

Elk Rapids Township Regular Meeting Minutes, February 8, 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 Matt Soper, and Trustee Richard Hults

Also Present: B. Derman, Chief Williamson and 6 members signed in as audience.

1. **Pledge of Allegiance**
2. **Public Comments:** T. Stites- L. Prentice would like to arrange a presentation on water quality for the May 2022 Twp Board meeting.
3. **Approval of Meeting Agenda: MOTION/S: Hults/Soper** to approve the agenda as presented. **MOTION APPROVED.**
4. **Consent Agenda:**
 - A. January 11, 2022 Meeting Minutes
 - B. Zoning Administrator's Report
 - C. Treasurers Report
 - D. Paying of the Bills: General Fund- \$48,441.04, Fire Fund - \$4,333.57

MOTION/S: Soper/Boisvert to approve all the items on the Consent Agenda. Roll Call Vote: Amos, Hults, Soper, Szymanski and Boisvert all voting Yes, 0 No **MOTION APPROVED.**
5. **Sheriff /Commissioner Report:** Reported as submitted
6. **Ambulance Department:** MMR – Report as submitted
7. **Fire Department:** Chief Williamson: Report
 - Parking Lot Quote from Elmer's. We will try to get quotes from other places and share the process with the Village.
8. **Huntington Bank:** Road Fund and Bass Lake Special Assessment Fund – Szymanski stated that we should change banks for these two funds because Huntington charges accounts a penalty due to a minimum balance. **MOTION/S: Szymanski/Amos** to approve moving these funds to another local bank to prevent monthly charges for lower account balances. Roll Call Vote: Hults, Soper, Szymanski, Boisvert and Amos all voting Yes, 0 No **MOTION APPROVED.**
9. **HERTH:** T. Vranish – HERTH lost quite a bit of revenue due to COVID. They have great plans for this coming year though. They have raised approximately \$30,000 for their window project but much more is needed. It is suggested that the Township use some reserve funds to help move the project along. Szymanski stated that he will know more about available funding once the draft 2022/2023 fiscal year budget is completed. This will be addressed again at the next meeting.
10. **Island House Property:** No new information yet.

11. Township Sewer:

- Proposed Sewer Agreement – no response from the Village yet
- Purchase of REU's for Sewer. – no response from the Village yet
- Sewer District Tax Tribunal: B. Derman – 21 property owners went to the Tax Tribunal with regards to the proposed sewer special assessment. Varnum Law is handling this for the Township. According to our attorney with Varnum, those who have gone to the tax tribunal cannot get out of the sewer district but based on appraisals, assessment amounts could change.

12. **Government Center:** Hults got an updated quote from Grand Traverse Diesel for the generator. He will also check the company that gave a quote in 2017 to the Village for a diesel-powered generator.

13. **Maple Grove Cemetery Tree and Brush Cleanup.** Storm damage clean up has been completed for the season.

14. **Attorney Report:** As reported

Derman did hear that the Village plans to sue the Township over the Island House property but nothing has been received to date.

15. Township Board Announcements and Correspondence:

- Boisvert mentioned that the State sent a letter saying they were wrong about the Township population being over 2,000 and that Elk Rapids Township is not eligible to become a Charter Township.
- A budget workshop will be held on Monday, February 28th at 9:00 am.
- A budget hearing will be set for March 10, 2022 at 12:30 PM
- The normal Township Board meeting date for March 8, 2022 has been changed to Thursday March 10, 2022 at 1:00 pm due to possible quorum issues for the 8th.
- Discussion about changing the Township Board meeting dates for the new 2022/2023 fiscal year to the 2nd Monday of each month at 9:00 am. This will formally be addressed next month.
- Szymanski stated that the new BSA software should be installed next week.
- Szymanski also mentioned that the Township received an additional \$200 from the American Rescue Fund.

Adjourned: 10:28 am

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

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