

Elk Rapids Township Regular Meeting Minutes, December 14, 2021

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 Matt Soper, and Trustee Richard Hults

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

1. **Pledge of Allegiance**
2. **Public Comments:** L. Prentice- asked about a proposed resolution he submitted, and also proposed creating a citizen's committee for water quality.
3. **Approval of Meeting Agenda: MOTION/S: Hults/Soper** to approve the agenda as presented. **MOTION APPROVED.**
4. **Consent Agenda:**
 - A. November 9, 2021 Meeting Minutes
 - B. Zoning Report
 - C. Treasurers Report
 - D. Paying of the Bills: General Fund- \$38,681.61, Fire Fund - \$148,263.97

MOTION/S: Szymanski/Boisvert to approve all the items on the Consent Agenda. Roll Call Vote: Hults, Soper, Szymanski, Amos and Boisvert all voting Yes, 0 No **MOTION APPROVED.**
5. **Sheriff /Commissioner Report:** Sheriff report as submitted.
6. **Ambulance Department:** MMR – Report as submitted
7. **Fire Department:** Chief Williamson: Report as presented.
 - Retirement Contribution: \$9,750.00. **MOTION/S: Boisvert/Amos** to approve the Township contribution of \$9,750.00 to the MERS retirement fund for the qualified fire fighters. Roll Call Vote: Soper, Szymanski, Amos, Boisvert and Hults all voting Yes, 0 No **MOTION APPROVED.**
8. **Township Poverty Exemption:** Tax Year 2022
 - Guideline Resolution 2021-17 and Application for MCL 211.7u Poverty Exemption

MOTION/S: Hults/Boisvert to approve Resolution 2021-17-Poverty Exemption, Guideline Resolution and Application. Roll Call Vote: Szymanski, Amos, Boisvert, Hults and Soper all voting Yes, 0 No **MOTION APPROVED.**
9. **Zoning Board of Appeals Appointments:** 3 Year terms: 2022 – 2024
 - Julia Pollister Amos **MOTION/S: Soper/Szymanski** to approve the reappointment of J. Pollister Amos as suggested for the term 2022 – 2024: **MOTION APPROVED.**
 - Lisa Lundy **MOTION/S: Soper/Boisvert** to approve the appointment of L. Lundy as suggested for the term of 2022 – 2024. **MOTION APPROVED.**
10. **Antrim County Road Commission:** Proposed 2022 Road Projects
 - Herman Rd: \$21,000, Williams Rd: \$32,000, Winters Rd: \$9,500, Shore Dr: \$6,000, Indian Rd: \$4,500

11. **Island House Property:** Tenancy In Common Agreement (TIC): This agreement was drafted by M. Zimmerman and given to the Village Manager in October. This would be an agreement, between the Village and the Township as co-tenants for the purposes of rights and obligations with respect to ownership, management, development, operation, repair, maintenance, leasing and disposition of the Island House property. The Village attorney, S. Howard, sent a different proposal back to Zimmerman stating (in brief) that the Township could just transfer the property back to the Village and they will indemnify the Township of any liability. Zimmerman didn't feel comfortable with this due to possible liability issues and discussed his concerns with the Board. He felt the TIC covered any issues that could possibly arise in the future. **MOTION/S: Amos/Hults** to get back with the Village and state that we are not interested at this time with the proposed transfer offer but would like the Village to go back and re-visit the TIC agreement and comment back with regards to that by February 14, 2022. **MOTION APPROVED.**
This was all discussed with the idea that we would meet with them regarding their comments.
12. **Township Sewer:**
 - Proposed Sewer Agreement – A draft copy of an updated sewer agreement was sent to the Village Manager Dec. 13, 2021. That draft extends the current agreement regarding ownership and maintenance but addresses the available capacity for future Township customers. **MOTION/S: Hults/Boisvert** to give M. Zimmerman authority to supply and discuss the proposed agreement anticipating further detail. Roll Call Vote: Amos, Boisvert, Hults, Soper and Szymanski all voting Yes, 0 No. **MOTION APPROVED.**
13. **Government Center:** Repair work has begun this month by CBSI at the Governmental Center.
14. **Maple Grove Cemetery and Birch Lake Access Tree and Brush Cleanup.** Ralph's Tree Service has been cutting and clearing at the cemetery and the Birch Lake Access during November and December.
15. **Bass Lake: New Association Formation:** Bass Lake property owners have been meeting to establish another HOA. Among other things, this will allow them to address ongoing weed problems in Bass Lake and look into a new special assessment.
16. **Attorney Report:** As reported
17. **Township Board Announcements and Correspondence:**
 - There will be a virtual Tax Tribunal Hearing on January 7, 2022.
 - Amos announced that Trustee Matt Soper and his team are now World Champions for 2021 OPA (Offshore Powerboat Association) and have won an Olympic Gold Medal.
 - Hults stated that the Library Board has been much more functional lately.
 - M. Szymanski said he is hoping to get a special assessment software package to go along with his tax package through BS&A.

Adjourned: 11:04 am