toward Milton Township and adjusting quantities that would go along with that. **MOTION/S: Hults/Boisvert** to authorize Nordman to discuss the revised scope with the bidders to see where that goes. Roll Call Vote: Szymanski, Amos, Boisvert, Hults, Isenhardt all voting Yes, 0 No **MOTION APPROVED.**

A special Township Board meeting will be held on Thursday December 14th at 9:00 am to go over the bids and options.

10. **Birch Lake Sewer: Aaron Nordman: Performance Engineering:**

The Board authorized a scope of maintenance work to be done on the Birch Lake sewer. Performance will be working with Steuer Excavating and other contractors to address those items previously approved.

11. **Medical Marihuana Facilities: Resolution #2017-14:**

In May, 2017, the Township Board passed a motion to NOT adopt an ordinance to authorize the location of any medical marihuana facilities within Elk Rapids Township as provided by the Medical Marihuana Facilities Licensing Act. Resolution #2017-14 is another confirmation that the Township Board is cognizant of its authority to adopt an ordinance or ordinances to authorize the operation of one or more of the five types of medical marihuana facilities authorized by PA 281 of 2016 but desires to not do so.

MOTION/S: Hults/Boisvert to adopt Resolution #2017-14. Roll Call Vote: Szymanski, Amos, Boisvert, Hults, Isenhardt all voting Yes, 0 No **MOTION APPROVED.**

This resolution will be sent to the State of Michigan Medical Marihuana Facilities Licensing Division for their records.

12. Sportsman Club: Report from Global Engineering

The Certificate of Completion for the east short range berm and the pistol range was approved. Auger from Global will be working on the No Further Action Report and will keep us updated on the progress.

13. Attorney Report: As presented

14. Township Board Announcements and Comments: none at this time

15. Adjourn: 10:49 am

Shelley Boisvert, Elk Rapids Township Clerk, 231-264-9333

Meeting minutes are subject to approval at the next regular Board Meeting