

Elk Rapids Township Special Meeting Minutes, August 25, 2025

The special 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 D. Amos at 9:00 am. The meeting was recorded to provide accuracy.

Present: Supervisor Dorance Amos, Clerk Debbie Husband, Treasurer Kelly Jensen, Trustee Matt Soper and Trustee Richard Hults.

Also Present: 38 members of the community signed in.

1. **Meeting Called to Order:** Pledge of Allegiance.
2. **Public Comment:** Comments from the community members in support to keep Hertha public.
3. **AGENDA: Motion/S:** Jensen/Hults. Accept Agenda as is. **Vote:** all voting YES, 0 NO. **MOTION APPROVED.**
4. **Discussion of Old Town Hall bids:** Realtor for the Township Dan Stiebel gave review of current offers. Updated offer from Barnsley and updated offer from HERTHA. Business plan that was requested was provided to the Board. Offers were to be presented by September 20, 2025, with HERTHA having last look or offer.
5. **MOTION/Hults/Amos:** To accept the highest and best written cash offer for the Township Hertha Hall presented to us by Sam and Livie Barnsley for \$730,000. **Roll Call Vote:** Hults YES, Soper NO, Jensen NO, Amos YES, Husband NO. **MOTION FAILED.**
6. **MOTION/Jensen/Husband:** To accept the HERTHA bid most recently submitted for \$625,000 with the contingency of having the funds in escrow by September 5, 2025, as is and covering all closing costs. Discussion regarding continuing to receive higher offer from Barnsley. Amos would like to be on record as wanting to receive the highest offer for the Township benefit. **Roll Call Vote:** Soper YES, Jensen Yes, Amos NO, Husband YES, Hults NO. **MOTION APPROVED.**
7. **MOTION/S: Hults/Soper: Motion to recess to closed session pursuant to Section 8(1)(h) of the Open Meetings Act to consider material exempt from discussion or disclosure by State or Federal statute, specifically a written legal opinion by legal counsel regarding the HERTHA. The matter discussed is exempt from disclosure under the section 12 (1)(g) from the Freedom of Information Act. Roll Call Vote:** Soper YES, Jensen YES, Amos YES, Husband YES, Hults YES. **MOTION APPROVED.**

9:45 AM – Moved to Closed Session Meeting.

10:10 AM – Returned from Closed Session Meeting.

Motion to Return to Open Session: Motion/S: Hults/Soper – Motion to conclude closed session and recess to open session. **Vote:** all voting YES, 0 NO. **Motion Approved.**

Adjourned: 10:13 AM

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

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