

**Whitewater Township Board**  
**Minutes of Special Meeting held November 13, 2014**

**Call to Order**

Supervisor Popp called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. at the Whitewater Township Hall, 5777 Vinton Road, Williamsburg, Michigan.

**Roll Call of Board Members**

Board Members Present: Benak, Goss, Hubbell, Lawson, Popp

Board Members Absent: None

Others Present: None

**Set/Adjust Meeting Agenda**

No adjustments.

**Declaration of Conflict of Interest**

None

**Public Comment**

Popp noted that no public is present.

**Ambulance Recommendations**

Popp provided a memo with four recommendations concerning the ambulance millage and asked for comments.

Lengthy discussion followed regarding the slim margin of approval of the ambulance millage proposal, balancing services versus cost of services in the future, the pros and cons of outsourcing, the projected shortfall in the ambulance budget, overtime situations, possible EMT-licensed park manager, hiring of more personnel, and management issues.

Popp stated that he has proposed that the ambulance budget be reviewed monthly and a copy be provided to the consent calendar.

Discussion followed as to the mechanics of a monthly ambulance budget report, collection of the ambulance millage levy and use of those funds in the current fiscal year. Benak will contact the auditors to verify when use of these funds can begin.

Regarding item number 3 in Popp's memo, reassess levy requirements on an annual basis during budget discussion, it was discussed that the amount of the levy will be reviewed again during 2015/2016 budget meetings and at the budget public hearing in March 2015.

Brief discussion followed concerning possible use of General Fund monies previously allocated to the Ambulance Fund.

Benak provided the 2014 Winter Original Tax Roll documents and answered questions from Board members.

Popp's last recommendation is to invest in technology in the way of scheduling software.

Consensus was reached that scheduling should be reviewed, and that we are looking toward running a business and that sometimes we are going to have to say no to our friends in EMS.

Brief discussion occurred concerning a "Whitewater EMS" logo that was used on the Ambulance Coordinator's last report. General consensus was reached that "Whitewater Township" should be utilized in any logo created and the Board should have input.

Benak stated this is an opportune time for the Board to have a meeting with EMS personnel, to tell them where we are at, what we want to do, what the future is and pump up the forces, let them know we are fully committed to this.

Discussion followed concerning some rumors circulating in the community regarding outsourcing of the service.

Popp asked if the Board is comfortable levying 1.5 mills.

Board discussion followed concerning the amount of the levy, as well as overtime wages incurred during the last pay period.

**Motion by Lawson, seconded by Benak, to establish the ambulance millage levy at 1.5 mills beginning 12/01/2014.** There was no further discussion. **Roll call vote: Benak, yes; Goss, yes; Hubbell, yes; Lawson, yes; Popp, yes. Motion carried.**

#### **Board Comments/Discussion**

Benak reminded the Board that the newsletter will go out December 1 with the tax bill. She stated if there is anything the Board or Planning Commission wants in there, they need to get it to her soon.

Benak also noted that the tree lighting ceremony will be held the first Tuesday of December at 6:30 p.m. over in the park.

#### **Announcements**

None

#### **Public Comment**

None

#### **Adjournment**

**Motion by Hubbell, seconded by Lawson, to adjourn.** Meeting adjourned at 8:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl A. Goss  
Whitewater Township Clerk