

**Whitewater Township Board
Minutes of Regular Meeting held June 12, 2012**

Call to Order

Supervisor Lake called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. at the Whitewater Township Hall, 5777 Vinton Road, Williamsburg, Michigan, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call

Board members present: Benak, Boyd, Hockin, Hubbell and Lake

Board members absent: None

Others present: Planning/Zoning Administrator Meyers, County Commissioner Inman, Fire Captain Arbenowske and 8 others; Ambulance Coordinator Martin arrived at 7:42 p.m.

Set/Adjust Meeting Agenda

The agenda was approved as adjusted, adding to Reports: Battalion 3 Activity Report, EMS report for March, April and May and Closed Session to New Business

Declaration of Conflict of Interest

None

Public Hearing

None

Public Comment

Elizabeth Webster, candidate for Grand Traverse County Commissioner District #6 introduced herself to the board and others who were present.

Reports**County Board of Commissioners**

Commissioner Inman updated the board on the following:

- County Administrator David Benda will begin work on June 18.
- Will begin to work on the 2013 budget this month; anticipate a shortfall.
- Applications are in for the County Health Officer; waiting for Benda to make a decision.
- Strategic Plan has been delayed pending arrival of Benda.
- Health department building on LaFranier Rd is 60-70% complete; anticipate selling the building on Garfield Rd.
- Meetings continue on the Septage Treatment Plant.

Update on Radios for Fire and Ambulance

Fire Captain Arbenowske reported that the FCC deadline for new pagers and radios for the fire vehicles and ambulances is June 2013. He stated there has been a misunderstanding that the deadline is June 2012. He is waiting for information from Rural Fire regarding the number of radios that are being provided by Rural before presenting a quote for purchase of additional radios by Whitewater Township.

Consent Calendar

Moved by Hubbell, supported by Boyd to approve the consent calendar items as follows:

Receive and File:

1. Supervisor's report for May 2012
2. Clerk's report for May 2012
3. Planning/Zoning Administrator report for May 2012
4. Battalion #3 Fire Captain report for May 2012
5. Ambulance Coordinator report for March, April and May 2012

Correspondence:

1. Grand Traverse County Sheriff Department service statistics for April and May 2012
2. A 6/1/12 letter from Bob Osterhout, Grand Traverse County Resource Recovery Department re: Proposed Revisions to Ordinance No. 17.
3. MDEQ Permit for Fish Shelter
4. The Grand Vision Update, May 2012
5. NWMCOG 3-News, 05/22/2012

Minutes:

1. Approval of minutes of 05/01/12 & 05/22/12 Regular, 0/04/12 Special and 05/04/12 Closed Session Meetings

Bills for Approval:

1. Approval of Alden State Bank vouchers #35524-35701
2. Approval of Alden State Bank Miami Beach vouchers #1122

Roll call vote: Lake, yes; Benak, yes; Boyd, yes; Hockin, yes; Hubbell, yes. **Motion approved.**

Unfinished Business

Ordinance #49, Abandoned Building Ordinance

Planning/Zoning Administrator Meyers presented the proposed ordinance that has been reviewed and recommended by the Planning Commission and Attorney Fahey. Meyers stated the ordinance was amended by Fahey with several items added to make the ordinance more enforceable.

Moved by Boyd, seconded by Hockin to adopt Ordinance #49, Abandoned Building Ordinance as recommended by the Planning Commission and Attorney Fahey. Roll call vote: Benak, yes; Boyd, yes; Hockin, yes; Hubbell, yes; Lake, yes. **Motion approved.**

New Business

Hill Private Road Exception Appeal Request

Thomas and Tammy Hill are requesting an exception from Ordinance 32, Whitewater Township Private Road Ordinance, requirements for road frontage. The Planning Commission has reviewed their request and recommends approval by the Township Board based on the following Findings of Fact:

- A private drive has serviced the area referred to as unit 9 for over 65 years.
- The construction of a private road would require unnecessary tree removal and earth disruption.

- Granting the exception will not cause any significant adverse effect to the property in the vicinity.
- There are practical difficulties on the site which unreasonably prevent the owner from using the property for a permitted purpose without presenting an excessive burden.

