

**Lake Township-Roscommon County
Regular Board Meeting
May 10, 2022**

The Lake Township Board met on Tuesday, May 10, 2022 for a regular board meeting. Keith Stiles called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance of the United States of America was recited.

Present: Tony Farhat - Trustee, David Russo Jr.-Trustee, Keith Stiles-Supervisor, Pam Surprenant-Clerk and Harry Trier-Treasurer.

Motion: Surprenant to approve the May 10, 2022 agenda adding 2022 tax rate request (L429) under new business before supervisor correspondence. **Second:** Trier. Discussion. **All in favor. Motion Carries.**

Motion: Trier to approve the April 12, 2022 minutes. **Second:** Russo Jr. **All in favor.**

Motion: Surprenant to approve the bills and payroll checks #44513 through #44560 and post audit of bills presented on EFT check register. Farhat stated correction to voided check#44551 voided at zero dollars, not original amount reflected on website. **Second: Stiles. All in favor. Motion Carries.**

Surprenant explained budget amendment in the amount of \$2,176.50 to balance application fees with legal fees. **Motion:** Surprenant to approve the budget amendment as presented to the board. **Second: Russo Jr. All in favor. Motion Carries.** Leaving \$2,517.46 in Application fees for Marijuana legal expenses.

Old Business:

Appointments Parks and Recreation: Motion: Surprenant to appoint Sharon Mika to hold one year term, Jim Mikolaizik to hold a one year term and Tonya Clare to hold a two year term on the Parks and Recreation Committee effective with the April 12, 2022 appointment. **Second: Farhat. All in favor. Motion Carries.**

Stiles stated employee packet is still being worked on by K. Russo and will be placed on agenda in June. K. Russo stated the Planning Commission and the ZBA do not need job descriptions they are set by statute under the Planning and Zoning Enabling Act.

Stiles stated at this time no one seems interested in the size/number of trees for select cut. Stiles is reaching out to two additional prospects.

New Business: Motion: Stiles to approve L-4029. Trier stated there is a reduction in the millage wanted to make you aware of this. Keep in mind for next year's budget. **Second:** Surprenant. **All in favor. Motion Carries.**

Supervisor Correspondence: Stiles stated cemetery noise complaint by resident. Discussion to have contractor work hours 9 am-5 pm. Contractor K. Rose present and notified.

Financial Report: The Treasurer and Clerk balanced for the month of April. Trier stated in process of preparing summer tax bills. Trier continued Republic credit \$2,400.00 and \$28.75 this will be on the May bill. Trier notified the board of a fuel recovery fee.

Fire Chief's Report: Fire Chief Wrzesinski thanked Pam for serving as Clerk. Wrzesinski stated, the Fire Department held the Roscommon County Fireman Association Meeting, with approximately 50 people attending. The Fire Marshall was guest speaker.

Ordinance Enforcement Officer Report: Submitted to board. Stiles questioned citation 1156/1157. Stiles asks for a copy of citations and LUP 4474.

Planning Commission Report: Submitted reported.

ZBA Report: None.

Assessor's Report: None.

Supervisor's Report: Politics and drama need to stay out of Fire Department. No room for politics at the Fire Department. Chief Wrzesinski states "They do not discuss politics in the station."

Houghton Lake Improvement Board: submitted report to board. May 24th is their next meeting to appoint a new chairman. Grant of \$40,000 for Clean/dry dispose machine, denied. They are still looking for a grant writer. Thanked Pam for her work.

Batteries Election Equipment: Surprenant stated the board received emails regarding the election battery replacement. **Motion:** Surprenant to purchase two internal batteries, one for the DS200 tabulator and one for the Express Vote cost is \$340.00 plus shipping. **Second:** Stiles. **All in favor. Motion Carries.**

De-Bug Lady- Stiles stated they spray the hall and fire department. Contract for \$340 for fire department and hall. **Motion:** Stiles to approve the De-Bug Lady contract of \$340 which includes the Fire Department, Hall and Crypt. **Second: Russo Jr.** Discussion. **All in favor. Motion Carries.**

ZBA Resignation/Ad: Motion: Stiles to accept Dean Hull's resignation in good standing effective April 29, 2022. **Second: Trier. All in favor. Motion Carries.**

Trash Bids: Stiles stated township received three bids from Waste Management (WM), Republic and GFL. **Motion:** Stiles to accept the Republic numbers. **Failed no second.** Stiles stated the Republic cost \$8.55 for the first year for trash, which is lower than WM

