

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



Box 437 • 48545 Main Street  
Dollar Bay, MI 49922  
Phone (906) 482-8578  
Fax (906) 482-8596  
TDD (800) 649-3777

Osceola Township Meeting Minutes  
July 12, 2023, 6:15 PM

The regular meeting of the Osceola Township Board was called to order by Supervisor Mark Halkola on July 12, 2023, at 6:28 PM at the Osceola Township Board Room. Board members present were Mark Halkola, Christa Gardner, Christina Gardner, Aaron Janke, and Don Wareham.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Motion by Christa Gardner, supported by Janke, to approve the agenda, with one change to move c. Dollar General Project under Unfinished Business to the first Public Comment session. AVIF

Motion by Wareham, supported by Christina Gardner to accept the minutes of the June 14, 2023, Board Meeting. AVIF

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

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

Public Comment: Public comment opened at 6:33 PM.

Phil Toutant, who represents Overland Group was present. He shared that the sale of the land for the proposed Dollar General is pending Township approval of vacating the street extension and alleyways. An offer of \$10,000 was made to Osceola Township to abandon/vacate those areas. The Township attorney has prepared a proposed settlement agreement. Questions remained about the streets reverting if the building is not built, and whether Avenue A runs along the backside of the proposed building site. More information will be sought, and a Special Meeting has been suggested.

Motion by Christina Gardner, supported by Janke to hold a special meeting about the Dollar General site on July 24, 2023, at 4:00 PM. AVIF

Public Comment closed at 7:03 PM.

Reports:

- a. Assessor: Written report submitted.
- b. Maintenance: Written report submitted.
- c. OT Utility Board Action items: No action items to discuss.
- 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: Update on Blight – Horner Flooring has equipment there to remove the concerning portion of the building. The scrap metal site has more signs coming, and he is still seeking additional ideas on how to clean it up. There is a Memorandum of Understanding in the packet from the DNR with regards to the snowmobile trail. Rec Authority meeting discussed both motorized and non-motorized trails. There is a lot of work to do to have non-motorized trails. There have been issues with Vet banners sagging, put in wrong locations, etc. More have arrived for both Tamarack City and Dollar Bay. An updated Master Agreement has arrived from UPPCO. Still working on doing a side-by-side comparison of the old one. So far, the only updates appear to be the additional approved poles. Been

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



Box 437 • 48545 Main Street  
Dollar Bay, MI 49922  
Phone (906) 482-8578  
Fax (906) 482-8596  
TDD (800) 649-3777

attending meetings of the TLPAC. Waiting for MTU to send language for Mr. Spikeberg's employment for the Dredge project. Four of the six new signs are up that indicate Osceola Township by MDOT. Houghton County will also have signs that we can purchase for additional locations to indicate where the Township line is. Houghton County Road Commission will begin road work on Lake Street next week.

#### Unfinished Business:

- a. Water Project Plan – update – Discussed during the OT Utility Board meeting.
- b. Vet Honor Roll – rededication: It was a huge success. Much credit goes to Judy Odgers and everyone who worked with her.
- c. Dollar General Project – Done under the first Public Comment session.
- d. Snowmobile update – Discussed in Supervisor's Report.
- e. Budget Amendments – Waiting for all financials to be caught up.
- f. Audit status – Moving along ahead of schedule.

#### Tabled Business:

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

#### New Business:

- a. UPPCO Master Agreement – Discussed under Supervisor's report.
- b. NHCWSA – Resolution to amend Articles of Incorporation: Copy in packet for review. Will discuss at August meeting.
- c. Certificate of Deposit – rates are good right now. Will consider moving some funds into a CD once we have a better idea of what we will do with the ARPA funds.
- d. Equipment purchase, assessor: The township assessor has requested a laptop for township assessing needs. Motion by Christa Gardner, supported by Christina Gardner to approve a purchase of a laptop for \$1,075, and Office Suite for \$99. Roll call vote: 5 yea, 0 nay. Motion carried.

Public Comment: Public comment opened at 7:38 PM. Ron Kokkonen mentioned a tree branch in Pioneer Park right next to the fire hall that needs to come down. If it comes on its own, it will likely do some major damage to the fire hall. Steve Klein questioned the number of poles in Tamarack City. Suggested just having all poles approved by UPPCO. Mentioned that the park in Tamarack City could use a black-topped parking lot, instead of the gravel that is there now so that parking spots can be marked, and it can also be marked to not park near the fire hydrant. Also mentioned the blighted building across from the dredge, and all the activity that takes place in and around it. Requested signs for the hydrants that have a lot of problems with parking, because you can't see the striping in the winter.

Public comment closed at 7:51 PM.

Adjourn: Motion by Christa Gardner, supported by Wareham to adjourn at 7:51 PM. AVIF

The next meeting will take place on Wednesday, August 9, 2023, at 6:15 PM at the Osceola Township Board Room.