

WHITEFORD TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES

VIRTUAL MEETING

January 21, 2021

Due to a COVID-19 exposure, Whiteford Township Board of Trustees held a virtual meeting and moved the meeting from January 19, 2021 to January 21, 2021.

Call to Order: Supervisor Walter Ruhl called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:32 p.m. Present via Zoom were Donald Sahloff, Tim Hill, Bernice Heidelberg, Angela Christensen, Walter Ruhl, and Dave Saalfeld to record on Zoom. There were 9 guests via Zoom.

Approve Agenda: Motion to approve the agenda of January 19, 2021 made by Tim Hill, second by Donald Sahloff. Roll call vote: Donald Sahloff, yes, Tim Hill, yes, Walter Ruhl, yes, Angela Christensen, yes, Bernice Heidelberg, yes. Motion passed 5-0.

Approve Minutes: Motion to approve the minutes of December 15, 2020 made by Bernice Heidelberg, second by Donald Sahloff. Roll call vote: Donald Sahloff, yes, Tim Hill, yes, Walter Ruhl, yes, Angela Christensen, yes, Bernice Heidelberg, yes. Motion passed 5-0.

Budget Amendments: Due to an increase in Park donations, the following budget adjustments need to be made. Motion to amend the budget by increasing the following accounts: Park – Land Improvements 101-751-732.000, \$62,000 and Park - Donations 101-000-674.000, \$62,000 made by Angela Christensen, second by Bernice Heidelberg. Roll call vote: Donald Sahloff, yes, Tim Hill, yes, Walter Ruhl, yes, Angela Christensen, yes, Bernice Heidelberg, yes. Motion passed 5-0.

Treasurer's Financial Report: Motion to approve the January 19, 2021 Treasurer's Financial Report as presented made by Donald Sahloff, second by Bernice Heidelberg. Roll call vote: Donald Sahloff, yes, Tim Hill, yes, Walter Ruhl, yes, Angela Christensen, yes, Bernice Heidelberg, yes. Motion passed 5-0.

Park Expenses: Due to a generous donation by Alan Ahleman, site prep for a second pavilion will begin soon. Motion to approve payment of \$21,629 towards half payment of the Coverworx pavilion made by Bernice Heidelberg, second by Tim Hill. Roll call vote: Donald Sahloff, yes, Tim Hill, yes, Walter Ruhl, yes, Angela Christensen, yes, Bernice Heidelberg, yes. Motion passed 5-0. Darby Concrete is not donating concrete for the park pavilions. Motion to approve payment of \$9,255 to Darby Concrete for payment of park concrete made by Donald Sahloff, second by Angela Christensen. Roll call vote: Donald Sahloff, yes, Tim Hill, yes, Walter Ruhl, yes, Angela Christensen, yes, Bernice Heidelberg, yes. Motion passed 5-0.

Check Registers: Motion to approve the January 19, 2021 General Government check register with disbursements totaling \$112,130.62 made by Tim Hill, second by Donald Sahloff. Roll call vote: Donald Sahloff, yes, Tim Hill, yes, Walter Ruhl, yes, Angela Christensen, yes, Bernice Heidelberg, yes. Motion passed 5-0. Motion to approve the January 19, 2021 Utilities Operations check register with disbursements totaling \$92,056.99 made by Donald Sahloff, second by Bernice Heidelberg. Roll call vote: Donald Sahloff, yes, Tim Hill, yes, Walter Ruhl, yes, Angela Christensen, yes, Bernice Heidelberg, yes. Motion passed 5-0.

2021 Poverty Exemptions Resolution: Assessor Chris Renius explained the changes to the Poverty Exemptions Resolution. Motion to adopt the 2021 Poverty Exemption Resolution within the purview of Whiteford Township as it applies to real property 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.

Board of Review: Walter Ruhl informed the board the State of Michigan has mandated Board of Review members take Continuing Education classes this year. Motion to approve payment of \$190 for all Board of Review members to take the two required online classes made by Angela Christensen, second by Donald Sahloff. Roll call vote: Donald Sahloff, yes, Tim Hill, yes, Walter Ruhl, yes, Angela Christensen, yes, Bernice Heidelberg, yes. Motion passed 5-0.

Resolution To Establish Whiteford Township Ordinance Officer Salary: Motion to approve the Resolution To Establish Whiteford Township Ordinance Officer Salary as presented made by Tim Hill, second by Bernice Heidelberg. Roll call vote: Donald Sahloff, yes, Tim Hill, yes, Walter Ruhl, yes, Angela Christensen, yes, Bernice Heidelberg, yes. Motion passed 5-0.

Resolution To Establish Whiteford Township Administrative Fire Chief Salary: Motion to approve Resolution To Establish Whiteford Township Administrative Fire Chief Salary as presented made by Donald Sahloff, second by Tim Hill. Roll call vote: Donald Sahloff, yes, Tim Hill, yes, Walter Ruhl, yes, Angela Christensen, yes, Bernice Heidelberg, yes. Motion passed 5-0.

Park Report: Walter Ruhl reported Ernie Sasse is making picnic tables from leftover lumber from pavilion and donation monies from Bob Schnipke. There will be a total of 12 tables. Concrete work and ball field prep is being done. Because there is a need to work up the Slide-Safe on ball diamonds, motion to purchase a rototiller from Yoder and Frey, Inc. for the John Deere tractor, not to exceed \$1,400 made by Tim Hill, second by Donald Sahloff. Roll call vote: Donald Sahloff, yes, Tim Hill, yes, Walter Ruhl, yes, Angela Christensen, yes, Bernice Heidelberg, yes. Motion passed 5-0.

Water Report: Walter Ruhl informed the board the PER for Water II was submitted to USDA on December 22, 2020, so we are now waiting for a Letter of Commitment and a Letter of Conditions from Washington USDA. The bulk water station is being repaired due to a frozen valve. The new chandler is being installed.

Fire Report: Walter Ruhl reported Whiteford Center Fire Department needs new fire hose and adaptor. Motion to approve purchase of fire hose and adaptor in the amount of \$9,527.44 made by Donald Sahloff, second by Tim Hill. Roll call vote: Donald Sahloff, yes, Tim Hill, yes, Walter Ruhl, yes, Angela Christensen, yes, Bernice Heidelberg, yes. Motion passed 5-0. Administrative Fire Chief Shane Hillard is in need of a laptop computer and the Clerk's office is using a laptop computer but is in need of a desktop computer. Motion to approve purchase of new desktop computer for Clerk's office and giving their laptop to Shane Hillard made by Tim Hill, second by Angela Christensen. Roll call vote: Donald Sahloff, yes, Tim Hill, yes, Walter Ruhl, yes, Angela Christensen, yes, Bernice Heidelberg, yes. Motion passed 5-0.

Closed Session: None

Property Purchase Counter Offer: Attorney Alex Drescher presented the board with information on the counter offer from property owners for possible purchase of land by the township. Motion to approve the counter offer as presented made by Bernice Heidelberg, second by Tim Hill. Roll call vote: Donald Sahloff, yes, Tim Hill, yes, Walter Ruhl, yes, Angela Christensen, yes, Bernice Heidelberg, yes. Motion passed 5-0.

Public Comment: None

Adjourn: Meeting adjourned at 8:01 p.m. after completion of the agenda.

Angela Christensen
Whiteford Township Clerk