

WHITEFORD TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

AGENDA: November 19, 2024

7:30 PM AT 8000 Yankee Rd. Suite100

- 1. Call to Order/Pledge**
- 2. Remain Standing for an invocation by Pastor Daniel Kane from Whiteford Wesleyan Church.**
- 3. Motion to Approve the Agenda as presented.**
- 4. Motion to approve the minutes for the October 15, 2024 meeting.**
- 5. Motion to accept the general fund check register as presented.**
- 6. Motion to accept the utilities check register as presented.**
- 7. Treasurer's Report:**
- 8. Motion to pay an additional \$50,000.00 against the Water I Bond 91-09 (\$ 3,013,000 at 3.375%) and an additional \$15,000 against the Sewer II Bond (\$ 594,000 at 2.00%).**
- 9. Reading of the suggested changes to Ordinance 71-A2 Cemetery Ordinance. I would entertain a motion to approve the changes to Ordinance 71A.**
- 10. Motion to approve paying the invoice for TMACOG membership of \$1,238.00.**
- 11. Road Report: The flashing stop signs for Whiteford and Consear Roads contract was lost. We have signed another copy and they have it in hand now.**
- 12. Motion to accept the resignation of Brad Beck from the fire department.**
- 13. Report on findings from our investigation of a complaint of Malfeasance, Misfeasance, Nonfeasance and Theft by the Zoning Board of Appeals. The allegations in the complaint were investigated and we found that there was no evidence to support the complaint. If the ruling of the ZBA is contested, an applicant has 30 days after the ZBA issues its decision or 21 days after the ZBA approves the minutes, whichever comes first, to file an action in court (MCL 125.3606). Whiteford Township supports the members of the ZBA and we will be happy to defend our position in court. Pending possible court action, the township has no further comment on the complaint. Motion from the board to approve this report.**
- 14. Audit report:**
- 15. Motion to approve the audit**
- 16. Motion to pay \$21,800 for the audit.**
- 17. Final site Plan review for the IMAM ALI MOSQUE, 6965 Whiteford Center Road. Is there any discussion on this site plan? If not I would entertain a motion to approve this site plan.**
- 18. At this point I would like to introduce State Representative Will Bruck for his comments.**
- 19. Public Comment**

State of the Township

When I was elected the township had no offices, election equipment was stored in homes and accounting was on paper ledgers. The audit prep was to gather all our receipts and give them to the accountant/auditor. The Park was planted in "Pheasant Forever" grass along Sterns Road. EGLE was threatening a \$10,000 a day fine for violation of the State Clean Water Act. Brown Street was just repaved and there was a large amount due because of the installation of water and sewer lines, before we had any solid plans for either. Clark Road looked like it was carpet bombed and Goetz Road was worse.

My first problem was to write a letter to the State Treasury because we were improperly borrowing money for fire trucks.

Today the township has offices and normal hours; people know that they can count on finding someone at the office when they need help. The office is ADA accessible and has passed ADAs audited for that purpose. We have BSA software for accounting, that works with the tax software that the state says we must use. We have had clean audits for many years and we have adequate fund balances to support the township.

The Park has grown from six ball fields 14 years ago to what it is today, 8 ball fields, 2.5 miles of walking trails, 18-hole disk golf course, 2 large pavilions and 5 smaller ones, the latest is two pickleball courts, numerous park benches. Everything is mowed nicely and now the Fall Festival Committee has donated a beautiful playground. This is only Phase 1 for the playground and three phases are planned. This is the first year that we have shown any real income from baseball tournaments.

We are leaving you with good roads, a great looking cemetery, a fine park system and a strong fund balance.

There are still many challenges to be faced by this new board of trustees. I would encourage the entire board to take advantage of all the classes that are offered for your position. We are highly regulated and you must know what is expected.

My reflections: I have served from 2010 to 2024. I have learned that you can't know enough. To the new board please take MTA classes and continue learning. We have come from a sleepy little township to a vibrant and growing township that needs leaders with a vision of the future. We have paved all our roads in the past 40 years. We have developed a park system that is noteworthy. Our cemeteries are nice looking and well managed. We have great software for accounting and a comfortable fund balance. We built a water treatment facility and installed some sewer lines. Whiteford Township was the first township to adopt a Truck Route Map in the county.

I would like to thank the retiring board members. We have had a great team for a long time. All of the people that are retiring have had a long history of service.

Thank you for your service.

Respectfully Submitted
Walter Ruhl
Supervisor

We will now have the swearing in of Whiteford Township Board of Trustees and Deputies for the term lasting until November 2028.

Adjourn

Important Meeting Dates:

December 10, 2024 Quarterly Planning Commission meeting @ 7:30 pm

December 17, 2024 Board Meeting @ 7:30pm