

Mark Halkola, Supervisor
Christa Gardner, Clerk
Dominique DiVito, Treasurer
Don Wareham, Trustee
Aaron Janke, Trustee



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Osceola Township Meeting Minutes
January 11, 2023, 6:15 PM

The regular meeting of the Osceola Township Board was called to order by Supervisor Mark Halkola on January 11, 2023, at 6:38 PM at the Osceola Township office Board Room. Board members present were Mark Halkola, Christa Gardner, Aaron Janke, and Don Wareham. Absent was Dominique DiVito.

A moment of silence was observed to remember our friend and colleague, Robert Mattfolk.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Motion by Gardner, supported by Janke to approve the agenda, with additions under New Business to include c. TCFD Decorations Request, d. 2023 Elections, e. MTA annual conference, f. Treasurer absence. AVIF

Motion by Wareham, supported by Janke to accept the minutes of the December 14, 2022. AVIF

Motion by Wareham, supported by Janke to accept the financial reports for the General, Road, Mason Wastewater, TC water, and OT water funds. AVIF

Motion by Wareham, supported by Gardner for payment of the bills: General, Road, Mason Wastewater, TC water, and OT water funds. AVIF

Public Comment: Public comment opened at 6:45 PM. Rick Greub requested that Ron Kokkonen be paid the full wage that Mr. Mattfolk had previously been getting paid.

Public Comment closed at 6:46 PM.

Reports:

- a. Assessor: Written report submitted.
- b. Maintenance: Written report submitted.
- c. OT Utility Board Action items: Motion by Wareham, supported by Gardner to accept the recommendation made by the OT Utility Board to have Jim Siira's son be available as a backup during the time he will be out of the state, from January 19-24. AVIF Motion by Gardner, supported by Wareham to accept the recommendation made by the OT Utility Board to hold two public meetings about the project for the residents: the first at the Township Office on January 24 at 6 PM, and the second meeting at the Tamarack City Fire Hall on January 31 at 6 PM. AVIF
- d. DBVFD: Written report submitted.
- e. First Responders: Written report submitted.
- f. TCVFD: Written report submitted.
- g. TC Utility Board: Written report submitted.
- h. TLSA: Written report submitted.
- i. Supervisor report: Property survey of the Gooseneck Park is complete; Houghton County Road Commission is going to need to know what roads we would like completed this coming construction season within the next couple of weeks; Sign for the junction at Point Mills is installed. The cost will be split with Torch Lake Township; Lori Burton from Tokyo Marine met with Mr. Halkola and both Fire Chiefs; Volunteers have been

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working at the ice rink; Wuebben will be followed up with regarding the Vet Honor Roll; a dredge meeting will be held on January 19; contact will be made to Chris Holmes, UPEA, about a new water truck; Jim Tourillott says the beavers in Tamarack City appear to have gone into hibernation; Board of Review met in December; a discussion needs to be had with Tony Burcar regarding the snowmobile trail; There will be Board of Review training in February; The Spark Grant was submitted; Information about signage indicating Osceola Township lines was included.

Unfinished Business:

- a. Budget Amendments (update) – As discussed at the Utility Board meeting, amendments will be available to act on in February.
- b. 5-Year Rec Plan – Amended Meeting Schedule: The public hearing has been rescheduled for February 22.

Tabled Business:

- a. Elm Street restoration plan – nothing new to discuss

New Business:

- a. Reappoint Rick Greub – Board of Review: Motion by Janke, supported by Wareham to reappoint Rick Greub to a 2-year term to the Osceola Township Board of Review. AVIF
- b. TLASA vacancy – update: So far, no applicants. Deadline is January 18.
- c. TCFD Decorations Request – Motion by Wareham, supported by Gardner to approve \$1,000 for new Christmas decorations for the light poles this year, and another \$1,000 next year. Roll call vote: 4 yea, 0 nay, 1 absent. Motion passed.
- d. 2023 Elections – after discussion, no new millages will be sought by the Township Board.
- e. MTA Annual Conference – Coming up in April – info was included
- f. Treasurer Absence – The tax bills did go out the last week of December, but the treasurer has not been back in the office or communicated with us since then. Discussion on what our options are. Mr. Halkola will schedule a meeting with the Township attorney, and we will contact MTA again.

Public Comment: Public comment opened at 7:20 PM. Cindy Barth commented on trouble she had with contacting the treasurer about her property taxes. Rick Greub asked about cost reimbursement for the 5-year Rec Plan. He also mentioned a discussion on the MTA group threads about the electronic storage of records.

Public comment closed at 7:24 PM.

Adjourn: Motion by Gardner, supported by Janke to adjourn at 7:25 PM. AVIF

The next meeting will take place on Wednesday, February 8, 2023, at 6:15 PM in the Osceola Township Board Room.