

WHITEFORD TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES

July 20, 2021

Call to Order: Supervisor Walter Ruhl called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:30 p.m. Present were Donald Sahloff, Bernice Heidelberg, Tim Hill, Angela Christensen, Walter Ruhl, and Township Attorney Wolfgang Drescher. There were also 14 guests.

Approve Agenda: Motion to approve the agenda of July 20, 2021 made by Donald Sahloff, second by Tim Hill. Motion passed 5-0.

Approve Minutes: Motion to approve the minutes of June 15, 2021 made by Bernice Heidelberg, second by Angela Christensen. Motion passed 5-0. Motion to approve the minutes of the July 6, 2021 Public Hearing made by Tim Hill, second by Donald Sahloff. Motion passed 5-0.

Treasurer's Financial Report: Motion to approve the July 20, 2021 Treasurer's Financial Report as presented made by Donald Sahloff, second by Bernice Heidelberg. Motion passed 5-0.

Check Registers: Motion to approve the July 20, 2021 General Government check register with disbursements totaling \$85,785.10 made by Bernice Heidelberg, second by Tim Hill. Motion passed 5-0. Motion to approve the July 20, 2021 Utilities Operations check register with disbursements totaling \$56,694.01 made by Angela Christensen, second by Bernice Heidelberg. Motion passed 5-0.

Sewer II Special Assessment LTGO Series B Bond Note: Motion to approve payoff of Sewer II Special Assessment LTGO Series B Bond Note in the amount of \$15,149.67 made by Tim Hill, second by Donald Sahloff. Roll call vote: Donald Sahloff, yes, Tim Hill, yes, Bernice Heidelberg, yes, Walter Ruhl, yes, Angela Christensen, yes. Motion passed 5-0.

Deputy Supervisor Truck Repair: Motion to approve collision repair to damage of Ernie Sasse's truck while working for the township in the amount of \$1,679.64 made by Donald Sahloff, second by Bernice Heidelberg. Roll call vote: Donald Sahloff, yes, Tim Hill, yes, Bernice Heidelberg, yes, Walter Ruhl, yes, Angela Christensen, yes. Motion passed 5-0.

Rezoning Request by Richard VanHove, representative for Teresa VanHove Trust: Discussion was held on request by Richard VanHove, representative for Teresa VanHove Trust, 11192 Sylvania-Petersburg Road, Riga, MI 49276 regarding parcel #5815-003-013-00 which contains approximately 31.8 acres. Appellant is requesting a zoning change for 2.29 acres from AG - Agricultural to R-1 Rural Residential in order to split the house and buildings from the parent parcel. Motion to approve rezoning request as presented made by Donald Sahloff, second by Tim Hill. Roll call vote: Donald Sahloff, yes, Tim Hill, yes, Bernice Heidelberg, yes, Walter Ruhl, yes, Angela Christensen, yes. Motion passed 5-0.

Rezoning Request by Kipp VanTassel, Trustee for Dianna R. VanTassel Trust: Discussion was held on request by Kipp VanTassel, Trustee for Dianna R. VanTassel Trust, 7617 Sterns Road, Ottawa Lake, MI 49267 regarding parcel #5815-032-005-00 which contains 9.049 acres and is zoned AG - Agricultural. Appellant is requesting a zoning change from AG - Agricultural to B-2 General Business for use as a commercial construction company office and shop facilities. Motion to approve rezoning request as presented made by Bernice Heidelberg, second by Angela Christensen. Roll call vote: Donald Sahloff, yes, Tim Hill, yes, Bernice Heidelberg, yes, Walter Ruhl, yes, Angela Christensen, yes. Motion passed 5-0.

Rezoning Request by Paul LaRoy: Discussion was held on request by Paul LaRoy, 7942 Turk Road, Ottawa Lake, MI 49267 regarding parcel #5815-007-035-10 located at 9811 Memorial Hwy, Ottawa Lake, MI 49267. Parcel contains approximately 1.46 acres and is zoned R-2 Low Density Residential. Appellant is requesting a zoning change from R-2 Low Density Residential to B-2 General Business for the purpose of building a shop for the appellant business. This is the location of the old LaRoy's Tavern. Motion to approve rezoning request as presented made by Bernice Heidelberg, second by Tim Hill. Roll call vote: Donald Sahloff, yes, Tim Hill, yes, Bernice Heidelberg, yes, Walter Ruhl, yes, Angela Christensen, abstain. Motion passed 4 yes, 1 abstain.

Rezoning Request by Lela Silwester: Discussion was held on request by Lela Silwester, 9283 Head-o-Lake Road, Ottawa Lake, MI 49267 regarding parcel #5815-017-010-00 located at the same address. Parcel contains approximately 10.59 acres and is zoned AG – Agricultural. Appellant is requesting a zoning change for a 2.76 acres parcel from AG - Agricultural to R-1 Rural Residential for single family residential use. Motion to approve rezoning request as presented made by Tim Hill, second by Bernice Heidelberg. Roll call vote: Donald Sahloff, no, Tim Hill, yes, Bernice Heidelberg, yes, Walter Ruhl, yes, Angela Christensen, yes. Motion passed 4-1.

