

Elk Rapids Township Regular Meeting Minutes, July 14, 2025

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 Debbie Husband, Treasurer Kelly Jensen, Trustee Richard Hults and Trustee Matt Soper.

Absent: None

Also Present: Commissioner Hefferan, Chief Williamson, T. Morgan, Brad Muma, Creston Scheel and 31 audience members signed in.

1. **Pledge of Allegiance.**
2. **Public Comments:** N. Deeb from Lakeshore Dr inquired about the process for obtaining sewer in her area. A Representative of each of the offers of the sale of the old townhall gave a projected use of the property should they acquire the building.
3. **Approval of Meeting Agenda MOTION/S: Hults/Jensen** to approve the agenda as presented. **MOTION APPROVED.**
4. **Consent Agenda:**
 - A. Zoning Report.
 - B. Treasurers Report.
 - C. Paying of the Bills.
 - D. Budget Adjustments.

MOTION/S: Hults/Husband: To remove the minutes from the consent agenda for June 9, 2025 meeting. All voting Yes, 0 No. **MOTION APPROVED**

MOTION/S: Hults/Jensen to approve all the items on the Consent Agenda. Vote: Hults, Jensen, Amos, Soper and Husband all voting YES, 0 No. **MOTION APPROVED.**

Dick Hults asked to correct the June 9, 2025 meeting minutes where it states the library bond is a 15 years millage and it should read 12 years.

MOTION/S: Hults/ Soper: To change the 15 years wording to 12 years in the minutes. All voting YES, 0 No, **MOTION APPROVED.**

5. **Sheriff/Commissioner Report:** Sheriff Hoch presented his report regarding the 5 new recruits, and the ongoing drug issues in the surrounding area. Bill Hefferan updated briefly on the Safety Building and possible November ballot proposal.
6. **Ambulance Department:** MMR report was presented. The MMR Supervisor has left and will be replaced.
7. **Fire Department:** Chief Williamson presented his report, equipment and vehicle inspections that were performed. Child safety seat installation has become popular with the public, and online class availability for training firefighters will be pursued.
8. **Old Township Hall Update.** The rezoning issue will be addressed at the July 22nd Village Zoning Board of Appeal. Dan Stiebel from Coldwell Banker Commercial gave a summary of the 4 offers for the building. Discussion and future usage planned for the property was discussed, as well as the terms of the Hertha organization having been offered rental opportunities with some of the offers.
MOTION/S: Soper/ Hults: Motion to give 30 days to the Hertha to discuss opportunities that have been brought to them. At the August Board meeting we will hear the updates with the expectation to progress to a vote in September.

9. **DDA update:** John Mach, head of the DDA informed the Board that the DDA Board did not agree to the terms presented to them. Discussion to hold a special meeting on July 21, 2025.
10. **Update on North Bayshore Sewer:** Brad Muma, Performance Engineering updated the Board on the progress and finalization of the North Bayshore Sewer project. It is on time and on budget.
11. **Attorneys Report:** The Peninsula Township lawsuit was mentioned as well, new home building codes pending, and local authorities are able to block short term rentals with new bill passage.
12. **Township Board Announcements and Correspondence:** Election August 5, 2025 for the library millage.

Adjourned: 11:20 am

Debbie Husband Elk Rapids Township Clerk, 231-264-9333

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