

Minutes for Regular Meeting of Whitney Township
held of January 14, 2020

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

Present: Anderson, McAlindon, Becker, Gehris, Zimmermann

Absent: None

Minutes:

Moved by McAlindon, Seconded by Gehris, CARRIED to approve the minutes from the December 10, 2019 meeting, as printed.

Treasurer's Report:

John went over fund sheets.

December 2019

General Fund

Income	\$38456.61	Disbursements	\$45547.86
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Balance on Hand	\$89948.74		
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Water Department

Income	\$31176.20	Disbursements	\$27510.02
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Balance on Hand	\$57759.68		
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Moved by Anderson, Seconded by McAlindon, CARRIED to receive the Treasurer's Report, subject to audit.

Zoning Report:

Michael Fil the Zoning Administrator went over his report and a copy will be attached to the minutes.

Assessor's Report:

J. Landy is having a meeting with Ed Rohn on Friday, January 17, 2020 about shoreline issues that are going on in the Township. He has done a fly over to assess the damage along the shoreline of Lake Huron for the County.

J. Landry has been trying to get the agricultural land values down from \$4100.00/acre to the \$2100.00/acre. She is having a hard time justifying the land values where they are set now.

Mr. Wazny has asked for his garbage fee to be removed from one of the parcels he owns, because the trailer on the property is unlivable and he is paying on two other parcels for garbage.

A resolution needs to be passed to remove the garbage fee from his tax bill, the resolution will be typed up for the next meeting and will be Resolution #2020-01. The resolution will be signed at that time, but there was a vote done about the topic with the following results:

Moved by McAlindon, Seconded by Zimmermann, CARRIED with a roll call vote to remove the garbage fee from the 10-acre parcel with the unlivable trailer on it. Results from vote are as follows:

McAlindon- Yes	Gehris- Yes	Becker- Yes	Anderson- Yes
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Zimmermann- Yes			
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Short Term Rental Article- There was an article in the Township Focus magazine that the MTA puts out about people who rent their property for more than 14 days in a year losing their Primary Resident Exemption. That is something that needs to be looked at, but J. Landry thinks that most people who are renting are probably not getting the PRE anyway. She stated that we will have to keep an eye on it now that we know.

There have been several permits for the Ordinance sent out to people who are going to be renting their property, already.

Fire Authority Report:

The land was surveyed that they are trying to buy for a new fire barn.

The bill for the fire barn rent was sent to the treasurer of the fire board today.

Sims-Whitney Utilities Authority Report:

The \$10000.00 contribution is on hold until we find out if Sims' has approved it in their Township.

The Tower will be repaired in the next week or two.

Sims Whitney Cemetery/Transfer Station Report:

Tags will be here Thursday for distribution.

We must decide what to do with them, mail or hand out. Mail them out with a letter explaining the tag.

Sims filed a lawsuit against Whitney Township and we have filed papers back against them.

There is no recycling at the Transfer Station and people are complaining about it.

The last meeting was cancelled and was never rescheduled.

Public Comment:

M. Fil asked J. Landry about exemptions and how it is kept track of within the State/County/Local Governments.

Old Business:

Roads- the roads are bad in spots but have improved with all the snow.

Road ends- the end of Mackinaw wants gravel and it is a seasonal section. We should see if they want to help pay for the gravel like we did with T. Alden when we did VanHorn Rd.

Don asked at the last Road Commission meeting, if we can use our match money for ditching? They stated that we could use match money for ditching or anything we want related to roads.

It was stated that there is a night crew plowing the roads now and the Road Commission would like residents to give them as much room as possible to do their job when plowing.

MTA Conference- Everyone that stated that they would like to attend the conference has been registered and should have received their housing code. We will be booking rooms at 9am on January 23rd when housing reservations open.

Water Meter Replacement Plan- a meeting has been set for February 6, 2020 at 1pm to go over what the plan is for meter replacement in the Township.

New Business:

March Meeting Date- the election is on March 10th, so the March Board Meeting date needs to be changed to accommodate the election.

The dates available are March 3rd or March 11th.

Moved by Anderson, Seconded by Gehris, CARRIED to move the March Meeting date to March 3rd instead of March 10th.

Leasing the Delano Road Property- someone has expressed an interest in leasing the 160-acre parcel that the Township owns. We would have to have the attorney write up a lease agreement if we do lease it out.

We should advertise that we are leasing the property, so that others have an opportunity to lease it out, also.

Do we lease only to Township residents?

There was a discussion about the Township Hall being public or private property.

Should we lease the property or not? Ask the attorney whether we should allow or not. We will discuss it at the next meeting once we have the Township Attorney's opinion.

Pay the Bills:

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

Adjournment:

Moved by Gehris, Seconded by Zimmermann, CARRIED to adjourn at 8:20pm.

Kimberly Anderson
Whitney Township Clerk