and GFL. The recycle roll off with Republic is also lower than GFL and WM. Most economical I believe would be Republic. Farhat suggested breaking this down for the public. Trier stated he ran some numbers, trash pick up and curb side recycling for GFL would be about \$150.00 per person, trash pick up and curb side recycling for Republic would be about \$146.28 per person, and for WM trash pick up and curb side recycling would be about \$161.00. Discussion. Surprenant stated like Republic for the weekly carted trash. Additionally, looking at Republic for every other week yard waste and that varies from year one at \$2.58 up to year five at \$2.96 per parcel. The cost to the township for the township to cover that for the residents would be year one \$4,169.28 to year five for \$4,783.36. So, in my scenario I am proposing that the township cover the yard waste for the residents. Then do the drop off recycling locating the dumpster out here at the hall, the 30-yard dumpster is \$395.00 per pull and again suggesting the township cover that cost for the residents. One pull per quarter would be \$1,580.00 a year. Then the township would be offering two services to our residents which would be yard waste and recycling; then the weekly carted trash would still be a special assessment on the taxes. Russo Jr. agrees. Discussion. Trier spoke of discrepancy with number of bins verses charges per parcel. Farhat queried fee per parcel current cost per parcel. Trier responded \$7.69 per unit at 1616 units. Farhat stated for the residents \$7.69 per parcel currently, and year one is \$8.55 per parcel up to \$9.81 at year five, GFL is at \$11.90 includes the yard waste. Farhat continued there would have to be an increase to the special assessment in order to cover the trash and the yard waste. Trier stated if the township goes with Republic that would be approximately \$135.00 per parcel for trash and yard waste. Russo Jr. stated he feels the township should pick up the cost of the yard waste and recycling, in order to keep the weekly trash special assessment reasonable. **Motion:** Stiles to stay with Republic for weekly carted trash, every other week yard waste and 30 yard recycle roll off. **Second: Russo Jr.** Discussion effective August 1, 2022. **All in favor. Motion Carries. Motion:** Russo Jr. to have township pays the bi weekly yard waste and the recycle pick up for the 30 yard roll off. **Second:** Stiles. Farhat feels the Treasurer should have opportunity to review and the board to review prior to making that decision. Russo Jr. stated did not want to have residents receive a special assessment for the ward waste and recycling. **2 Yay – 3 Nay Motion Failed.**

Recycling: Board discussed recycling.

Deputy Clerk Appointment: Surprenant stated R. Cassabon resigned and Lori Lukatch is the new Deputy Clerk. Effective May 3, 2022.

Safety/snow Fence: Trier would like to forward proposed change to planning commission to add to their list of changes. Trier went over proposal, suggesting adding LUP is required for all permanent fences. **Motion:** Trier to move proposed changes to the planning commission to review and add to their list of proposed changes for the ordinance. **Second: Stiles. All in favor. Motion Carries.**

Cemetery: Farhat explained cemetery situation regarding burial transit permits. Family is looking to bury third cremains on the same site. **Motion:** Farhat to allow third cremains to be buried. **Second:** Russo Jr. **All in favor. Motion Carries.**

Motion: Russo Jr. to allow memorial luncheon at Lake Township Fire Department. **Second:** Farhat. **All in favor. Motion Carries.**

Clerk appointment: Stiles stated only one applicant received. **Motion:** Stiles to appoint K. Russo as new clerk effective May 17th. Surprenant asked K. Russo some interview questions. Stiles stated it is acceptable to have a husband and wife on the board. Trier commented that the ad in the paper was very small and only run for one week. Complemented K. Russo on her work. Additionally, community was expecting current deputy clerk to apply and at the last minute that changed. Would like to see ad run again for Clerk. Farhat queried K. Russo regarding nepotism. K. Russo responded when we were on the planning commission, we did not vote the same way. We don't discuss township business at home. We help each other with questions. Russo Jr. complemented K. Russo on her qualifications. **Second:** Russo Jr. **Roll Call Vote:** Russo-Yes, Trier-No, Farhat-No, Stiles-Yes, Surprenant not eligible to vote. **Motion Fails. Motion:** Trier to place ad in paper for Clerk for Lake Township and run it for two weeks. **Second:** Farhat. Discussion. **3 Yay, 2 Nay. Motion Carries.**

Motion: Surprenant to rescind previous resignation date of May 16th. **Second:** Trier. **4 Yay, 1 Nay. Motion Carries. Motion:** Surprenant to resign with effective date of May 25th. **Second:** Trier. **All in favor. Motion Carries.**

Rize court case: Stiles stated the court case could run approximately \$100,000.00. No guarantee we will win, and no guarantee we will lose. **Motion** by Stiles supported by Trier to move into a closed session pursuant to MCL 15.268(h) to discuss a confidential written legal opinion from the Township Attorney regarding the ongoing appeal to the Roscommon County Circuit Court in the First Proper Holdings v Lake Township case, case no. 21-725651-AA. **Roll Call Vote:** Russo Jr.-yes, Trier-yes, Surprenant-yes, Farhat-yes, Stiles -yes. **All in favor. Motion Carries.**

Board Closed the Closed Session in the Closed Session. Session started at 9:00 p.m.

Motion: Stiles to re-open the meeting at 9:40 p.m. **Second:** Trier. **All in favor. Motion Carries.**

Motion: Surprenant to contact township attorney to begin discussion to work toward a sealed settlement with First Property holdings. **Second:** Trier. . **Roll Call Vote:** Russo Jr.-no, Trier-yes, Surprenant-yes, Farhat-yes, Stiles -yes. **4 Yay, 1 Nay. Motion Carries.**

Board Comment: None

Public Comment: Comment regarding pot hole on Old 27 and Yeager Road. Comment regarding recycling. Comment would like to have county commissioner attend township

meeting regarding the dam. Comment regarding resealing the hall parking lot.
Comments regarding disappointment with not moving forward with clerk applicant.

Meeting adjourned 9:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Lori Lukatch
Lake Township Deputy Clerk
Approved at LTSM May 24, 2022