

TOWN OF LAKESIDE  
ANNUAL MEETING April 19, 2022

**Agenda:**

- **Meeting:** Called to order by Chairman Scott Luostari 7 p.m. Thanked everyone for coming.
- **Roll Call:** Present: Supervisor Mary Peterson, Chairman Scott Luostari, Supervisor Gerald Tutor, Tom Karas, Vicki Karas, Tom Schnepfer, Mark Saari, Scott Meteraud, Jeremy Wihans, Tracy Ruppe, Mike Granlund, Nova Nordrum, Treasurer Vicki Luostari and Clerk Ruth Ann Schnepfer.
- **Introduction of the board:** Scott introduced himself and all the board members to the meeting attendees. It was decided to vote by a show of hands.
- **Approval of 2021 annual meeting minutes:** Ruth Ann read the 2021 minutes. Scott M made a motion to accept the 2021 annual meeting minutes as presented, Mary P, seconded. 12 yays, 0 nays, 2 abstain. Approved as presented 7:07 pm. Ruth Ann also read the 2021 Accessors report. Arm length sales are going way over market value right now, hopefully that will be taken into consideration.
- **Treasurer's report:** Vicki presented: 2021 end of year balances \$391,784.33 total, with \$18,452.42 in the checking account, and \$132,018.64 in the savings account and \$241,313.27 in the remaining money market/savings accounts. Scott M motioned to accept the treasurer report as presented, Mary P seconded, 12 yays, 0 nays, 2 abstain, approved as presented, 7:10 pm.
- **Department and committee reports:**
  - **Fire department:** Nova presented, introduced herself. Tracy- 2<sup>nd</sup> assistant, Kevin- 1<sup>st</sup> Assistant, Captain- Robert, Secretary- Hope also Martin, Jamie, and Castleberry's. Always looking for new members. Responded to a few medical calls, a few accidents. She thanked the residents for helping when needed. Still looking for a new engine, old

one was not set up as a rural truck. City had one up for bids, but it was not adequate for what the town needed. Finally got the new cascade system to fill their air tanks. She invited anyone at the meeting to come and view it. It is hard to get people to volunteer, not just for emergency services but for anything. It requires a lot of training to be active in the department; 80 hours of training for a first responder, 150 hours for a firefighter to enter a building and 200-300 hours to become an officer, all done on their own time. She thanked everyone for their dedication. Cloverland and Poplar are in worse shape than us, and Maple and Amnicon are not taking any extra calls. The town is required to provide fire, but not EMS services. But you could have a 30–120-minute wait for Mayo Clinic Ambulance to get to you depending on where they are. Mutual aid county wide is becoming an issue, and everyone is feeling burnout. Anyone interested in the FD: trainings are the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month, and the meetings are the last Tuesday of the month at 7 pm. Scott thanked them for all they do. All our first responders have passed national level testing.

- **Town Employees:** Mark S presented. Working on the roads, he tried to grade a few but it was too wet. It was a snowy year, but we had no major breakdowns. We need collection site help, Tom and Mark have been filling in when needed. Also need someone to cut grass. It was mentioned about possibly opening the dump on Wednesdays during the winter, which would require an operator and additional lighting. Up to the public for input and then the board would decide. Gerald T said Macie might be available for evenings and Saturdays. Scott M suggested we investigate an independent company to mow around the hall and the ballfield. It would be worth it to at least investigate as they would also have their own equipment, this way all the town would need to mow was the cemetery. We need fencing for the ball field. Mark and Tom were thanked for the job they are doing.
- **Other Business:**
  - **Lighting request from the School District:** Mike G presented. He was on the Town board from 1979-1989 and on the school board since 200?. The school busses used to pick up students at different schools at various times, now all the busses pick up the students at the same time,

so there is an issue getting out onto the highways. Also, since COVID a lot of parents are taking their kids to and from school, which adds to the issue. The transportation director had them running the back roads, which worked great for the school, not so well for the towns. They formed a committee with the School District, Maple, and Poplar to work on solutions. One of the suggestions coming out of the committee was to put up wigwag flashing lights. The school reached out to the townships for assistance with the funding. Each town was asked to contribute \$600. Hawthorne, Amnicon, Poplar, Maple, Highland, and Iron River now have all agreed to donate. Cloverland, Lake Nebagamon and Brule have said no. Lakeside and Hughes are still undecided. Unfortunately, the State will not assist until there is a bad accident. This is a onetime request; the school will provide all the maintenance funding. A question was raised about making it a "legal" 45 MPH zone rather than just a suggestion, as the signage there now states. Also placing of a sign that states the MPH is 45 when the lights are flashing. The lights would be programmable (by the school) and would only run during the busy timeframe (approx. 3:05 pm to 3:45 pm). Also need to investigate the timing of the release of the high school students, as those that drive just add to the congestion. Question was asked about State or Federal funding, they are hoping to use any of that funding to solve the back road issues. Tracy R made a motion to give the school district the funds after the project is completed via way of a bill, Jeremy W seconded, 10 yes, 1 no, 3 abstain, motion carried 7:30 pm.

- **Emerald Ash Borer:** Scott received a letter from Paul that we now have the Emerald Ash borer in Lakeside. It was documented a few months ago and appears to be widespread through the town.
- **Road Grading:** Scott M brought up that Meteraud road was only graded once in 2021. Mark believes he graded it more often. Not to make any excuses but for a time we did not have a grader due to the delay in getting the new one. It was mentioned that once we got the new grader Mark put in some long hours trying to get the roads graded. The road survey will investigate Meteraud, as well as the other roads in the town. Jeremy W says there are four sets of customers where he cannot get down the roads to pump their septic. Unfortunately, this time of the

year, only so much can be done and we can only do what we can afford. Scott talked to two reps from the WTA on the possible infrastructure and other grant monies. To be considered for these programs you need an engineer and a grant program which runs on a 2-year cycle, and it would cost the town about \$200,000 just to get that far with no guarantees they will get any money. That is a large expense for the town to come up with, especially if they do not then qualify for the grant. There are grants out there to help private citizens with septic issues. It will be a growing issue with the new laws regarding septic systems and replacement of failing tanks. Asphalt is up \$12/ton, gravel is expected to increase as well. Once the road survey is complete the worst roads will get fixed first, as a priority. Trucks running the roads with heavy loads add to the situation. Mike G as well as the FD thanked the guys for their plowing efforts. Nova also thanked Lakeside Trucking for providing cars for them to do training on.

- **Cares Funds:** Some of the funds will be used towards building issues, as they are still working on the final rule. Some monies may go to the roads if they qualify.
- **Alternates for the Board of Review:** Ruth Ann asked for volunteers to be alternates for the BOR if needed, no one volunteered.

The next annual meeting will be on the third Tuesday in April, April 18, 2023.

### **Adjournment**

Nova N made a motion to adjourn, Tracy R seconded, 12 ayes 0 nays 2 abstain.  
Meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:  
Ruth Ann D Schnepfer, Clerk  
4/28/2022

Location, Town Hall, Collection Site, Web  
These minutes are posted as **unapproved**.