

## WHITEFORD TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES

December 20, 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, Tim Hill, Bernice Heidelberg, Angela Christensen, Walter Ruhl, and Township Attorney, Alex Drescher. There were also 13 guests in attendance.

**Approve Agenda:** Motion to approve the agenda of December 20, 2022 made by Tim Hill, second by Donald Sahloff. Motion passed 5-0.

**Approve Minutes:** Motion to approve the meeting minutes of November 15, 2022 made by Bernice Heidelberg, second by Angela Christensen. Motion passed 5-0.

**Check Registers:** Motion to approve the December 20, 2022 General Government check register with disbursements totaling \$110,732.72 made by Bernice Heidelberg, second by Donald Sahloff. Motion passed 5-0. Motion to approve the December 20, 2022 Utilities Operations check register with disbursements totaling \$59,399.19 made by Donald Sahloff, second by Tim Hill. Motion passed 5-0.

**Treasurer's Financial Report:** Motion to approve the December 20, 2022 Treasurer's Financial Report as presented made by Donald Sahloff, second by Bernice Heidelberg. Motion passed 5-0.

**Budget Amendments:** Motion to amend the budget by adding from the respective fund balances to: 101-751-771.000 Park – Inventory/Cost of Goods, \$250.00, 101-751-922.000 Park - Refuse, \$1,500.00, 101-751-956.000 Park - Manager, \$2,500.00, 101-751-976.000 Park – Land Improvement, \$5,000.00, 101-751-976.001 Park – Land Improvement, Labor, \$10,000.00, 206-800-960.000 Fire – Bank Service Charge, \$650.00, 591-541-931.000 Water – Operation & Maintenance, \$20,000, 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.

**Private Roads:** Motion to approve paying 4-Point Tree Service, LLC for downed tree removal from Leora Lane in the amount of \$500 out of Private Roads Fund 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.

**Fire Truck Repair:** Motion to approve paying Lucas Auto Repair for Whiteford Fire truck repair in the amount of \$1,801.11 made by Donald Sahloff, 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.

**Dave Spiess, Health Insurance:** Dave Spiess addressed the board on updated options for health insurance coverage for water plant employees. Motion to approve Care Source Gold for Ohio and Marketplace Silver for Michigan health insurance plans for water plant employees, with employee responsibility to be determined made by Walter Ruhl, 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 Dorothy M. Ruetz Living Trust:** Discussion was held on request by Dorothy M. Ruetz Living Trust, Memorial Hwy, Ottawa Lake, MI 49267. Appellant is seeking a zoning change from AG – Agricultural to R1 Rural Residential for two 3.3 acre parcels. Motion to table due to lack of information and be resubmitted back to the Planning Commission for their recommendation 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.

**Bouri Drain:** Motion to approve the Monroe County Drain Commission resolution to authorize expending money for the maintenance and repair of Bouri Drain, of which 10% of \$39,100 will be the estimated cost to Whiteford Township 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.

**2023 Poverty Exemptions Resolution:** Motion to adopt the 2023 Poverty Exemption Resolution within the purview of Whiteford Township as it applies to real property 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.

**PA-116 Application for Todd J. and Melissa A. Taylor:** Motion to approve Application of PA-116 for Todd J. and Melissa A. Taylor, 8847 Memorial Hwy., Ottawa Lake, MI 49267, for Parcel No. 5815-019-002-01, 28.76 acres for 10 years, as presented made by Tim Hill, 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.

**Cody McCartney, World Champion Calf Roper:** Walter Ruhl informed the board research indicated township monies may not be used on professional/individual recognition signage. Motion to decline request for road signs for Cody McCartney 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.

**Planning Commission:** Motion to appoint Lawson Stone and Brad Nowakowski to Planning Commission for three-year terms made by Donald Sahloff, 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.

**Zoning Board of Appeals:** Motion to table appointments to Zoning Board of Appeals until the January meeting 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.

**Resolution To Establish Sewer I Rates, Fees and Charges:** Walter Ruhl informed the board on increases in Sewer I rates from the City of Sylvania, and recommended an increase from \$7/1,000 gallons to \$9/1,000 gallons. Motion to approve Resolution To Establish Sewer Rates, Fees and Charges 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.

**Sewer I Resolution And Deficit Elimination Plan:** Due to a deficit in unrestricted net position in Sewer I, the township is required to do a Deficit Elimination Plan to receive grant funding and loans from the USDA. Motion to approve Whiteford Township Resolution And Deficit Elimination Plan as presented 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 Report:** Walter Ruhl and Tim Hill informed the board Clinton Kulwicki, water operator, recently acquired his F4 license. Motion to approve a pay increase for Clinton Kulwicki, to \$22/hour for hours worked beginning January 1, 2023, with \$3.50/hour retroactive back pay for hours worked from July 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022 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.

**Park Report:** Because of heightened activity at the park, Walter Ruhl requested checking into costs of a golf cart, at no more than \$5,000.

**Fire Report:** Ottawa Lake Station #42 had 18 calls for the month of November, 2022.

**Road Report:** Bob Schnipke informed the board Road Contracts for 2022-2023 are expected soon.

**Additional Items To Come Before The Board:** Walter Ruhl informed the board State Championship Football signs will be put up along the roads soon. The cost is being covered by donations.

**Public Comment:** None

**Adjourn:** Meeting adjourned at 8:27 p.m. after completion of the agenda.

Angela Christensen  
Whiteford Township Clerk