

**Whitewater Township Board
Minutes of Regular Meeting held October 9, 2012**

Call to Order

Supervisor Lake called the meeting to order at 7:01 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 and 6 others.

Set/Adjust Meeting Agenda

The agenda was approved as amended adding: Appointment: Abandoned Buildings Hearing Officer and Letter to BPW re: G-5 voting

Declaration of Conflict of Interest

None

Public Hearing

None

Public Comment

None

Reports**County Board of Commissioners**

Commissioner Inman updated the board and members of the audience on the following:

- Status and future handling of the Brown Bridge Dam incident
- Septage Treatment Special Assessment Public Hearing to be held on 10/16/12 @ 6:00 p.m. at Garfield Township Hall
- Septage Treatment Plant, county board has approved a 50/50 plan for paying off the loan with a note due to the county.
- County Treasurer Bill Rokos retired on October 1st. Heidi Scheppe has been assigned to the office and will be sworn in in January 2013.
- County Health Department on LaFranier is expected to be complete in 30 days.
- County board is working on budget; must be adopted by month end.

There was a discussion with Commissioner Inman regarding the Special Assessment for the Septage Treatment Plant.

It was the consensus that the township ask for a legal opinion on the G-5 townships voting on the special assessment; it would appear they may have a conflict of interest since they guaranteed the bonds.

Board members informed Inman that the Township had sent information to all tax payers in the township.

Fire Captain Report

Captain Arbenowske reported on a recent injury in the woods where the Res-Q could have been used for greater efficiency in reaching the patient.

Reported that the roof has been completed and painting around the doors and front of the building is being worked on.

Ambulance Coordinator Report

Ambulance Coordinator Martin reported several auto accidents with fatalities recently. She praised the EMT's for quick response and handling the situations in a professional manner.

Consent Calendar

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

Receive and File

1. Supervisor's report for September 2012
2. Clerk's report for September 2012
3. Planning/Zoning Administrator's report for September 2012
4. Battalion #3 Fire Captain September 2012 activity report
5. Ambulance Coordinator's September 2012 activity reports

Correspondence:

1. Grand Traverse Rural Fire Department minutes for 8/15/12 regular meeting
2. An e-mail notice dated 10/03/12 from Grand Traverse County BPW re: Notice of a first Public Hearing on proposed special assessment on septic tanks.
3. A 09/14/12 letter from Mike Slater, DPW Director, Grand Traverse County Department of Public Works regarding current assessment records identifying septic and holding tank records.
4. A 09/24/12 response from Mike Slater, DPW Director, Grand Traverse County Department of Public Works
5. The Grand Vision Update, September 2012
6. Northwest Michigan Council of Governments, September 2012

Minutes:

1. Approval of minutes of 09/11/12 and 09/25/12 regular meetings and 09/25/12 closed session.

Bills for Approval:

1. Approval of Alden State Bank vouchers #36123-36240
2. Approval of Alden State Bank Miami Beach vouchers #1126
3. Approval of Alden State Bank WMDLS voucher #1018

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

Unfinished Business

Building Lease Extension Update-Moore Rd/John Lucsy

Lake reported that Lucsy would like an additional \$100 per month to cover heat.

Boyd suggested looking at the building owned by Jim Bernackey.

Hockin suggests contacting John Lucsy regarding a month to month lease for one month since the lease is up on October 14th.

Boyd voiced concern regarding unreliable heating in the Moore Rd building.

Will be addressed at the 10/23/12 regular board meeting.

Amendment to Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee By-laws

Hockin presented Amendment #1 to Ordinance 48, Whitewater Township Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee. The amendment will change the wording to allow for a second alternate member on the committee.

Moved by Boyd, seconded by Benak, to approve Amendment #1 to Ordinance No. 48, Section III, Membership to read: The committee may have two (2) alternate members appointed by the Township of Whitewater Board of Trustees. Roll call vote: Hockin, yes; Hubbell, yes; Lake, yes; Benak, yes; Boyd, yes. **Motion approved.**

New Business

Abandoned Buildings-Hearing Officer Appointment

Planning/zoning administrator Meyers reviewed for the board the purpose of the Abandoned Buildings Ordinance. She stated that a Hearing Officer must be appointed and stated that Bradley Link, member of the Planning Commission and a Civil Engineer is will to serve in this capacity. The duties of the Hearing Officer were reviewed and discussed.

Moved by Boyd, seconded by Hubbell, to approve recommendation of the supervisor appointing Bradley Link as Hearing Officer for the Abandoned Building Ordinance for a term ending December 31, 2014. **Motion approved.**

The remuneration for the Hearing Officer was discussed.

Moved by Boyd, seconded by Lake to add \$100.00 per case for the Hearing Officer to the Salary/Wage Scale. **Motion approved.**

Resolution #12-19, Establishment of a Receiving Board for Elections

Changes to Election Law require the establishment of a Receiving Board for Elections. Hockin presented Resolution #12-19, a Resolution to Establish a Receiving Board for Elections.

Moved by Hubbell, seconded by Boyd, to adopt Resolution #12-19, Establishment of a Receiving Board for Elections. 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.

Amendment to Ambulance Policies & Procedure Manual

A modification to the ambulance service orientation form was recommended by the inspector during the ambulance inspection held in September. The modified form was presented for board review. Hockin noted that minor changes: Change the name to Whitewater Township Ambulance Service, adding the heading to each page and a column for initial and yearly columns need to be made; also change the name to Whitewater Township Ambulance Service.

Moved by Boyd, seconded by Hubbell, to amend the Whitewater Township Ambulance Service Policies, Guidelines & Procedures adding the revised orientation form. **Motion approved.**

Letter to Grand Traverse County Board of Public Works-Re: G-5 Voting

Discussion of letter to BPW. It was the consensus to have supervisor Lake call attorney Fahey to ask his opinion; then have the supervisor send the letter if attorney Fahey indicated it appropriate.

Board Comments/Discussion

Hubbell asked about the Septage Ordinance and Contract.

There was a discussion of sending a letter to the citizens to send to the BPW.

Moved by Boyd, seconded by Hubbell, to send a letter to Whitewater Township citizens in reference to the BPW proposed special assessment. **Motion approved.**

Announcements

Next regular meeting is scheduled for 10/23/12.

Public Comment

Lois MacLean, 5919 Linderleaf Ln.

- Suggests using the strategy of not putting the special assessment on the tax rolls for the letter.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Carol Hockin, Clerk