

Whitewater Township Board
Minutes of Regular Meeting held September 13, 2011

Call to Order

Supervisor Lake called the meeting to order at 7:00 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: County Commissioner Inman, Fire Captain Arbenowske, Ambulance Coordinator Martin, Planning/Zoning Administrator Meyers and 8 others.

Set/Adjust Meeting Agenda

The agenda was approved as adjusted, adding Budgeted Transfer to Consent Calendar .

Declaration of Conflict of Interest

None

Public Hearing

None

Public Comment

Jason, Gillman, 833 Avenue D., Traverse City

- 1st term Grand Traverse County Commissioner introduced himself and stated he will be running for commissioner in the newly formed district that includes Whitewater Township in 2012.
- Invited those present to attend the Constitution Celebration being held at the Opera House in Traverse City on the weekend.

Lois MacLean, 5919 Linderleaf Ln.

- Thanked board members for their attendance at the Fire Dept. Auxiliary sponsored spaghetti dinner. Stated this event is good for the community.

Reports/Presentations/Announcement/Comments

County Board of Commissioners

Commissioner Inman updated the board and those present on County Board of Commissioners issues.

- Working on 2012 budget; have to cut 1.5 million since they want to keep an 18% fund balance. Preliminary budget is needed by October 1st.
- Looking at cost savings in health care.
- Septage issue settlement will be used to reduce costs; still need a debt reduction plan. Loan from the County is not a debt reduction plan. BPW is working on the process.
- Sheriff is meeting with Townships regarding Community Policing contracts.
- Meeting with the Grand Traverse Band was cancelled due to a conflict in GTB council policies and procedures.
- State has approved increasing the BPW membership. BPW recommends increasing to 11 members. Blair Township has pulled out of BPW.

Emergency Services Advisory Committee

Rod Kuncaitis, chairperson of the Emergency Services Advisory Committee updated the board on the activities of the committee. A written report is attached to the minutes.

Consent Calendar

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

Receive and File

1. Planning Commission approved minutes of 07/06/11 regular meeting
2. Supervisor's report for August 2011
3. Clerk's report for August 2011
4. Planning/Zoning Administrator's report for August 2011
5. Battalion #3 Fire Captain August 2011 Activity Report
6. Ambulance Coordinator August 2011 Activity Report
7. Emergency Services Advisory Committee minutes of 08/08/11, 08/22/11, 08/29/11 and 09/06/11 special meetings

Correspondence

1. Grand Traverse County Road Commission minutes of 07/27/11 regular and 08/03/11 special meetings
2. Grand Traverse County Sheriff Department Service Statistics for July and August 2011
3. Grand Traverse Rural Fire Department minutes of 07/20/11 regular meeting
4. RecycleSmart Newsworthy 09/07/11, re: household Hazardous Waste & Pesticide Collection
5. A 09/06/11 letter from Brad VanDommelen, President Traverse City Convention & Visitors Bureau, re: plan for July 4th fireworks funding
6. An August 2011 letter from ITC, re: electric transmission
7. The Grand Vision August 2011 Special Notice
8. An 08/17/11 letter from State Senator Howard Walker
9. An 08/31/11 Non-compliant Letter from Department of Community Health, re: recent ambulance inspection

Minutes

1. Approval of minutes of 08/09/11 and 08/23/11 regular meetings

Bills for Approval

1. Approval of Alden State Bank vouchers #34571-34740
2. Approval of Alden State Bank Miami Beach voucher #1110
3. Approval of Alden State Bank WMDLS voucher #1016

Budgeted Transfer of \$10,000 from General Fund to Ambulance Fund

Revenue & Expenditure Report

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

Unfinished Business

Code Enforcement Policy Clarification Update

Due to recent absence for health reasons, Meyers stated she does not have the policy ready for the board.

Newsletter Policy Update

Meyers presented the updated policy that was prepared by intern Dylan Sullivan. The policy was discussed and the title amended to read Whitewater Township Newsletter Policy.

Moved by Hockin, seconded by Benak to adopt the Whitewater Township Newsletter Policy and to add it to the Administrative Policies and Procedures. **Motion approved.**

A bulletin board for community events was discussed. The clerk will proceed with the project.

Cherryland Electric Franchise Agreement Update

Supervisor Lake shared information from Attorney Fahey and stated the attorneys will be working out the agreement to be brought to the board for approval.

New Business

Emergency Services

The report from the Emergency Services Advisory Committee presented by Kuncaitis was reviewed and discussed.

A special joint meeting of the ESAC and the board was scheduled for September 19th at 6:30 p.m.

Historical Society Request

Lake presented a request from the Historical Society to purchase a used fireproof file cabinet to be used for storage of historical documents. The file is available from Northwest Lock at a cost of \$1,200 which includes delivery.

Moved by Hubbell, seconded by Hockin to approve the purchase of a fire proof file cabinet for the Historical Society from Northwest Lock in the amount of \$1,200. Roll call vote: Hockin, yes; Hubbell, yes; Lake, yes; Benak, yes; Boyd, yes. **Motion approved.**

Snow Removal and Lawn Maintenance Bid Request

Clerk Hockin reminded the board that it is time to go out for bids on snow removal and lawn maintenance. It was the consensus of the board to request one year bids.

Equipment Storage Building Lease Extension

Lake informed the board that the lease for the Moore Road building is up on October 10th and asked the board if they wished to extend the lease for one year.

Move by Hubbell, seconded by Boyd to extend the lease with John Lucsy for the Moore Road building for one year. **Motion approved.**

Anderson/Noteware Cemetery Burial Sites

Hockin updated the board on the request from John and Patt Noteware regarding 4 burial sites in the Anderson addition to Williamsburg Cedar Rapids Cemetery. 8 burial sites were originally given to Tekla Anderson Noteware in exchange for the property donated for the Anderson addition to the cemetery; 4 burial sites are unused and not expected to be use by John Noteware, heir to the sites given to Tekla Anderson Noteware. At the time of the transaction, burial sites were \$25.00 per burial site; there is a provision in the cemetery ordinance for the Township to purchase back unused burial sites. Hockin recommends the township purchase back the 4 sites at \$25.00 per site.

Moved by Hockin, seconded by Boyd to purchase back 4 burial sites in Lot 1 of the Anderson Addition to Williamsburg Cedar Rapids Cemetery at \$25.00 each, total of \$100.00. **Motion approved.**

Closed Session

Moved by Hubbell, seconded by Boyd to go into closed session to discuss property acquisition.

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

Adjourned from open session at 8:07 p.m.

Reconvened in open session at 8:25 p.m.

Moved by Boyd, seconded by Benak to proceed as discussed in closed session. **Motion approved.**

Public Comment

Jason Gillman, County Commissioner

- Informed the board of a business where they can save on office equipment.

Announcements

Next regular meeting of the Township Board is scheduled for Tuesday, September 27th at 7 p.m.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Carol Hockin, clerk