

Minutes for Whitney Township Board Meeting  
Held on July 11, 2017

Meeting was called order by Supervisor, Donald Becker at 7:00pm.

Present: Semenick, Gehris, Becker, McAlindon, Anderson

Absent: None

Minutes:

Moved by Semenick, Seconded by McAlindon, CARRIED to approve the minutes from the June 13, 2017 meeting as printed.

Treasurer's Report:

John went over fund sheets for General Fund and Water Fund

June 2017

General Fund

Income	\$34107.73	Disbursements	\$50843.58
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Balance on Hand	\$171426.98		
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Water Fund

Income	\$18377.12	Disbursements	\$10892.92
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Balance on Hand	\$49519.84		
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Moved by Anderson, Seconded by Semenick, CARRIED to receive the Treasurer's Report subject to audit.

Zoning Report:

Working on violations in the Township

He needs to send a ticket and is having trouble getting a current address to send it to.

He is watching another resident and has had a discussion with said resident about the problem.

Assessor's Report:

Not a lot to report, Jessica is working on 2018 tax roll

July Board of Review is Tuesday, July 18, 2017 at 11 am. There is one Board of Review member leaving and possibly another could be leaving.

Fire Authority Report:

Someone from the fire department has gone to pick up the new fire truck, which means we will be getting another truck to put in our fire barn soon.

Sims-Whitney Utility Authority Update:

Plant is moving along nicely

Sims Whitney Cemetery/Transfer Station Update:

There are some ongoing issues with Sims Township doing whatever they want to do without consulting Whitney Township on the issue. There is going to be a meeting with the Township Attorney to see if there is anything that can be done about the problem.

Bids for the Transfer Station contract are supposed to be opened sometime this month.

**Public Comment:**

\*Ethan Buchanan wanted to know why he is not getting a full refund for his demo permit.

Don asked him why he started demo before getting the permit. He stated that the dumpsters were delivered, so they went ahead with the demolition.

He doesn't think that he should be charged for 2 different demo permits for one parcel of property.

Don and Kim will consult the attorney to see what he thinks about the issue.

**Old Business:**

Roadside Mowing- Shoulders have been mowed already in some areas. He also trimmed on Delano Rd in the seasonal section.

Garage Bids- There were two people asked to bid on putting up the garage kit that we had designed online. Both bids came in and the results were as follows:

Moore Builders- quoted the job to build the garage kit from Menards that the Township would purchase and have delivered. His quote included labor and cement work to be done and came in at \$11,100.00. This option would be with the garage kit for \$4107.56, which brings the total to \$15207.56.

Aboveboard Builders- quoted the job to build a garage with all supplies to be bought at Bernard Building Center and no garage kit. His quote included all materials, cement work, and labor at \$13495.00, which included two windows in the garage. The Board would like to see how much the cost would be without the windows, because they feel they are unnecessary.

There was a discussion of putting skylights in instead of windows.

Moved by Semenick, Seconded by Anderson, CARRIED to accept the bid from Aboveboard Builders with the exclusion of the windows and as long as the price does not exceed \$13100.00.

Mosquito Control Spraying- APM has sent us an email about how they are proceeding on mosquito control as of June 25, 2017. Due to the heavy rains at that time they stopped ground spray and were treating the standing water instead. There is a more aggressive mosquito that comes out when there is a lot of standing water and they want to try to get as many as possible before a big hatch takes place. We have not received any further updates since this email on what they are doing. They were going to handle any nuisance calls that they received from residents during this standing water treatment, also.

Machine for Check Processing and Credit Card- John checked with Chemical Bank to see if they had the same type of machine, but they do not. We need to talk to Denise about getting the machine and switching over the accounts to begin the process. We are also going to work on getting the Township credit card at the same time.

There have been some complaints about the processing fee for paying bills online. People have been told that this money is charged by the company we use and not by the Township and we are not going

to stop taking the payments because people don't want to pay a fee to use online services. If they do not want to pay the fee then send a check for the bill.

#### New Business:

Petition for the Alabaster/Whitney Drain- The Drain Commissioner has given Don a petition that needs to be passed for clean up to be done on that drain.

Moved by Semenick, Seconded by McAlindon, CARRIED to approve the petition for cleaning out the Alabaster/Whitney Drain.

Discussion on issues with the Cemetery Board- Sims has been doing things on their own without consulting Whitney Township. This Board is a joint board and all the members are supposed to have input into issues, but Sims has gone ahead and done things without Whitney's input. Don and Kim are going to consult with the Township Attorney to see what can be done about the issue. Once the attorney is consulted then we will have a special meeting to review his recommendations. We need to decide whether to have a special joint meeting to address the issues or include them with the special meeting where bids are being opened for the Transfer Station.

Discuss Downloading Township information to a Cloud Server- We are currently backing up to external hard drives and flash drives, but we need to consider going to a cloud service instead. The Township IT person has suggested that it could be around \$60.00 a year for cloud storage and it would mean we wouldn't have to spend \$90.00 to replace the external hard drive John uses.

Fran would like to see us get rid of the current IT company, because of the problems that we have had getting a working computer for the Clerk. IT Right was suggested by Jessica Williams, because she knows people that are using them and they are supposed to be a good company.

MTA Training Class- There is a class coming up in August about Planning and Zoning Issues. The class is in Frankenmuth and Ernie is already attending it through Sims Township, but we need to know who wants to go from here. Fran and Don would like to attend and think we should offer to send anyone from the Planning Commission and Zoning Board of Appeals that would like to go, as well.

Moved by McAlindon, Seconded by Gehris, CARRIED to approve Don and Fran to attend the class with the offer being made to the Planning Commission and Zoning Board of Appeals to attend as well if they want.

Phragmites issue on the Township Property- The 160-acre parcel that the Township owns is being overrun by Phragmites and Don wanted to see if the Board was open to having someone come in to take care of them. The Board has decided to seek more information on what options are available to the Township for getting rid of the problem.

Roads- Fran wanted to know if the road projects were completed. The projects are done and we are waiting for the bill to come in.

Demo Permit Issue- Fran wants to make sure that we are checking in to the issue. Don and Kim are going to consult the attorney on Thursday when they meet with him.

Public Comment:

M. Piotrowski- discussed the fact that Sims Township pays the bills for the Cemetery/Transfer Station at their meetings and doesn't consult Whitney about said bills. There needs to be a solution found for this problem.

M. Piotrowski- asked about the Alabaster/Whitney Drain issue. She was unsure where the drain was even located and what needed to be done to it.

M. Piotrowski- Who is mowing the primary roads? The Road Commission has hired someone to do the primary roads and the Township has hired someone to do the mowing in the Township. She is concerned about the way the roads are being mowed on Turner Road.

Pay the Bills:

Moved by McAlindon, Seconded by Gehris, CARRIED to pay the bills and any that come in later.

Adjournment:

Moved by McAlindon, Seconded by Becker, CARRIED to adjourn at 8:40pm.

Kimberly Anderson  
Whitney Township Clerk