

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



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Osceola Township Meeting Minutes  
July 13, 2022, 6:15 PM

The regular meeting of the Osceola Township Board was called to order by Supervisor Mark Halkola on July 13, 2022, at 6:47 PM at the Osceola Township Office Board Room. Board members present were Mark Halkola, Christa Gardner, and Aaron Janke. Absent was Don Wareham. Vacancy in the Treasurer's position.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Motion by Gardner, supported by Janke to approve the agenda. AVIF

Motion by Gardner, supported by Janke to accept the minutes of the June 8, 2022, meeting. AVIF

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

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

Public Comment: Public comment opened at 6:51 PM. Kristin Lortie said a steel pile on 1<sup>st</sup> Street in Dollar Bay has gotten large; would appreciate letters be included in Board Packets rather than just as correspondence; with the upcoming Road Millage vote wants to know how the money has been spent and future spending plans; in favor of interviews for Treasurer.

John Paul Pietila, Traverse Engineering reported there were five bids on the FEMA project at Sandy Bottom. Low bid was MJO Contracting for \$25,260.16. They also bid on putting in the culvert at the Sand Pit for \$1,788.28.

Motion by Janke, supported by Gardner to accept the bid from MJO. Roll call vote: 3 – yes; 0 – no; 1 – absent; 1 – vacancy. Motion passed.

Public Comment closed at 6:59 PM.

Reports:

- a. Assessor: None provided.
- b. Maintenance: Written report submitted.
- c. OT Water Board Action items: Motion by Janke, supported by Gardner to approve a 33% discount on the total owed, as outlined by the letter approved by Township legal counsel. AVIF
- d. DBVFD: Verbal report – 1 call out for a water system alarm. 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> of July were a success. The 4<sup>th</sup> of July was wet. Written report for July and August will be submitted next month.
- e. First Responders: Written report submitted.
- f. TCVFD: Written report submitted.
- g. TC Utility Board: Written report submitted.
- h. TLSA: None provided
- i. Supervisor reports: Mason Dredge group met; July BOR meets July 21 at 10 AM for corrections, need to address the vacancy; Meeting with Road Commission on July 18 for this summer plans; M-203 light is installed and working; Houghton County Rec Meeting for July was cancelled; MTA Houghton County Chapter is having a reorganization meeting; Veteran's Banners continue to come in and go up; work continuing with DNR, Burcar

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property, and the snowmobile trail; Baseball field work done; 5-Year Rec plan in need of a committee; upcoming Township Attorney meeting to discuss assessor agreement among other things. Mr. Janke asked a few questions about the Road Millage, Road Commission Meeting, Horner Building, and our letterhead. Motion by Janke, supported by Gardner to appoint Louie Vencato to the regular Board of Review opening. AVIF We will now seek someone for the alternate position.

#### Unfinished Business:

- a. Semco request – Fir Avenue location from a private property owner.
- b. TES – FEMA project update: Completed under first Public Comment.
- c. Apartment (vacancy) – New tenant, Curtis Lahikainen, as of July 22, 2022.
- d. Road millage renewal – August Election – will be providing information
- e. Little Free Library – TC Park, seeking input from attorney about parameters

#### Tabled Business:

- a. Elm Street restoration plan – discuss on August 10 meeting
- b. Tamarack City land split request – Greg Drebert – waiting on Greg, continue looking into
- c. Erhart Assessing Contract, status – Addressed in Supervisor’s report

#### New Business:

- a. FY 22-23 General Fund Budget – Motion by Gardner, supported by Janke to approve the General Fund amendments as presented. Roll call vote: 3 – yes; 0 no; 1 absent; 1 vacancy. Motion passed.
  - a. Salaries, retroactive pay for hourly, etc. – Motion by Janke, supported by Gardner to approve the proposed salary table for the hourly employees beginning with the next pay period; no change to the Treasurer salary until we have known qualifications; and explore the cost of retroactive pay for hourly employee’s implementation for the August meeting. Roll call vote: 3 – yes; 0 no; 1 absent; 1 vacancy. Motion passed.
- b. Treasurer Position Interviews: Set for June 18, 2022, starting at 3:00 PM.

12. Public Comment: Public comment opened at 7:53 PM. Steve Klein wondered about the ownership of the dredge. Is concerned about liability for the owner and potential liability for any First Responders that get called out there. Kristin Lortie – Questioned the salaries, sent a detailed email, feels it should be posted and made public and protests the decision. Wonders what duties are assigned to the Clerk and Treasurer as part of the water system. Wonders why past treasurer isn’t being interviewed. Public comment closed at 7:59 PM.

13. Adjourn: Motion by Janke, supported by Gardner to adjourn at 8:0 PM. AVIF

The next meeting will take place on Wednesday, August 10, 2022, at 6:15 PM at the Osceola Township office Board Room.