

## WHITEFORD TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES

April 16, 2019

**Call to Order:** Supervisor Walter Ruhl called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:30 p.m. in the Whiteford Township Offices. Present were Donald Sahloff, Tim Hill, Angela Christensen, Bernice Heidelberg, Walter Ruhl, Alex Drescher, Township Attorney, and approximately 12 guests.

**Approve Agenda:** Motion to approve the agenda of April 16, 2019 made by Bernice Heidelberg, second by Angela Christensen. Motion passed 5-0.

**Approve Minutes:** Motion to approve the minutes of March 19, 2019 made by Bernice Heidelberg, second by Angela Christensen. Motion passed 5-0.

**Budget Amendments:** Motion to approve amending the Park budget to account 101-000-674.000, adding \$10,000 made by Tim Hill, second by Donald Sahloff. Motion passed 5-0. This reflects a \$10,000 donation by Jim and Jan Dunmyer to prepare ball diamonds at the park. Motion to approve amending the budget by adding \$5,000 to Publishing 101-275-900.000 from fund balance made by Tim Hill, second by Bernice Heidelberg. Motion passed 5-0.

**Check Registers:** Motion to approve the April 16, 2019 General Government check register with disbursements totaling \$131,142.82 made by Bernice Heidelberg, second by Angela Christensen. Motion passed 5-0. Motion to approve the April 16, 2019 Sewer I & II Operations check register with disbursements totaling \$4,754.31 made by Tim Hill, second by Donald Sahloff. Motion passed 5-0.

**Treasurer's Financial Report:** Motion to approve the April 16, 2019 Treasurer's Financial Report as presented made by Donald Sahloff, second by Bernice Heidelberg. Motion passed 5-0.

**Township Officials Wages:** Walter Ruhl presented his suggestions for wage increases for the Township board and deputies. Further discussion will take place at the next meeting.

**2019 – 2020 Budget:** Walter Ruhl presented the board with his recommendation on the 2019 – 2020 General Fund Line Item Budget, and asked for comments or corrections by the next meeting. A Public Hearing on the General Fund Budget will be held at the regular Township board meeting on May 21, 2019.

**Special Assessment Resolution No. 1 (Private Road Special Assessment District):** Motion to approve the Special Assessment Resolution No. 1 (Private Road Special Assessment District) 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.

**Water IB Assessment:** Walter Ruhl and Township Attorney, Alex Drescher, informed the board of a wrongly assessed parcel in the Water IB District. This parcel was in PA-116 and had gone unreported, so now this assessment must be paid by the Township. The total assessment is \$19,657.90, and the Township has already paid \$826.76 leaving a balance of \$18,831.14. Motion to pay off, by Resolution, the assessment for parcel #5815-015-007-10 in the amount of \$18,831.14 to the bond repayment account 591-000-006.000 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.

**Budget Amendment:** Motion to amend the budget by adding \$18,500 to 101-265-995.007, Building and Grounds, to cover the payment of \$18,831.14 paid for the Water I assessment made by Tim Hill, second by Donald Sahloff. Motion passed 5-0.

**Water I Report:** Water Ruhl reported licensed operator information for the Water Plant and suggested considering part-time positions to start. The Water Plant Open House will be April 22, 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. and April 23, 2:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. Everyone in the Township is invited to attend. A dedication for the Water Plant is on June 7 at 3:00 p.m.

**Proposed Water District:** Walter Ruhl presented the proposed new water district that will cross Consear Road from Whiteford School to Whiteford Center Road, north to Whiteford Fire Department and south to the Bedford Meadows Apartments, east to Whiteford Road and south to Whiteford Center Road. Once approved by MDEQ and USDA, we will have the first Resolution and Public Hearing on the project.

**Rezoning Request for Henrietta German Trust:** Discussion was held on request by the Henrietta German Trust, 8700 Clinton Road, Jackson, MI 49201 regarding parcel #5815-015-003-00 located at 9729 Whiteford Center Road, Ottawa Lake, Michigan containing 37 acres. Applicant is requesting zoning change on two 3.2 acre parcel acres from AG, Agricultural District, to R-1, Single Family Rural Residential District. The purpose of the proposed rezoning is to sell the parcels so houses can be built. Motion to approve zoning request 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.

**Pomerory & Montri Drain:** Walter Ruhl and Bob Schnipke informed the board on the need for the Pomerory & Montri Drain to be cleaned. Motion to seek a resolution to have the Monroe County Drain Commission clean the Pomerory & Montri Drain from Erie Road all around the south side of Sand Wedge Golf Course 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.

**Road Report:** Bob Schnipke addressed the board with 2019 road mowing costs. Motion to approve the mowing contract with Monroe County Road Commission for the summer of 2019 in the amount of \$25,800 to include three mowings as requested, made by Tim Hill, second by Bernice Heidelberg. Motion passed 5-0. Bob Schnipke informed the board on the need for two trees on Head-o-Lake Road to be removed. Motion to approve the contract with Monroe County Road Commission for removal of two trees near 8737 Head-o-Lake Road at a total cost of \$2,400 made by Donald Sahloff, second by Tim Hill. Motion passed 5-0. Walter Ruhl discussed the details of the Whiteford Center Road resurfacing contract with Monroe County Road Commission. Motion to approve the contract with Monroe County Road Commission for resurfacing Whiteford Center Road from St. Anthony Road to Temperance Road in the amount of \$276,009, with work not to start until after July 1, 2019, made by Bernice Heidelberg, second by Donald Sahloff. Motion passed 5-0.

**Township Generators:** Walter Ruhl brought back to the table discussion on several bids for maintenance of Township generators. After discussion, motion to approve estimate by Cowdry Home Services, Inc. in the amount of \$3,200 per year to cover monthly inspections and annual maintenance with oil changes, made by Donald Sahloff, second by Tim Hill. Motion passed 5-0.

**Fire Report:** Ottawa Lake Fire Department reported 14 calls for the month of March 2019. Whiteford Center Fire Department reported 26 calls for the month of March 2019.

**Fire Millage and Road Millage:** Walter Ruhl reminded the board both the Fire Millage and Road Millage are up for renewal. Motion to put both the Fire Millage and Road Millage renewals on the August 6, 2019 ballot made by Tim Hill, second by Donald Sahloff. Motion passed 5-0.

**Park Report:** Walter Ruhl and Ernie Sasse reported the ball diamonds at the park are ready for play. They estimate two more diamonds will be added this year and by Fall slide safe will be added to all eight diamonds. An open house for the park and a dedication for the Disc Golf Course will be Saturday, June 15, 2019 at 11:00 a.m. Everyone is invited to attend!

**Additional Items To Come Before The Board:** Resident complaint on road mowing and requested to have mowing avoid plugging driveway tiles and clumping of grass. Resident thanked the board for voting to clean Pomerory & Montri Drain as his property is affected by this drain.

**Adjourn:** Meeting adjourned at 8:41 p.m. after completion of the agenda.

Angela Christensen  
Whiteford Township Clerk