

Minutes for Whitney Township Board Meeting  
Held on August 14, 2018

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

Present: Anderson, Gehris, Semenick, Becker, McAlindon (via phone)

Absent: None

Minutes:

Moved by Semenick, Seconded by Gehris, CARRIED to approve the minutes for the July 10, 2018 meeting, as printed.

Treasurer's Report:

John went over fund sheets for General Fund and Water Fund.

General Fund

July 2018

Income	\$32918.88	Disbursements	\$26836.54
Balance on Hand	\$246780.33		

Water Fund

Income	\$22632.15	Disbursement	\$17600.14
Balance on Hand	\$25685.77		

Moved by Anderson, Seconded by Semenick, CARRIED to receive the Treasurer's Report subject to audit.

Zoning Report:

Ernie has written some letters to residents about issues on their property. Other than that, it has been quiet.

Assessor's Report:

Jessica was unable to attend the meeting; but left a letter with her report (attached).

\* July Board of Review 9 changes

\* Field audits for Sections 15 & 16 are being done

\* Land Division for Marie Piotrowski

She will be in the office on August 17<sup>th</sup> and August 31<sup>st</sup>.

Fire Authority Report:

Meeting is Thursday night, so there is nothing to report.

Sims-Whitney Utility Authority Report:

Everything is done except for the lawn issue. New windows will be installed soon.

Badger is not supporting meters- what is going on with this issue. Badger is going to be at the September Authority Meeting. Neptune Meters will be at the August Authority Meeting to present their meters and answer any questions.

Some of the meters are cellular based and we don't have reliable cell service here, so we are not sure if they are going to work.

Badger is going to try to get a fixed signal tower or something to make sure we have service if we go with their meters.

Jeremy from Intensified Technology is working on a fix for the issue, also.

John talked to Michigan Rural Water and the guy gave him information on Neptune meters.

Fran wants to push Rural Water to help us find a fix for the meter problem.

Sims Whitney Cemetery/Transfer Station Report:

The next meeting is August 27, 2018 at Sims Township Hall

Bob Mackie emailed us about payment that hasn't been made since March.

Don is going to write up the agenda for the meeting and send to Sims Township.

Everything is going well at the Transfer Station. They have used the open top for a little trash, but we mostly haven't had any issues since 4<sup>th</sup> of July.

What is being done about Labor Day?

The fence being closed off has not been a real issue. There were a few bags dumped at the gate, but not a real issue since the first incident.

Should we put it in the newsletter about the fence being closed off? Yes

Cemetery- There was a problem with the new tractor. It had break in oil in it and the mower shut down as a safety precaution built into the mower. The tractor was given an oil change and is working fine now.

Fran wants to take a letter again and leave when we get to the Cemetery portion of the agenda. Tell them in the letter that we need a response in writing with their signatures notarized before we start giving them money again.

We want the Cemetery/Transfer Station Board to be re-organized into a smaller board with the possibility of having 2 separate boards for each entity.

Public Comment:

B. Boensch- The sign didn't have prices on it when he was at the Transfer Station a couple weeks ago. He asked about the Tower lease issue again. Asked when the next Cemetery/Transfer Station meeting was. He asked about the water plant project and whether everything was paid off.

K. Boyum from Pinewood Subdivision- he wants to know what the residents' need to do about the roads being resurfaced at the south end of the subdivision. It was explained that the 1<sup>st</sup> 5-year plan is all set, they would have to wait until the mileage is renewed, if it is renewed. He wants to know why one person was allowed to talk for the residents at the south end of the subdivision. We can investigate the road situation and see what can be done. The association is having a meeting Labor Day weekend and they are going to inform us who is going to be representing the association in the future.

B. Boensch- asked about grass growing up in the road and who oversees handling the issue. He wants to know if they just spray with weed killer.

Old Business:

MTA Meeting- the local chapter meeting was held on July 19<sup>th</sup>, Don asked if there was anything presented that the Board should know about.

Road Work Update- roads are all done with the addition of Swartz Rd. and Twining Roads. Van Horn is done and is really nice. The stone we got from the Road Commission was not good, the rocks are too big and there was a lot of dirt mixed in with the rock, which is going to turn into mud when it rains.

Election Results- Everything went fine. All the mileages and proposals passed in Whitney Township.

Variance Hearing- The variance was denied again

Audit Report- should we have them come in and do a report to the Board Members, yes.

New Business:

MTA "On The Road" Training- The MTA is offering regional meetings for elected officials to learn about current issues in Township Government. There are several locations available for the Board Members to choose from:

Fran wants to go to Frankenmuth on October 2, 2018

Don and Kim will be going to Frankenmuth, also. Kim is also going to Alpena on October 23, 2018.

John is not interested in going

Scott will see if he is available to attend any of the sessions.

Short Term Rental Ordinance- Mr. Eppert was sent a copy of the Ordinance to review and he has written a letter and requested that he meet with the Planning Commission before we go any further with the process of trying to get it in effect. Kim is going to email and invite him to attend the next Planning Commission meeting in October. We have to find a new member for the Planning Commission, because one members term is up and he doesn't want to continue the Board.

Resolutions for Garbage and Delinquent Water- A resolution needs to be passes each year for putting the garbage fee on the taxes and add delinquent water bills onto the taxes. John has typed the Resolutions and they are attached to the minutes. Both resolutions passed.

Wind Ordinance- The Planning Commission was asked to review the Wind Ordinance that is in place to see if it needed to be updated. The Planning Commission reviewed it and feels that it is enough; but would like to see the bond amount increased to cover costs for removal of any turbines. The Planning Commission recommended \$15,000.00, there was a discussion of whether that was enough. Moved by Semenick, Seconded by Becker, CARRIED to increase the bond amount to \$20,000.00 in the wind ordinance.

There was a discussion about doing a Solar Ordinance, also. Fran is working on one for review by the Planning Commission. The Ordinance is mainly to regulate setbacks and lifetime of the panels.

Roadside Mowing- Should we have the shoulders mowed again? Yes.

Moved by Semenick, Seconded by Anderson, CARRIED to approve a second roadside mowing in the Township.

Pay the Bills:

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

Adjournment:

Moved by Gehris, Seconded by Becker, CARRIED to adjourn at 8:25pm.

Kimberly Anderson  
Whitney Township Clerk