

**Whitewater Township Board  
Minutes of Special Meeting held January 20, 2022**

**Call to Order**

Supervisor Popp called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. at the Whitewater Township Hall, 5777 Vinton Road, Williamsburg, Michigan.

**Roll Call of Board Members**

Board members present in person: Treasurer Benak, Clerk Goss, Popp, Trustee Vollmuth

Board members absent: None (trustee vacancy)

Others present in person: Fire Chief Brandon Flynn, Erik Cronk (C2AE), Kevin Makarewicz (C2AE)

Others present via Zoom: 3

**Set/Adjust Meeting Agenda**

Goss reported that she has received no information from Meagher or Patterson regarding the second agenda item.

**Declaration of Conflict of Interest**

None

**Public Comment (7:57)**

Public comment began at 9:06 a.m.

Brian Kelley, Acme Township resident, spoke to public water feasibility surveys done in Acme.

Public comment ended at 9:10 a.m.

**Agenda Items as Listed in Special Meeting Notice (11:23)****WATER INFRASTRUCTURE NEEDS WORKING SESSION**

Erik Cronk, C2AE project manager, and Kevin Makarewicz, C2AE senior design engineer, are present.

Cronk explained the process to be followed.

The geographic limits for the water infrastructure study area were defined as:

- Northern boundary: Old M-72
- Southern boundary: 1500 feet south of Old M-72
- Western boundary: Moore Road
- Eastern boundary: Cook/Broomhead Road

Makarewicz noted their study does not include sanitary sewer or septic; however, it should be considered as the township is determining what water study area it wants to potentially serve.

Potential water supply options were identified as:

- Develop a new well field and backup well built by the township.

- Tap into existing service (tribal)
- Agreement with Acme Township to combine resources.
- Do nothing. Developers would have to provide water on their own.

It was noted that future zoning changes may be necessary.

C2AE will estimate population projections for a 5-year period and a 20-year period.

The 2010 census (2,600) and 2019 estimated (2,799) population figures were provided.

Water storage was discussed. Options include a ground storage tank or an elevated water storage tank. The amount of storage will be based on fire flows, existing potential customers, and future potential customers.

Treatment options were discussed. C2AE will use existing well logs from the tribe, the AIS property, and the EGLE website.

Robert Hall, zoning administrator, commented on the amount of phone calls and inquiries he is receiving that are focused on the M-72 corridor and the commercial area, making sure the planning commission is on board, and the 5-year review of the master plan and its deficiencies.

The topic of engaging in discussions with the tribal government to see if connection to their water system would be an option was discussed.

Popp reported that he and Flynn have had two meetings with the tribe. Capacity appears to be there for water and sewer for approximately 250 residential units. Within the last 60 days, Popp received communication from two tribal members that they now have their plans established and they know what is available. He also reported that they looked at creating a township authority for water and sewer where the township would take care of the billing, or the tribe doing all of the administrative billing work.

Going forward, C2AE will provide a map of the service area, look at township properties, obtain well logs, and dig into the study. Architect Dennis Jensen will lead the building needs portion.

#### **Northpoint Farms LLC v Whitewater Township (1:15:14)**

Goss reported that nothing has been received from legal counsel on this matter.

#### **Board Comments/Discussion (1:16:21)**

None

#### **Public Comment (1:16:26)**

Public comment began at 10:15 a.m.

Brian Kelley spoke to the opportunity to figure out very complicated planning issues regarding growth and costs of water.

***DRAFT MINUTES***

Don Glenn commented on the extremely informative meeting.

Denise Peltonen spoke to the information being available online and the master plan.

Public comment ended at 10:20 a.m.

**Adjournment (1:23:28)**

***Motion by Vollmuth to adjourn; second by Benak. Roll call vote: Vollmuth, yes; Benak, yes; Popp, yes; Goss, yes. Meeting adjourned at 10:22 a.m.***

Cheryl A. Goss  
Whitewater Township Clerk