

**Whitewater Township Board
Minutes of Regular Meeting held February 14, 2023**

Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance

Supervisor Popp called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. at the Whitewater Township Hall, 5777 Vinton Road, Williamsburg, Michigan, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call of Board Members

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

Board Members absent: None

Others present in person: Fire Chief Brandon Flynn, Zoom Facilitator Lois MacLean, and 6 others

Others present via Zoom: 5

Set/Adjust Meeting Agenda

Popp requested to add acceptance of resignation of deputy supervisor as New Business #7.

Added as New Business #7.

Declaration of Conflict of Interest

None

Public Comment

Public comment began at 9:02 a.m.

Connie Hymore

Public comment ended at 9:06 a.m.

Public Hearing

None

Reports/Presentations/Announcements/Comments

County Commissioner Report

Darryl Nelson is not present.

Fire Department Report

Brandon Flynn gave the following report:

- January was a busy month and a lot of meetings.
- He was able to get other administrative work done and install smoke alarms and carbon monoxide alarms the department is getting from the state.
- No inspections last month.
- Popp and he went to the Grand Traverse Band media event last Friday to accept a 2% award in the amount of \$4,300.
- Last year's run and fire department information is included in his report.

Flynn answered a couple board questions.

Planning Commission Report

Heidi Vollmuth gave the following report:

- Passed out paper plates and bread.
- Urged that the planning commission be given the tools they need to do their job.
- Noted other report is in the packet.

There were no questions for Vollmuth.

Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee Report

Don Glenn gave the following report:

- PRAC held their election of officers in January, Melton chair, Hubbell vice chair, Butler secretary.
- Adopted the change of the dates in the bylaws. Bylaws will be on agenda again for February in light of no park administrator. PRAC has changes they want to suggest.
- Next meeting is next week.
- PRAC has question for board: Hi Pray Park playground, all work completed; can PRAC declare park open and remove signs, or is that board action? They are having a followup inspection later this spring.

After brief discussion, Glenn will bring back a business item next month for reopening of Hi Pray Park.

Jim Baker – EagleView Presentation

Jim Baker, Grand Traverse County Director of Equalization, was present in person and provided details about the EagleView aerial imagery product.

Consent Calendar

Receive and File

1. Supervisor's Report for January 2023
2. Clerk's Report for January 2023
3. Treasurer Report January 2023
4. Trustee Vollmuth's January 2023 Report
5. Trustee Glenn's January 2023 Report
6. Zoning Administrator's Report for January 2023
7. Mobile Medical Response December 2022 Activity Report
8. Fire Department December 2022 and January 2023 Reports
9. Planning Commission January 2023 Report
10. Historical Society November/December 2022 and January 2023 Report
11. Approved 12/07/2022 Planning Commission Minutes
12. Approved 12/13/2022 Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee Minutes

Correspondence

1. Planning Commission February Agenda

2. Grand Traverse County Sheriff Statistics
3. Treasurer Memo Regarding Park Funds Transfer

Minutes for Approval

1. 01/10/2023 regular meeting minutes
2. 01/12/2023 special meeting minutes
3. 01/24/2023 special meeting minutes

Bills for Approval

1. Alden State Bank voucher #s 48695 through 48778

Budget Amendments (none)

Revenue/Expenditure Report (none)

Motion by Benak to approve the Consent Calendar; second by Vollmuth.

Brief discussion followed.

Goss noted the Bills for Approval document is not in the packet.

Roll call vote: Vollmuth, yes; Benak, yes; Popp, no; Glenn, no; Goss, yes. Motion carried.

Unfinished Business

BROADBAND FINAL QUESTIONS

Tim Maylone from Cherry Capital Connection and Joe Gaylord from 186networks were present in person.

There was board consensus to discuss the agenda item.

Details of each company's proposal were discussed.

ARPA requirements were discussed.

Motion by Popp that we split our ARPA funds 50/50 between the two applicants requesting those funds; second by Vollmuth.

Popp modified the motion to equally divide the \$121,000 and not interested in calculating down to the penny. (Motion not seconded)

Motion by Popp to divide the 41% of Whitewater Township's ARPA funds for broadband between Cherry Capital Connection and 186networks, percentage to be calculated as of 01/31/2023.

Second by Benak.

Benak will bring findings of fact for reporting back to the board for adoption in March.

Goss questioned when the money would be paid out.

After discussion, ***Popp added to the motion that the funds will be payable to each vendor within 30 days of detailed invoice submittal.***

Benak noted the balance in the Federal Fund is \$295,483.60. 41% is \$121,148.28. Divided by two is \$60,574.14.

Popp added to the motion “in the amount of \$60,574.14.”

Benak re-seconded the motion.

A commitment letter will state the amount they have been awarded.

Roll call vote: Goss, yes; Vollmuth, yes; Glenn, yes; Popp, yes; Benak, yes. Motion carried.

CHERRY CAPITAL CONNECTION REQUEST

Popp and Maylone agreed the letter of commitment covers this request.

REVIEW/APPROVE METRO ACT PERMIT REQUEST

Motion by Benak authorizing the supervisor and clerk to sign the Bilateral Right-of-Way Telecommunication Permit referencing 186networks application dated 01/05/2023; second by Glenn.

Roll call vote: Benak, yes; Glenn, yes; Goss, yes; Vollmuth, yes; Popp, yes. Motion carried.

At 12:29 p.m., the meeting recessed.

At 12:55 p.m., the meeting reconvened.

