

## WHITEFORD TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES

### HYBRID MEETING

June 15, 2021

#### **Whiteford Township Board of Trustees held a hybrid meeting both in-person and via Zoom.**

**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, and Walter Ruhl. Township Attorney Alex Drescher was present via Zoom. There were also 9 in-person guests and 8 guests via Zoom.

**Dan Briskey:** Walter Ruhl asked everyone to remain standing for a moment of silence for the passing of Dan Briskey who was the Township Constable for many years, a life-long member of the community, and a friend.

**Approve Agenda:** Motion to approve the agenda of June 15, 2021 made by Donald Sahloff, second by Bernice Heidelberg. Motion passed 5-0.

**Approve Minutes:** Motion to approve the minutes of May 18, 2021 made by Bernice Heidelberg, second by Tim Hill. Motion passed 5-0.

**Treasurer's Financial Report:** Motion to approve the June 15, 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 June 15, 2021 General Government check register with disbursements totaling \$115,441.35 made by Tim Hill, second by Donald Sahloff. Motion passed 5-0. Motion to approve the June 15, 2021 Utilities Operations check register with disbursements totaling \$22,611.19 made by Donald Sahloff, second by Angela Christensen. Motion passed 5-0.

**Budget Adjustment:** Motion to amend the budget by adding from fund balance: \$800 to 101-272-740.000 Postage, \$750 to 101-272-752.000 Office Supplies, \$500 to 101-272-850.000 Telephone, \$2,000 to 101-272-900.000 Publishing, \$4,000 to 101-337-930.000 OLF D Repairs & Maintenance, \$1,200 to 101-566-972.001 Water System Initial Setup – 1C, \$23,000 to 101-566-972.002 Water System Initial Setup – 1E, \$5,000 to 101-566-972.004 Water System Initial Setup – 1F, \$375 to 101-566-972.005 Sewer System Sterns & Whiteford Ctr., \$7,500 to 101-566-972.006 Township Fire Hall, \$1,100 to 101-567-760.000 Cemetery Supplies, \$5,000 to 101-567-935.000 Cemetery Mowing, \$2,500 to 101-567-955.014 Cemetery Open/Close Gates, \$8,200 to 101-751-706.000 Park Manager, \$150 to 101-751-711.000 Park Medicare, \$500 to 101-751-715.000 Park Social Security, \$6,000 to 589-550-931.001 Sewer I Meter 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.

**Budget Adjustment:** Motion to amend the budget by increasing 591-541-968.000 Water Depreciation by \$195,000 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, yes. Motion passed 5-0.

**Sylvania Fire Works Sheriff Contract:** Motion to hire two uniformed Deputy Sheriffs and patrol vehicles from 8:00 p.m. to 12:00 a.m. on July 3, 2021 to patrol traffic watching fireworks at a cost not to exceed \$850 total to be paid out of Liquor Fund 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.

**Sheriff Contract with Whiteford Schools:** Motion to extend the contract with the Sheriff Department for a deputy sheriff stationed at Whiteford Schools as a Resource Officer, at the same cost as the previous three-year contract 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.

**Resolution To Adjust The Application Fees For Plumbing, Mechanical And Electrical Permit Applications:** Walter Ruhl explained the Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs has increased permit applications fees from \$60 to \$75 and Whiteford Township follows their guidelines. Motion to approve Resolution To Adjust The Application Fees For Plumbing, Mechanical And Electrical Permit Applications 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.

**Rezoning Request by Jacob and Laura Smith:** Discussion was held on request by Jacob and Laura Smith, 4359 W. Erie Road, Temperance, MI 48182 regarding parcel #5815-013-003-00. Appellants are requesting a zoning change for two three-acre parcels from AG - Agricultural to R-1 Rural Residential. Appellants wish to divide two three-acre parcels from the parent parcel to create buildable lots. Motion to approve rezoning request as presented made by Bernice Heidelberg, second by Angela Christensen. Roll call vote: Donald Sahloff, no, Tim Hill, yes, Bernice Heidelberg, yes, Walter Ruhl, yes, Angela Christensen, yes. Motion passed 4-1.

**DUX Camping Permit:** Motion to approve camping permit for DUX Motorcycle Club 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.

**Water Capital Recovery Fee:** Motion to waive the stipulation in Section M, Paragraph 11 of Water Ordinance #67-A-2 that states the Capital Recovery Fee will be paid at the time of the split application, in lieu of a letter stating the fee will be paid at the time of closing on the property made by Bernice Heidelberg, second by Angela Christensen. Roll call vote: Donald Sahloff, no, Tim Hill, no, Bernice Heidelberg, yes, Walter Ruhl, yes, Angela Christensen, yes. Motion passed 3-2.

**Fire Report:** Walter Ruhl reported the Ottawa Lake Fire Department tanker truck has been sent out to be refurbished.

**Park Report:** Walter Ruhl and Park Manager Ernie Sasse reported fill dirt improvements made around Dunmyer Pavilion and concrete will be poured this week for footers on both the Ahleman and Schnipke Pavilions. This month JAWS has donated \$4,000 worth of man hours in labor.

**Road Report:** Walter Ruhl and Road Advisor Bob Schnipke informed the board all township roads have been mowed.

**Water Report:** Walter Ruhl informed the board of the Public Hearing for Water District II, to be held July 6, 2021 at 7:30 p.m. in the township offices. The agenda for the Public Hearing is to discuss cost, district location and timeline. A resolution to define the assessment district will be read and voted on after the hearing. Letters will be sent out to the property owners that are in the proposed assessment district before the Public Hearing. This will be an in-person meeting only, and weather permitting, may be outside on the lawn. If inside, you will be asked to wear a mask if you have not had your Covid vaccine. If you cannot attend, you may submit a letter before the meeting. If you are part of the proposed district, the clerk will read your letter into the record.

**Special Assessment Resolution No. 1 (Water District #2):** Motion to approve Special Assessment Resolution No. 1 (Water District #2) 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.

**Public Comment:** Sheriff Troy Goodnough addressed the board on calls, complaints and traffic violations for the last five months in Whiteford Township. Ron King thanked the board for allowing him to pay the water capital recovery fee at the time of closing on their property.

**Adjourn:** Meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m. after completion of the agenda.

Angela Christensen  
Whiteford Township Clerk