

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



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Osceola Township Meeting Minutes
May 10, 2023, 6:15 PM

The regular meeting of the Osceola Township Board was called to order by Supervisor Mark Halkola on May 10, 2023, at 7:23 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.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Motion by Gardner, supported by Wareham to approve the agenda, with an addition under New Business: c. Treasurer. AVIF

Motion by Wareham, supported by Janke to accept the minutes of the April 12, 2023, Board Meeting; April 19, 2023, Special Meeting Minutes. AVIF

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

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

Public Comment: Public comment opened at 7:33 PM. No public comment was offered. Public Comment closed at 7:33 PM.

Reports:

- a. Assessor: Written report submitted.
- b. Maintenance: Written report submitted.
- c. OT Utility Board Action items: Motion by Janke, supported by Wareham to accept the recommendations of the Utility Board to hire Wayne Siira as a part time DPW worker/utility assistant at \$18.00 per hour. Roll call vote: 4 yea, 0 nay, 1 absent. Motion passed.
- d. DBVFD: Written reports for March and April submitted.
- e. First Responders: Written report submitted.
- f. TCVFD: Written report submitted.
- g. TC Utility Board: Written report submitted.
- h. TLISA: No report.
- i. Supervisor report: The new State Highway map now identifies Tamarack. MDOT will be replacing highway signs indicating Osceola Township lines at no cost to the township. Wuebben Construction has submitted a proposal to repair the ice rink and ballfield fences for \$4,360.
Motion by Janke, supported by Gardner to accept the offer as written from Wuebben Construction for \$4,360 to do fence repairs at the ballfield and ice rink. Roll call vote: 4 yea, 0 nay, 1 absent. Motion passed.
The dredge grant application was successful in part, and Mr. Spikberg indicated that he believes that he can complete the work with the amount awarded. Still looking into signage for the township property and the surrounding private property. TLPAC will meet on Monday. An open house on reclamation in the Lake Linden-Hubbell area will be at the LL-H School. TCFD is not able to hang vet banners due to lack of equipment in Tamarack City, Wuebben has been contacted. Piers will be in the water at Sandy Bottom by Monday the 15th. Still working on the insurance issues with the baseball field grant. Waiting on the Road Commission grants and setting up dust control. Considering an offer to

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purchase land for the snowmobile trail for \$10,000. Will discuss further in May. Jim Tourtillott has been monitoring the beaver situation in Tamarack City. Township ordinances are currently under review. ARPA funds are also under review, and a list is being assembled.

Unfinished Business:

- a. Water Project Plan – update – Andrew Keranen from UPEA gave an update at the utility board meeting. Mark will contact the newly hired DPW assistant to work on getting an accurate number of lead service lines in TC.
- b. Vet Honor Roll – Rededication ceremony set for July 3, 2023.
- c. Poverty Exemption Income Guidelines Resolutions: Motion by Janke, supported by Gardner to approve the Federal Poverty Guidelines for 2023 Assessments. Roll call vote: 4 yea, 0 nay, 1 absent. Resolution passed. Motion by Janke, supported by Wareham to approve the Federal Poverty Guidelines for 2024 Assessments. Roll call vote: 4 yea, 0 nay, 1 absent. Resolution passed.
- d. Dollar General Project – More information will be coming at the June 14, 2023, meeting. Discussion about the right-of-way and selling property versus abandoning property took place. The board would like to see the plans for what is intended for the land before deciding.
- e. Elected Official Salary Resolutions – Motion by Janke, supported by Wareham to approve the Supervisor's salary at \$14,155 annually, beginning June 1, 2023. Roll call vote: 4 yea, 0 nay, 1 absent. Resolution passed. Motion by Janke, supported by Wareham to approve the Clerk's salary at \$14,555 annually, beginning June 1, 2023. Roll call vote: 4 yea, 0 nay, 1 absent. Resolution passed. Motion by Gardner, supported by Wareham to keep the Treasurer's salary at \$13,740 annually. Roll call vote: 4 yea, 0 nay, 1 absent. Resolution passed. Motion by Gardner, supported by Wareham to approve the Trustee's salaries at \$2,495 annually, beginning June 1, 2023. Roll call vote: 4 yea, 0 nay, 1 absent. Resolution passed.
- f. 2nd Round Applications for DNR Spark Grant – Could use some letters of support to include with the application.

Tabled Business:

- a. Elm Street restoration plan – leave on table.
- b. Town Hall Meetings

New Business:

- a. Ice Rink & Ball Field Fence repair offer: Done under Supervisor's report.
- b. Election Update – Ms. Gardner gave an update on how the election went, and a quick update of election dates for 2024.
- c. Treasurer – Discussion took place on advice from the township attorney to send a certified, return receipt letter to the treasurer, asking her to return to work, or to consider resignation. Also explaining the ramifications of what may happen if we do not hear from her. Motion by Janke, supported by Wareham to send a letter per the guidance from the township attorney. AVIF

Public Comment: Public comment opened at 8:43 PM. Don Wareham commented about any/all correspondence that comes to the office pertaining to the TC Utility to make sure it gets forwarded to the TC Utility Board. Steve Klein agreed with Mr. Wareham's comment. Also expressed his concerns about the DNR trail, indicating that he has personally talked to the landowner. Cindy Barth reiterated that the letter to the treasurer should include what was previously discussed. She is disappointed that she has been paid since July for a job she is not doing and would like to see her resignation. Public comment closed at 8:49 PM.

Adjourn: Motion by Wareham, supported by Janke to adjourn at 8:49 PM. AVIF

The next meeting will take place on Wednesday, June 14, 2023, at 6:15 PM at the Tamarack City Fire Hall.