And with the following conditions:

1. A deed restriction shall be recorded stating that the remaining parcel cannot be split again unless a private or public road is constructed and that the road shall provide access to the phantom unit 9.
2. A Driveway Easement Maintenance Agreement shall be recorded for the resulting parcels.

Moved by Hubbell, seconded by Boyd to grant the private road exception to Thomas and Tammy Hill, 8610 Skegemog Point Road, subject to the Findings of Fact and Conditions as recommended by the Planning Commission. Roll call vote: Boyd, yes; Hockin, yes; Hubbell, yes; Lake, yes; Benak, yes. **Motion approved.**

Fire Insurance Withholding Program, Resolution #12-15

While reviewing the Abandoned Building Ordinance, Attorney Fahey made a recommendation that the Township consider a Fire Insurance Withholding Program. If a township participates, and a fire or explosion (hail, wind, vandalism, etc.) occurs, the Township will be allowed to escrow up to \$6725 for residential structures. Participation would be an easier and quicker way to address certain properties without financial burden.

Moved by Boyd, seconded by Benak to adopt Resolution #12-15, Participation in the Fire Insurance Withholding Program. Roll call vote: Hockin, yes; Hubbell, yes; Lake, yes; Benak, yes; Boyd, yes. **Motion approved and Resolution 12-15 declared adopted.**

A true and complete copy of said resolution is attached to the minutes.

Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee Recommendations

William Mouser, chair of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee reported to the board on the work being done by the committee. The Recreation Plan has been reviewed and the committee is now working on the Capital Improvement Plan that is a part of the Recreation Plan. The committee is making the following recommendations to be considered by the board for this fiscal year.

1. Remarketing of Lossie Road Nature Trail boundary
2. Use of fiberglass marking posts for marking of Lossie Road, Petobego and Battle Creek Natural Area boundaries and/or trails; volunteers will be used to install the posts.
3. Petobego parking lot fencing; volunteers will be used to install the fencing.

The south field at Petobego and the Mickey Galligan plaque for Lossie Road were discussed.

It was the consensus of the board to proceed with the recommendations made by the Committee.

Resolution #12-16, Traverse City Public Schools and Whitewater Township Agreement for Summer School Property Taxes

Moved by Hubbell, seconded by Boyd, to adopt Resolution #12-16, Resolution Approving Agreement for Collection of Summer School Property Taxes between Traverse City Area Public Schools and Whitewater Township. Roll call vote: Hubbell, yes; Lake, yes; Benak, yes; Boyd, yes; Hockin, yes. **Motion approved and resolution declared adopted.**

A true and complete copy of said resolution is attached to the minutes.

Resolution #12-17, Traverse Bay Area Intermediate School District and Whitewater Township Agreement for Summer School Property Taxes

Moved by Boyd, seconded by Hubbell, to adopt Resolution #12-17, Resolution Approving Agreement for Collection of Summer School Property Taxes between Traverse Bay Area Intermediate School District and Whitewater Township (Traverse City Area Public Schools). Roll call vote: Lake, yes; Benak, yes; Boyd, yes; Hockin, yes; Hubbell, yes. **Motion approved and resolution declared adopted.**

A true and complete copy of said resolution is attached to the minutes.

Closed Session

Moved by Boyd, seconded by Benak, to go into closed session to discuss pending litigation. Roll call vote: Benak, yes; Boyd, yes; Hockin, yes; Hubbell, yes; Lake, yes. **Motion approved.**

The meeting was recessed from open session at 8:02 p.m.

The meeting reconvened in open session at 8:16 p.m.

Board Comments/Discussion

Benak presented information about Capital Improvement Planning for Township Boards. It was the consensus that Capital Improvement Planning be placed on a future agenda.

Hockin asked the board to consider backing an ACTS 2% grant application to the Grand Traverse Band. The application would be for a commercial refrigerator at the new ACTS location that was formerly known as Whitewater Plaza. Benak suggested adding supplies/materials for nutrition classes to the grant. It was the consensus to have the grant application brought back to the board at the 6/26/12 regular board meeting.

The board also discussed a Whitewater Township 2% application for Smoke/CO Detectors and training. It was the consensus to review the grant application at the 6/26/12 regular meeting.

Public Comment

None.

Announcements

Next meeting of the board will be held on 06/26/12.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:29 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Carol Hockin, Clerk