Escanaba Township Board meeting held September 9, 2019.

Clerk Patricia Beauchamp called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m., and led in the Pledge of Allegiance and a short prayer.

Members present: Clerk Patricia Beauchamp, Treasurer Linda Trombley-Robitaille, Trustee Alfred Gareau, and Trustee Ray Hughes and Deputy Clerk Carol King. Supervisor Ken Brunette was absent.

Approval of Agenda: Motion to approve the agenda was made by Trustee Hughes, seconded by Trustee Gareau. Approved by all.

Approval of August 2019 minutes. Motion by Treasurer Trombley-Robitaille, to accept the minutes from August 2019, seconded by Trustee Gareau. Motion carried.

Financial Report: Motion to accept the financial report was made by Trustee Gareau, seconded by Trustee Hughes. Motion carried.

Public comments: none.

Unfinished minutes: Peter Moritzburke Modifications: will be 125 megawatts system.

1. Increase setbacks from 250 feet from center of home to 500 feet from center of home. 2) RR will be 250 feet from center of road. 3) Solar panels from 16 feet high to 12 feet high 4) Reduce noise from 60 decibels to 45 decibels. 5) Monitor ground water wells 6) Glare analyses 7) Emergency fire and has met plans will be given to Delta Co. 9) Light restriction 9) change fences from chain link to solid 10) design to allow animals to travel thru project.

Renee Richie: 125 megawatts will still take away from farm lands. Will UPPCO follow through with everything that is proposed. Who benefits from this project, what tax revenue do we get. Job benefits for the community. What are the plans for the closing of the project.

Kim Wykoff: will be savings of $1.28 on Electric. Notices in the paper are not right. Panels need to be recyclable. When the project shuts down it needs to be ready for farming the next season not 18 months later.

Kelly Levely Master Plan does not address Solar Farm, lot size, taxes, wells, land ownership, nature features.

Robert Barron: Solar Ordinance was started last year. There were workshops, public opinion was requested.

Frank Chenier: Water contamination with the thin layer of soil over the bedrock drilling holes for supports of the solar panels, and fencing will leave a way for ground water to be contaminated. How will these holes be filled?

Terry Burkhart: Ordinance will be posted on the website.

Public Comments: Paul Bradfield, Robert Beauchamp is still not cleaning up his property. Trustee Gareau will talk to him. Warren Bovin fire Safety & property values. Fred Asbury well testing needs to be done. Tom Piestch setbacks from property lines not center of home. Sealing holes. Renee Richer mention the township needs to design the ordinance not Orion. Mr. Hanson had to drill a new well and

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doesn’t want anyone else to have to drill a well. Nancy Chenier mentioned the lights, landscaping needs to be better. Setbacks need to be a lot farther back. Vickie Gobert setbacks from property line not middle of home. Bet French UPPCO would like to see electric to come from a local source. Norm Fleury says the Planning Commission is appointed and does what the Board asks of them. The Board asked the commission to write up a solar ordinance. The Board is elected and has the final say on the working of anything the Planning Commission does. Come to the meeting Monday night. Theresa Pietsch said there is not answers given to the questions.

Board members: Treasurer Trombley-Robitaille said the Planning Commission needs to have more respect for the public. Trustee Hughes said the Amish signs which were just put up were stolen. Tom Pietsch mentioned he will pay to have them put up again if the signs were not recovered. Trustee Gareau mentioned we should have respect for each other and the Ricky LaBumbard Blight has been rescheduled for court 9/19/2019.

Fire Department Chief Matt Rian had two calls. One for a lift assist and the other for Escanaba mutual aid for the fire on the 18th. The open house for the fire hall was last Sunday 9-8-2019 from 11 am to 4 pm. There were 430 that attended. $1,000 were received in donations. We received a $1,500 grant for a decon box. Had a driver training class. There is a torch run 9-11. The run will be from Elmers to Ludington Park. Cost is $25. The fire truck will be at the airport for the Honor Flight.

Delta County Commissioner Dave Rivard was not present.

Trustee Gareau made a motion to pay bills. Seconded by Trustee Hughes. Motion carried.

Trustee Gareau moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:35 p.m. seconded by Trustee Hughes.

Carol King

Deputy Clerk