

WHITEFORD TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES

October 17, 2023

Call to Order: Supervisor Walter Ruhl called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:30 pm in the Whiteford Township Office, 8000 Yankee Road, Suite 100, Ottawa Lake, MI 49267. Board members present were Donald Sahloff, Timothy Hill, Bernice Heidelberg, Christine Bischoff and Walter Ruhl. Attorney Alex Drescher and 3 guests were present. The meeting was available for viewing via Zoom.

Approve Agenda: Motion by Tim Hill, second by Christine Bischoff to approve the agenda as presented. Motion passed with a voice vote.

Approve Minutes: Motion by Don Sahloff, second by Tim Hill to approve the minutes of the September 19, 2023 meeting as presented. Motion passed with a voice vote. Motion by Bernice Heidelberg, second by Tim Hill to approve the minutes of the September 28, 2023 joint Planning Commission/Board of Trustees Workshop meeting as presented. Motion passed with a voice vote.

Check Registers: Motion by Christine Bischoff, second by Bernice Heidelberg to approve the General Check Register as presented with disbursements totaling \$231,975.03. Motion passed with a voice vote. Motion by Christine Bischoff second by Bernice Heidelberg to approve the Utility Check Register as presented with disbursements totaling \$23,300.14. Motion passed with a voice vote.

Treasurer Report: Motion by Don Sahloff, second by Bernice Heidelberg to approve the Treasurer Report as presented. Motion passed with a voice vote.

Budget Adjustments: Motion by Tim Hill, second by Don Sahloff to approve the following budget adjustments:

Education – Training	#101-215-963.000	\$1,250	Insurance – Township	#101-271-965.001	\$10,000
Office Equipment	#101-272-980.000	\$2,300			

This will increase the expense to these accounts to be taken from the Fund Balance. Motion passed with a roll call vote: Sahloff – yes; Hill – yes; Heidelberg – yes; Bischoff – yes; Ruhl – yes.

Solar Ordinance No. 72 A-1: Because of the transition in the clerk’s office, the ordinance was not published within the required 30 days. Motion by Tim Hill, second by Don Sahloff to approve Solar Ordinance No. 72 A-1 as presented. Motion passed with a roll call vote: Sahloff – yes; Hill – yes; Heidelberg – yes; Bischoff – yes; Ruhl – yes.

Ordinance No. 68 A-5 Section 4.16 Schedule of Regulations: The amendment is internal housekeeping and will allow continuity with township setbacks and assessing standards. Motion by Bernice Heidelberg, second by Christine Bischoff to approve Ordinance No. 68 A-5 Section 4.16 Schedule of Regulations as presented. Motion passed with a roll call vote: Sahloff – yes; Hill – yes; Heidelberg – yes; Bischoff – yes; Ruhl – yes.

Resolution: Motion by Don Sahloff, second by Tim Hill to approve resolution “Expressing Support to Maintain Local Control Over Local Land Uses Including But Not Limited to Short-Term Rentals, Industrial Solar Installation, Industrial Wind Turbine Installations and Sand/Gravel Mining”. Motion passed with a roll call vote: Sahloff – yes; Hill – yes; Heidelberg – yes; Bischoff – yes; Ruhl – yes.

Personal Property Statements Postage: Motion by Bernice Heidelberg, second by Christine Bischoff to approve a proposal from Chris Renius, Assessor to pay \$157.50 to mail Personal Property Statements. Motion passed with a roll call vote: Sahloff – yes; Hill – yes; Heidelberg – yes; Bischoff – yes; Ruhl – yes.

PAC Engineering: Motion by Bernice Heidelberg, second by Tim Hill to pay PAC Engineering \$476.50 for repairs and maintenance to the water plant scada system. Motion passed with a roll call vote: Sahloff – yes; Hill – yes; Heidelberg – yes; Bischoff – yes; Ruhl – yes.

Ottawa Lake Fire Station Bathroom Repairs: Motion by Don Sahloff, second by Bernice Heidelberg to approve the estimate from Hill Plumbing for \$3,957.36 to install new bathroom fixtures at the Ottawa Lake Fire Station. Motion passed with a roll call vote; Sahloff – yes; Hill – yes; Heidelberg – yes; Bischoff – yes; Ruhl – yes.

Road Report: Motion by Tim Hill, second by Don Sahloff to approve a three-year contract with Monroe County Road Commission for road mowing and agreeing to prices quoted by Precision Irrigation as follows: 2022 - 2023 \$29,154.000; 2023 – 2024 \$30,320.16; 2024 – 2025 \$30,320.16. Motion passed with a roll call vote: Sahloff – yes; Hill – yes; Heidelberg – yes; Bischoff – yes; Ruhl – yes.

Road Bond Interest: Motion by Tim Hill, second by Don Sahloff to approve payment to Huron Community Bank in the amount of \$12,782 for road bond interest. Motion passed with a roll call vote: Sahloff – yes; Hill – yes; Heidelberg – yes; Bischoff – yes; Ruhl – yes.

Tree Removal: Motion by Christine Bischoff, second by Bernice Heidelberg to approve payment to 4-Point Tree Service in the amount of \$800 for tree removal on Pelton and Smith Roads. Motion passed with a roll call vote: Sahloff – yes; Hill – yes; Heidelberg – yes; Bischoff – yes; Ruhl – yes.

Park Report: There is an estimate of \$8,912.42 for outfield fencing. Supervisor Walter Ruhl is hoping to find a donor for this expense. Discussion followed regarding paving the path up to the concession stand to make more accessible.

Park Stone Hauling: Motion by Tim Hill, second by Don Sahloff to pay \$2,609.78 to Brink Farms for hauling 1,489.3 ton of stone to the park. Motion passed with a roll call vote: Sahloff – yes; Hill – yes; Heidelberg – yes; Bischoff – yes; Ruhl – yes.

Stone Leveling at Park: The initial price was quoted at \$4,000 to spread and level 1000 ton of stone for the new parking lot at the park. The job required another 500 ton stone along with hauling away large chunks of blacktop that could not be used. The total cost was \$10,000. Discussion followed regarding the quality of the job done and how this contractor was found. Motion by Bernice Heidelberg, second by Christine Bischoff to pay \$10,000 to Scott Heer under the condition the Township does not use his services again. Motion passed with a roll call vote: Sahloff – no; Hill – yes; Heidelberg – yes; Bischoff – yes; Ruhl – yes.

Treasurer Computer: Supervisor Walter Ruhl indicated the Treasurer office computer is several years old and in need of repair and/or replacement. Perry Pro Tech will be submitting a quote for replacing the computer.

Whiteford Fall Festival: Bernice Heidelberg offered thanks to everyone that made the Whiteford Fall Festival a success. The committee is a diverse group of people that have come together for the common good of providing an all-inclusive playground. Walter Ruhl suggested the committee purchase equipment in stages to show progress to the public.

Adjourn: Meeting adjourned at 8:26 with the conclusion of the agenda.

Christine Bischoff
Whiteford Township Clerk

