

WHITEFORD TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES

May 19, 2020

Due to the COVID-19 emergency and because this meeting includes a public hearing on the 2020 – 2021 budget, this meeting is a combination in-person and virtual meeting via Facebook Live and using conference calling for public comment.

Call to Order: Supervisor Walter Ruhl called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:37 p.m. in the Whiteford Township Offices. Present were Donald Sahloff, Tim Hill, Bernice Heidelberg, Angela Christensen, Walter Ruhl, and 1 guest.

Approve Agenda: Motion to approve the agenda of May 19, 2020 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.

Pastor Terry Rebert: Walter Ruhl asked for a moment of silence for Pastor Terry Rebert of Zion Lutheran Church who lost his battle with brain cancer on Friday, May 15, 2020.

Approve Minutes: Motion to approve the minutes of April 21, 2020 made by Bernice Heidelberg, 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.

Treasurer's Financial Report: Motion to approve the May 19, 2020 Treasurer's Financial Report as presented 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.

Check Registers: Motion to approve the May 19, 2020 General Government check register with disbursements totaling \$61,951.23 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. Motion to approve the May 19, 2020 Utilities Operations check register with disbursements totaling \$23,247.56 made by Bernice Heidelberg, 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.

Budget Amendments: Motion to approve amending the budget by increasing from fund balance the following: Cemetery, Contractual Service 101-276-831.000, \$16,600; Roads, Monroe County Road Commission 201-446-810.000, \$24,600; Roads, Goetz Road Bond 201-446-993.001, \$4,280; Roads, Rubbish Pickup 201-446-936.000, \$200; Roads, Interest Expense 201-446-995.000, \$145; Sewer II, Operation & Maintenance 590-550-925.000, \$4,700; Sewer II, Electric 590-550-920.000, \$1,490 made by Bernice Heidelberg, 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.

Budget Amendments: Motion to approve amending the budget by increasing the following: Fire, State Grant Public Safety 206-000-543.000, \$130,800; Fire, Capital Expenditure - Equipment 206-340-992.001, \$130,800 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.

Resolution To Establish Water Rates, Fees and Charges: Walter Ruhl presented the Resolution To Establish Water Rates, Fees and Charges and informed the board of suggested changes. After lengthy discussion, motion to approve the Resolution To Establish Water Rates, Fees and Charges as presented made by Bernice Heidelberg, second by Angela Christensen. Roll call vote: Donald Sahloff, no, Tim Hill, no, Bernice Heidelberg, yes, Angela Christensen, yes, Walter Ruhl, yes. Motion passed 3-2.

Park Mowing Contract: Walter Ruhl presented a bid from Precision Irrigation and Landscaping, and a bid from Cowdrey's Home Services, Inc. for mowing and maintenance at Whiteford Stoneco Park. Comparable bids for mowing of park and ball diamonds, weed spraying, and trimming came to Precision Irrigation and Landscaping at \$19,910 per year and Cowdrey's Home Services at \$17,100 per year, with three-year contracts from July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2023. After lengthy discussion, motion to approve mowing contract with Precision Irrigation and Landscaping made by Bernice Heidelberg, second by Tim Hill. Roll call vote: Donald Sahloff, yes, Tim Hill, yes, Bernice Heidelberg, yes, Angela Christensen, no, Walter Ruhl, no. Motion passed 3-2.

Cemetery Mowing Contract: Walter Ruhl presented mowing bid from Cowdrey's Home Services, Inc. for mowing and maintenance of VanAuken, Lakeview, and Whiteford Union cemeteries at \$16,800 per year for a three-year contract from July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2023. Motion to approve mowing contract with Cowdrey's Home Services, Inc. made by Bernice Heidelberg, 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.

Museum and Whiteford Center Fire Department Mowing Contract: Walter Ruhl presented a bid from Precision Irrigation and Landscaping, and a bid from Cowdrey's Home Services, Inc. for mowing and trimming at the Old School House Museum and the Whiteford Center Fire Department. Both bids were for \$3,000 per year for a three-year contract from July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2023. Motion to approve mowing contract with Precision Irrigation and Landscaping 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.

2020 Whiteford Township Millage Rate Request: Motion to renew the Whiteford Township millage rates at Operating 0.9213, Roads 0.9733 and Fire 0.9733 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.

Open Public Hearing on General Government Budget: Walter Ruhl opened the Public Hearing on the General Government Budget at 8:05 p.m. 2020 – 2021 budget was reviewed and discussion was held.

Close Public Hearing on General Government Budget: Walter Ruhl closed Public Hearing on General Government Budget at 8:10 p.m.

2020 – 2021 General Fund Budget: Motion to approve the line item budget for 2019 – 2020 as presented without changes 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.

2020 - 2021 General Appropriations Act: Motion to approve Whiteford Township's General Appropriations Act for 2020 - 2021 budget year 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.

MetaLINK: Walter Ruhl informed the board on the possibility of having a MetaLINK antenna on the tower at Roloff Road and Sylvania-Petersburg Road. The consensus of the board is to pursue this possibility and to investigate all options to provide internet service to the township.

COVID-19 Preparedness and Response Plan: Walter Ruhl presented a policy MTA recommends for COVID-19 response and reopening. Motion to approve COVID-19 Preparedness and Response Plan as presented with Walter Ruhl designated as Workplace Coordinator, and Angela Christensen designated as back-up workplace coordinator made by Bernice Heidelberg, 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.

Facebook Live: Walter Ruhl suggested the board consider continuing Facebook Live and possibly conference calling options after restrictions are lifted from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Planning Commission: Motion to begin having Planning Commission meetings after May 29, 2020 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.

Fire Report: Walter Ruhl informed the board this is National EMS week. We would like to thank all the EMS people that serve Whiteford Township along with all EMS statewide and nationwide.

Park Report: Motion to close the ball fields at the park until further notice 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. Walter Ruhl informed the board on donation of top soil at the park, and both the large and small pavilions will be delivered this week.

Cemetery: Motion to purchase two loads of top soil for cemetery grave fill at a cost of \$120 made by Donald Sahloff, 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.

Water Report: Walter Ruhl reported the township insurance will pay for the water pump failure minus \$1,000 deductible. Water II is moving along slowly.

Public Comment: Jay Herrington thanked the board for mowing contracts.

Adjourn: Meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m. after completion of the agenda.

Angela Christensen

Whiteford Township Clerk