

WHITEFORD TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES

January 21, 2020

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 15 guests.

Approve Agenda: Walter Ruhl asked to amend the agenda by adding SEMCOG Dues in the amount of \$392.50 and removing Resolution to Collect Costs for Land Split and Zoning Changes. Motion to approve the amended agenda of January 21, 2020 made by Tim Hill, second by Bernice Heidelberg. Motion passed 5-0.

Approve Minutes: Motion to approve the minutes of December 17, 2019 made by Bernice Heidelberg, second by Angela Christensen. Motion passed 5-0.

SEMCOG Dues: Motion to approve payment of annual SEMCOG dues in the amount of \$392.50 made by Bernice Heidelberg, second by Tim Hill. Motion passed 5-0.

Check Registers: Motion to approve the January 21, 2020 General Government check register with disbursements totaling \$80,867.53 made by Tim Hill, second by Angela Christensen. Motion passed 5-0. Motion to approve the January 21, 2020 Utilities Operations check register with disbursements totaling \$26,374.19 made by Bernice Heidelberg, second by Tim Hill. Motion passed 5-0.

Treasurer's Financial Report: Motion to approve the January 21, 2020 Treasurer's Financial Report as presented made by Donald Sahloff, second by Bernice Heidelberg. Motion passed 5-0.

Thank You To James and Jan Dunmyer: Walter Ruhl read a letter of recognition for James and Jan Dunmyer to thank them for their donation of almost \$58,000 towards a 30' x 44' shelter house for Stone Co. Park.

Budget Adjustment: Motion to increase revenue account Donations 101-000-674.000 and expense account Park Land Improvement 101-751-732.000 by \$57,257 to earmark donation to the park by James and Jan Dunmyer made by Tim Hill second by Donald Sahloff. Motion passed 5-0.

Rezoning Request by Brad Helm, Builder for Paul and Joyce Never: Discussion was held on request by Brad Helm, Builder for Paul and Joyce Never, 6640 Consear Road, Ottawa Lake, MI 49267 regarding parcel #5815-021-003-01. Parcel contains 35.62 acres and is zoned AG-Agricultural. Appellant wishes to split off seven (7) parcels containing 1.8 to 1.99 acres and is requesting zoning change from AG-Agricultural to R-2 Low Density Residential for the purpose of selling for residential use. Motion to approve rezoning request as presented contingent upon meeting split requirements 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.

Monroe County Resolution To Clean Halfway Creek Drain: After lengthy discussion, motion to approve State of Michigan, County of Monroe, Whiteford Township Resolution To Clean Halfway Creek Drain made by Tim Hill, second by Bernice Heidelberg. Roll call vote: Donald Sahloff, yes under protest, Tim Hill, yes, Bernice Heidelberg, yes, Angela Christensen, yes, Walter Ruhl, yes. Motion passed 5-0.

MTA Conference: Motion to approve sending township board members and deputies to the MTA Conference April 27 - 30, 2020 in Grand Traverse Resort, Traverse City, Michigan covering costs of training and hotel made by Bernice Heidelberg, second by Angela Christensen. Motion passed 5-0.

Road Report: Motion to approve the road contracts for the 2020 – 2021 fiscal year as presented in the amount of \$93,012.00 made by Tim Hill, second by Donald Sahloff. Motion passed 5-0. Walter Ruhl and Bob Schnipke presented information on repaving Adler and Jeffs Roads, along with bonding options. After discussion, the board recommended

obtaining cost estimates on turn lanes at the Sterns and Whiteford Center Road intersection and paving County Line Hwy. before a decision could be made on a bond.

Roads Mowing: Motion to approve continuing roads mowing contract with Precision Irrigation & Lawn Care, Inc. for three mowings per year for fiscal years 2020-2021, 2021-2022, and 2022-2023 at a cost of \$25,800 per year made by Tim Hill, second by Donald Sahloff. Motion passed 5-0.

Park Report: Walter Ruhl presented the board with suggested user rates for the park and asked for feedback and suggestions. The board discussed soccer goals, asking Walter to get price quotes.

Museum: Walter Ruhl reported he met with Henry Lievens about the potential use of the museum as a branch of the county library. Motion to investigate the possibility of fundraising and to commit \$40,000 to change the museum into a branch of the county library if the project comes to fruition made by Bernice Heidelberg, second by Tim Hill. Motion passed 5-0.

Water Report: Walter Ruhl informed the board a company opened a water blow off hydrant and took water. He is looking into prosecution of the company owner and ways to prevent this in the future.

Fire Report: Ottawa Lake Fire Department reported 14 calls for the month of December 2019. Whiteford Center Fire Department had no report for the month of December 2019.

Public Comment: Walter Ruhl reported cracks in walls at Whiteford Center Fire Department. Resident Andrew Gill questioned roads mowing contract and if bids could be submitted. Jay Herrington with Precision Irrigation and Walter Ruhl addressed by explaining the different types of mowing and equipment needed.

Adjourn: Meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m. after completion of the agenda.

Angela Christensen

Whiteford Township Clerk