

Elk Rapids Township Regular Meeting Minutes, April 9, 2019

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, Treasurer Mike Szymanski, Trustee Richard Hults, Trustee Aaron Isenhart

Absent: Clerk Boisvert

Also Present: B. Derman, Chief Williamson, Brad Muma, Ed Boettcher, Laura Rigan and 5 members in the audience.

1. **Pledge of Allegiance**
 2. **Public Comments:** Don MacLean, E. Harbor Dr., wants to know the Boards' intentions regarding a sewer project for N. Bayshore and E. & W. Harbor Dr. Supervisor Amos noted this subject is on the agenda – Item #11. Ron Gurdak, Cairn Highway would like for the Board to consider providing some kind of leaf/brush pick-up to Township residents. Supervisor Amos noted that the Township does not have the manpower to provide this service and that the Board would need to ask for a millage and take it to a vote.
 3. **Approval of Meeting Agenda: MOTION/S: Hults/Szymanski** to approve the agenda as presented.
MOTION APPROVED.
 4. **Consent Agenda:**
 - A. March 12, 2019 Meeting Minutes
 - B. March 12, 2019 Budget Public Hearing Minutes
 - C. Zoning Report
 - D. Treasurers Report
 - E. Paying of the Bills: General Fund - \$12,486.71, Fire & Rescue Fund - \$3,499.95.
- MOTION/S: Szymanski/Hults** to approve all the items on the Consent Agenda. Roll Call Vote: Hults, Isenhart, Szymanski and Amos all voting Yes, 0 No (Boisvert is absent) **MOTION APPROVED.**
5. **Sheriff / Commissioner Report:** Report as submitted
Ed Boettcher, Chairman, Antrim County Board of Commissions provided an update on the county power dams and encouraged the Board to attend and provide input at the Antrim County Facilities Forum scheduled for April 23.
 6. **Ambulance Department: MMR:** Report as submitted.
 7. **Fire Department:** Chief Williamson: as Reported
 8. **Maple Grove Cemetery Update:** Performance Engineering – Brad Muma reported a survey of the cemetery was completed which provided a base map of the property. Brad noted that the site needs a lot of work. The grounds are very uneven and difficult to walk and mow. Goals: To continue to gather data, label all the sites, get a system in place, obtain information and prices for excavating and landscaping services as well as ground penetrating radar, and well drilling. Mr. Muma indicated he will try to provide the Board with a summary estimate before the May 15th ballot language deadline.

9. **Dr. Dall’Olmo:** Request to waive Zoning Permit Fee: 6386 Winters Trail. After review of Dr. Dall’Olmo’s request, the Board denied the waiving of the existing permit fees.
10. **Farmland and Open Space Development Rights:** Presentation-Laura Rigan from GT Land Conservancy. Ms. Rigan reported that their feasibility research identified approximately 1,000 acres of farmland in Elk Rapids eligible for the farmland and open space development rights program. Ms. Rigan suggested a 1 mill levy for 10 years. If the Board is interested in putting together an August ballot proposal to help fund this program, ballot language must be submitted to the County Clerk by May 15.
11. **Township Sewer:** Brad Muma provided a status report on the sewer pipe line and Maple Harbor. Although a date has not yet been confirmed, the Board reported that one more sewer informational meeting will be scheduled for residents located on N. Bayshore Dr. and the Inwood Harbor area. The Board further noted that at this point in time, there are no plans to build or do anything regarding a sewer system in this area. The primary purpose of this meeting will be to gather input and feedback from the residents.
12. **Township/Wilcox Park: MOTION/S: Szymanski/Hults** – To release interest of this property to the heirs per the court judgment; with the exception of the pipeline and easement, manholes, and lift station. Roll Call Vote: Szymanski, Hults, Isenhardt and Amos all voting Yes, 0 No (Boisvert is absent)
MOTION APPROVED.
13. **Acme to Charlevoix Trail Update:** Ed Boettcher reported that the trail committee is working on their preliminary design to route the trail on the west side of US-31. Mr. Boettcher reported many details and issues still need to be addressed and that the trail will not be built until the issues are resolved and they determine how the trail will be maintained. The trail committee will present the preliminary design plans to the Village Council later in April or May.
14. **Attorney Report:** As reported.
Hemp is now legal to grow in MI but still many issues especially with testing and shipping; short term rentals will be taken out of committee this month; recreational & medical marijuana licensing – still has many challenges, no standards set and no way to test at this time; FOIA statue has changed; small cell tower statue passed; MMR 5 year contract expires December, 2019; two possible ballot proposals pending, one for farmland preservation and one for Maple Grove Cemetery ballot language for August election due to County Clerk by May 15; land division - new statue pending; moratorium process has changed.
15. **Township Board Announcements and Comments:**
Township Spring Clean-Up – May 18 - DPW Garage – 8 AM-Noon
Antrim Conservation District – May 18 – DPW Garage – 9 AM-3 PM – TIRES ONLY
Green ER Super Recycling – May 18 – Police Dept. – 9 AM-3 PM
Antrim County Hazardous Waste Pick-Up – June 15 – DPW Garage – 8 AM-Noon

Adjourned: 10:30 AM