WHITEWATER TOWNSHIP PARK ORGANIZATION

Motion by Benak to approve hiring park staff now, to work collaboratively with Trustee Glenn to facilitate preseason park opening tasks, staffing interviews, and reservation system updates; second by Popp.

Numerous details were discussed. Glenn agreed to help bridge the gap until a park manager is hired and understands the rules.

Roll call vote: Popp, yes; Goss, yes; Vollmuth, yes; Benak, yes; Glenn, yes. Motion carried.

STATUS UPDATE ON DEBIT CARD FOR TOWNSHIP PURCHASES

Motion by Benak to approve the treasurer to apply for an increase in credit limit to \$10,000 for Whitewater Township from Alden State Bank and to add the following signers on the account, Benak and Goss; second by Goss.

Goss suggested adding “for the Whitewater Township credit card” to the motion. Benak agreed.

Roll call vote: Glenn, yes; Popp, yes; Benak, yes; Goss, yes; Vollmuth, yes. Motion carried.

TOWNSHIP BOARD RECORDING SECRETARY

Motion by Popp to discuss who will record the minutes and how it will be paid for; second by Vollmuth.

Discussion followed with several motions.

Motion by Popp that the clerk fulfills her statutory duties. (Motion not seconded)

Popp rescinded the (first) motion. Vollmuth rescinded her second.

Motion by Popp to put this in March. (Motion not seconded)

Motion by Popp that the clerk repay the \$2,450; second by Vollmuth.

Roll call vote: Benak, no; Vollmuth, yes; Popp, no; Glenn, no; Goss, abstain. Motion failed.

Motion by Benak that the board acknowledges that an error was made in delegation of clerk’s statutory duties, and it is further agreed that all statutory duties will stay within each elected official’s office unless otherwise preapproved by board action; second by Glenn.

Roll call vote: Popp, yes; Benak, yes; Vollmuth, yes; Goss, yes; Glenn, yes. Motion carried.

SCHEDULE NEXT BUDGET SESSION

There was consensus to schedule budget work sessions on 2/21 at 9:00 a.m., 2/22 at 9:00 a.m., 3/8 at 9:00 a.m., and to hold the budget public hearing on 3/21 at 9:00 a.m.

New Business

REVIEW/APPROVE METRO ACT PERMIT REQUEST

See page 4056 of these minutes.

REVIEW/DISCUSS INCOMPATIBLE OFFICES, ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES COMPENSATION PROGRAM

Motion by Benak to send this topic on incompatible offices to legal for direction on legality of additional compensation when township board members are serving on committees or boards; second by Glenn.

Goss suggested the prior legal opinion be consulted.

Benak withdrew her motion. Glenn withdrew his second.

Goss will provide the legal opinion which addresses incompatible offices.

This agenda item will be brought back in March.

REVIEW/APPROVE 2023 BOARD OF REVIEW POVERTY EXEMPTION PACKET

Motion by Benak to adopt Resolution #23-02 Whitewater Township Poverty Guideline Resolution as amended; second by Vollmuth.

Roll call vote: Vollmuth, yes; Goss, yes; Glenn, yes; Benak, yes; Popp, yes. Motion carried.

PROPOSED RESOLUTION #23-01 2023/2024 FISCAL YEAR MEETING DATES

Motion by Goss to adopt Resolution #23-01 2023/2024 Fiscal Year Meeting Dates; second by Vollmuth.

Roll call vote: Goss, yes; Glenn, yes; Benak, yes; Popp, yes; Vollmuth, yes. Motion carried.

CORRECTION TO ARPA FUNDING ALLOCATIONS

Motion by Popp to fund broadband expansion services in Whitewater Township to 41% of Whitewater Township's ARPA allocation, and to fund the fire truck at 31.5% of Whitewater Township's ARPA allocation, and to fund future recreation projects to be determined at 27.5% of Whitewater Township's ARPA allocation; second by Glenn.

Roll call vote: Glenn, yes; Popp, yes; Goss, no; Vollmuth, yes; Benak, yes. Motion carried.

EAGLEVIEW AGREEMENT

Motion by Benak to authorize the supervisor to sign the Agreement to Cost-Share EagleView Oblique and Ortho Aerial Imagery with Grand Traverse County dated 01/12/2023 in the amount of \$13,458.00; second by Vollmuth.

Roll call vote: Vollmuth, yes; Benak, yes; Popp, no; Glenn, no; Goss, no. Motion failed.

ACCEPTANCE OF RESIGNATION OF DEPUTY SUPERVISOR (added)

Motion by Goss to accept the resignation of Ron Bachi; second by Glenn.

Roll call vote: Goss, yes; Vollmuth, yes; Glenn, yes; Popp, yes; Benak, yes. Motion carried

Tabled Items

None

Board Comments/Discussion

Goss noted there is nothing from the IRS.

Announcements

02/16/2023 Special Meeting at 9:00 a.m.

02/21/2023 Special Meeting at 9:00 a.m.

02/22/2023 Special Meeting at 9:00 a.m.

03/08/2023 Special Meeting at 9:00 a.m.

03/14/2023 Regular Meeting at 9:00 a.m.

03/21/2023 Special Meeting at 9:00 a.m. (Budget Public Hearing)

Public Comment

Public comment began at 4:03 p.m.

Denise Peltonen

Connie Hymore

Public comment ended at 4:09 p.m.

Adjournment

Motion by Benak to adjourn; second by Popp. Roll call vote: Benak, yes; Glenn, yes; Goss, yes; Vollmuth, yes; Popp, yes.

Meeting adjourned at 4:09 p.m.

Cheryl A. Goss

Whitewater Township Clerk