

WHITEFORD TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES

May 17, 2022

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 Alex Drescher. There were also 6 guests attending, plus 4 guests via zoom.

Approve Agenda: Motion to approve the agenda of May 17, 2022 made by Tim Hill, second by Bernice Heidelberg. Motion passed 5-0.

Approve Minutes: Motion to approve the minutes of April 19, 2022 made by Bernice Heidelberg, second by Angela Christensen. Motion passed 5-0.

Treasurer's Financial Report: Motion to approve the May 17, 2022 Treasurer's Financial Report as presented made by Donald Sahloff, second by Bernice Heidelberg. Motion passed 5-0.

Check Registers: Motion to approve the May 17, 2022 General Government check register with disbursements totaling \$106,507.89 made by Tim Hill, second by Donald Sahloff. Motion passed 5-0. Motion to approve the May 17, 2022 Utilities Operations check register with disbursements totaling \$33,216.65 made by Bernice Heidelberg, second by Angela Christensen. Motion passed 5-0.

2022 Whiteford Township Millage Rate Request: Motion to adopt the Whiteford Township millage rates at Operating 0.9178, Roads 0.9696 and Fire 0.9696 made by Tim Hill, second by Donald Sahloff. Roll call vote: Donald Sahloff, yes, Tim Hill, yes, Bernice Heidelberg, yes, Angela Christensen, yes, Walter Ruhl, yes. Motion passed 5-0.

Open Public Hearing on General Government Budget: Walter Ruhl opened the Public Hearing on the General Government Budget at 7:35 p.m. The 2022 – 2023 budget was reviewed and discussion was held.

Close Public Hearing on General Government Budget: Walter Ruhl closed the Public Hearing on the General Government Budget at 7:36 p.m.

2022 – 2023 General Fund Budget: Motion to approve the line-item budget for 2022 – 2023 as presented without changes made by Tim Hill, second by Angela Christensen. Roll call vote: Donald Sahloff, yes, Tim Hill, yes, Bernice Heidelberg, yes, Angela Christensen, yes, Walter Ruhl, yes. Motion passed 5-0.

2022 - 2023 General Appropriations Act: Motion to approve Whiteford Township's General Appropriations Act for 2022 - 2023 budget year made by Bernice Heidelberg, second by Tim Hill. Roll call vote: Donald Sahloff, yes, Tim Hill, yes, Bernice Heidelberg, yes, Angela Christensen, yes, Walter Ruhl, yes. Motion passed 5-0.

Rezoning Request by John and Rabecca Soss-Castell: Discussion was held on request by John Castell and Rabecca Soss, 6939 Yankee Road, Ottawa Lake, MI 49267 regarding parcel #5815-160-018-00 located at 8364 Railroad Street, Ottawa Lake, MI 49267 and parcel #5815-160-020-00 located at 8362 Railroad Street, Ottawa Lake, MI 49267. Appellants are requesting a zoning change from B-1 Local Business to R-1 Rural Residential due to a clerical error on the zoning. On advice from attorney, Alex Drescher, motion to table until rezoning requests has been heard through Planning Commission made by Tim Hill, second by Donald Sahloff. Roll call vote: Donald Sahloff, yes, Tim Hill, yes, Bernice Heidelberg, yes, Angela Christensen, yes, Walter Ruhl, yes. Motion passed 5-0.

Conditional Zoning Agreement between Whiteford Township, Stoneco and The Thornton Family: Motion to approve Conditional Zoning Agreement between Whiteford Township, Stoneco and Michael L. Thornton and Laurie J. Thornton, Co-Trustees of the Thornton Family Trust made by Bernice Heidelberg, second by Tim Hill. Roll call vote: Donald Sahloff, no, Tim Hill, yes, Bernice Heidelberg, yes, Walter Ruhl, yes, Angela Christensen, yes. Motion passed 4-1.

Exhibit A, Resolution To Establish Water Rates, Fees and Charges: Walter Ruhl and Angela Christensen presented a revised Exhibit A of Resolution To Establish Water Rates, Fees and Charges where an additional chart was added for

clarification on Charge Per Gallon (Over 4,500 Gallons). Motion to approve revised Exhibit A as presented made by Angela Christensen, second by Bernice Heidelberg. Roll call vote: Donald Sahloff, yes, Tim Hill, yes, Bernice Heidelberg, yes, Angela Christensen, yes, Walter Ruhl, yes. Motion passed 5-0.

Resolution Authorizing Signatures on Road Easement Documents: Motion to approve Resolution Authorizing Signatures on Road Easement Documents for Clerk Angela Christensen and Supervisor Walter Ruhl made by Tim Hill, second by Donald Sahloff. Roll call vote: Donald Sahloff, yes, Tim Hill, yes, Bernice Heidelberg, yes, Angela Christensen, yes, Walter Ruhl, yes. Motion passed 5-0.

Election Security Grant: Angela Christensen presented information on a State of Michigan Election Security Grant available to pay for purchase of election-security related costs up to \$1,500 per precinct. This would make Whiteford Township eligible for \$3,000 towards the grant. Motion to approve purchase of fire-resistant file cabinets in the amount of \$3,345 plus shipping made by Tim Hill, second by Angela Christensen. Roll call vote: Donald Sahloff, yes, Tim Hill, yes, Bernice Heidelberg, yes, Angela Christensen, yes, Walter Ruhl, yes. Motion passed 5-0.

Fire Report: Whiteford Station #29 had 28 calls for the month of March, 2022. Ottawa Lake Station #42 had 6 calls for the month of March, 2022. Fire Chief Shane Hillard reported Ottawa Lake Station obtained a grant for turnout gear at a 50/50 match, where the township portion will be between \$5,000 - \$7,000.

Road Report: Walter Ruhl reported the road bond has been completed and the Jeffs Road project has been submitted to Monroe County Road Commission. Motion to approve bid of \$6,750 by Beck Farm Drainage to install road tile on West Temperance Road near St. Michaels Church made by Don Sahloff, second by Tim Hill.

Whiteford Union Cemetery Roads Asphalt Paving: Walter Ruhl presented board members with bid packets from four asphalt paving companies for repaving the roads in Whiteford Union Cemetery. After discussion, motion to award the bid to Geddis Paving & Excavating, Inc., 1019 Wamba Avenue, Toledo, Ohio 43607 in the amount of \$209,846 made by Donald Sahloff, second by Bernice Heidelberg. Roll call vote: Donald Sahloff, yes, Tim Hill, yes, Bernice Heidelberg, yes, Angela Christensen, yes, Walter Ruhl, yes. Motion passed 5-0.

Park Report: Ernie Sasse and Walter Ruhl reported on donation by 4-Point for out field fences and dugouts for Field #2, and other work being done at the park. Walter Ruhl presented several bids for cleaning and painting the park split rail fence.

Water Report: Walter Ruhl informed the board EGLE is only working at their office two days a month.

Public Comment: Benjamin Tucker with Lighthouse Fellowship Prayer Tower, 6896 Highwarden Street, Ottawa Lake, Michigan 49267 informed the board that when it rains, the church gets flooded. He is asking for assistance. Dwayne Sheppard inquired when public water would be available in the area of State Line Road.

Adjourn: Meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m. after completion of the agenda.

Angela Christensen
Whiteford Township Clerk