

**Whitewater Township Board
Minutes of Special Meeting held February 28, 2022**

Call to Order

Supervisor Popp called the meeting to order at 9:00 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 and 1 other

Others present via Zoom: 1

Set/Adjust Meeting Agenda

There were no adjustments.

Declaration of Conflict of Interest

None

Public Comment

Public comment began at 9:01 a.m.

Rod Rebant talked about massive challenge to prioritize, fire department is number one, dollars not there to support the plan, expenses should not exceed revenue.

Public comment ended at 9:03 a.m.

Agenda Items as Listed in Special Meeting Notice (5:23)**BUDGET WORK SESSION - GENERAL AND OTHER FUNDS**

Goss proposed election wage increases to \$17 for election inspectors and \$20 for chairpersons.

Board comments and discussion followed.

Popp and Vollmuth expressed their opposition to wage increases in general.

Lack of expenditures from the Road Repair/Replacement Fund benefitting roads in the community was discussed.

Creation of a map showing the PASER ratings for each township road was requested by Benak.

Popp agreed to create a map.

Goss revised the election wages request to a minimum of \$16/hour for inspectors and \$18/hour for chairpersons.

Other wage discussion ensued.

Road Fund revenue and expenditures were reviewed for the second time.

Road Repair and Replacement Fund revenue and expenditures were reviewed. The \$100,000 requested transfer from the General Fund will be reduced to \$50,000.

Goss suggested the road map also show the revenue sources available to each road, as well as the road classification, i.e., arterial, etc.

Ambulance Fund revenues and expenses were reviewed, with a few revisions made.

Public Improvement Fund revenues and expenses were reviewed, with one revision made. Account 804 Professional Services will be used for C2AE fees and the cost of a survey of Hi Pray Park.

Fire Capital Improvement Fund revenues and expenses were reviewed, with revisions made. The \$50,000 transfer from General Fund is earmarked for a replacement fire engine. The capital expenditure line item is allocated as follows: \$115,000 for brush truck, \$27,000 for two snowmobiles, and \$3,500 for chief's vehicle accessories, for a total of \$145,500.

The new Federal Fund to track ARPA monies was discussed. Revenue in account 528 will be \$147,000. A Contingency line item will be created and funded at \$100,000.

Goss noted her contact with Rural Development and the possibility of getting a loan for part of the cost of the replacement fire truck.

Lengthy discussion followed concerning fire department issues.

The Recreation Fund, ballfield lease, mowing contracts, brush, cost of storm damage, and a park millage were discussed.

Millage and fire special assessment district levy rates were discussed. Total township levy is currently 2.5. Popp said it should be at 4.

The next budget work session is 3/7 at 9:00 a.m.

Popp suggested break-out meetings for wages and proposed between 10-15%.

Goss replied that it should all be kept out in the open in front of the public.

Board Comments/Discussion (3:06:03)

None

Public Comment (3:06:09)

None

Adjournment (3:06:15)

Motion by Benak to adjourn; second by Vollmuth. Roll call vote: Benak, yes; Goss, yes; Popp, yes; Vollmuth, yes. Meeting adjourned at 12:05 p.m.

Cheryl A. Goss
Whitewater Township Clerk