Fire Report: Walter Ruhl and Fire Chief Shane Hillard reported Whiteford Station #29 had 27 calls for the month of June, year to date total of 210, up 31 calls from 2020. Ottawa Lake Station #42 had 18 calls for the month of June, year to date total of 100. The Brush Truck refurbish will be completed ahead of schedule, by Labor Day. Whiteford Fire will be covering Monroe County Fair on Sunday, August 1, 2021, Ottawa Lake Fire will be covering on Saturday, August 7, 2021. Ottawa Lake Fire was awarded a grant with an Intelagard Nation Foam CAFS Backpack, valued at \$6,500. Motion to approve the cost of \$3,436.90 for emergency lights and siren for the Brush Truck made by Donald Sahloff, second by Tim Hill. Roll call vote: Donald Sahloff, yes, Tim Hill, yes, Bernice Heidelberg, yes, Walter Ruhl, yes, Angela Christensen, yes. Motion passed 5-0. Motion to approve the rodent control problem at Whiteford Fire for \$250 plus a \$40 monthly charge until the problem is under control made by Bernice Heidelberg, second by Donald Sahloff. Roll call vote: Donald Sahloff, yes, Tim Hill, yes, Bernice Heidelberg, yes, Walter Ruhl, yes, Angela Christensen, yes. Motion passed 5-0. Motion to pay for four sets of turnout gear for Ottawa Lake Fire as part of their grant in the amount of \$10,939.80 made by Donald Sahloff, second by Bernice Heidelberg. Roll call vote: Donald Sahloff, yes, Tim Hill, yes, Bernice Heidelberg, yes, Walter Ruhl, yes, Angela Christensen, yes. Motion passed 5-0.

Park Report: Walter Ruhl reported the park parking lot has been expanded with asphalt sweepings, work is being done on the northeast ball field, and work on the pavilions is continuing. Residents are planning a Whiteford Fall Festival at the park on October 9, 2021, where profits would go toward improvement of the park, primarily for playground equipment. Motion to approve seed money for the Whiteford Fall Festival in the amount of \$2,000 made by Bernice Heidelberg, second by Angela Christensen. Roll call vote: Donald Sahloff, yes, Tim Hill, yes, Bernice Heidelberg, yes, Walter Ruhl, yes, Angela Christensen, yes. Motion passed 5-0.

Organizational Meeting:

Meetings: Motion to approve having “live only” meetings, and Zoom if technology is available made by Tim Hill, second by Bernice Heidelberg. Roll call vote: Donald Sahloff, yes, Tim Hill, yes, Bernice Heidelberg, yes, Walter Ruhl, yes, Angela Christensen, yes. Motion passed 5-0.

Whiteford Township Board Meetings: Whiteford Township Board Meetings shall be on the third Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at our offices located at 8000 Yankee Road, Suite 100, Ottawa Lake, Michigan on the following dates: July 20, 2021, August 17, 2021, September 21, 2021, October 19, 2021, November 16, 2021, December 21, 2021, January 18, 2022, February 15, 2022, March 15, 2022, April 19, 2022, May 17, 2022, June 21, 2022, July 19, 2022 and a Special Meeting may be called on June 30, 2022 at 9:00 a.m. for Budget Adjustments, with our Organizational Meeting July 19, 2022. Motion to approve the proposed 2021-2022 Township Board meeting dates as presented made by Donald Sahloff, second by Tim Hill. Motion passed 5-0.

Planning Commission: Motion to approve Planning Commission meetings to be set quarterly at 7:30 p.m. on September 14, 2021, December 14, 2021, March 8, 2022, and June 14, 2022, made by Bernice Heidelberg, second by Angela Christensen. Motion passed 5-0.

Whiteford Township Offices Holidays: Whiteford Township shall observe the following holidays and be closed on: September, 2021 – Labor Day, November 25 & 26, 2021 – Thanksgiving, December 24 – 27, 2021 – Christmas, December 31, 2021 – January 3, 2022 – New Year’s Day, May 30, 2022 – Memorial Day, July 4, 2022 – Independence Day. Motion to approve the proposed 2021 – 2022 Township Offices Holidays as presented made by Tim Hill, second by Angela Christensen. Motion passed 5-0.

Cooley, Hehl, Sabo & Calkins P.L.L.C., Certified Public Accountants: Motion to retain Cooley, Hehl, Sabo & Calkins P.L.L.C. as township auditor for the fiscal year 2021-2022, plus the sewer and water audit made by Bernice Heidelberg second by Angela Christensen. Motion passed 5-0.

Professional Services: Motion to approve Whiteford Township Professional Services as: W. Drescher and Associates, Attorneys At Law as Attorney, David Arthur Consultants as Engineer, Cooley, Hehl, Sabo & Calkins P.L.L.C. as Auditor, Chris Renius, Renius & Renius as Assessor, Jim Beck as Accountant, Jack Lange as Building Inspector, Louis Duby as Electrical Inspector, Don Olszewski as Plumbing/Mechanical Inspector made by Tim Hill, second by Donald Sahloff. Motion passed 5-0.

Banks: Motion to approve using banks: KeyBank, Fifth Third Bank, First Merchants Bank, Blissfield State Bank and Metamora State Bank made by Bernice Heidelberg, second by Angela Christensen. Motion passed 5-0.

Public Comment: None

Adjourn: Meeting adjourned at 8:08 p.m. after completion of the agenda.

Angela Christensen
Whiteford Township Clerk