

Minutes for Regular Meeting for Whitney Township
held on January 19, 2021.

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

Present: Gehris, Becker, Zimmermann, McAlindon, Anderson

Absent: None

Minutes:

Moved by McAlindon, Seconded by Zimmermann, CARRIED to approve the November 10, 2020 minutes, as printed.

Treasurer's Report:

Gehris went over fund sheets for November and December.

The demolition costs for 35 N. Huron Rd can be added to next falls taxes, but after that no more demolitions should be put on taxes.

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

Zoning Report:

M. Fil filed a written report but was unavailable for the meeting.

The land use permit list is at his home and we do not have a copy of it here to refer to when there are questions that come up. Becker has discussed the issue with him.

Assessor's Report:

Assessor was not present for the meeting.

Fire Authority Report:

Nothing to report.

Sims-Whitney Utilities Authority Report:

The resolution that Sims Township passed is not binding on the Water Authority.

The water tower ownership is still being disputed.

Sims Whitney Cemetery/Transfer Station Report:

Cemetery case goes to court next month. Gehris, Anderson, and Nathan Miller from Stephenson and Co. are meeting with Mr. Eppert to discuss the case next week.

Public Comment:

P. Cardinal commented about D. Becker being back on the Board.

Old Business:

Roads- in the Road account we have \$4230.00, plus whatever comes in from the winter 2020 taxes that are collected.

Previous Meeting Cancellation- The December Board meeting was cancelled due to the Emergency Order from the State, which does not allow in person meetings.

New Business:

5-Year Road Plan- The Road Millage passed in August and the Township needs to come up with another 5-year plan for how to spend the millage money.

All the Board Members were tasked with driving around the Township and coming up with a list of what roads they feel need work. The list was compiled together and given to Board Members to review. The following roads were discussed:

Pinewood Subdivision at the south end but is not a project that needs to be done right away it can wait a couple years.

2020 Road Plan List:

Lee Rd in its entirety

Mackinaw Rd- Swartz Rd to where we left off (1894 Mackinaw Rd) from a previous year.

Mason Rd

Andrews Rd near old hardware

Hammel Beach Rd- from drain to Tonkey Rd

There was a lengthy discussion about other roads but could not come up with a concrete list for the last 4 years of the plan.

5 Year Parks and Recreation, Master Plan and Zoning Ordinance Update Proposals from OHM- The Planning Commission was reviewing all these documents based on the rule that they are to be updated every 5 years.

*In doing the review it was discovered that the Planning Commission was not comfortable with doing an update for the 5-Year Parks and Recreation Plan, because it has too much information in it that the Board was not qualified to change necessarily. OHM Advisors was the company that did the first plan, so the Township contacted them to give a proposal on what it would cost to come in and update the plan, the cost was \$6000.00.

*When the Planning Commission was doing the review of the Master Plan it discovered that the Master Plan was written based on a Law passed in 1959 and a newer version was passed in 2008. The Master Plan is the guiding document for the Zoning Ordinance, so if one is updated then the other must be, also. OHM Advisors were contacted about the Master Plan/Zoning Ordinance update as well. The cost for these documents to be re-written is \$7200.00.

No other bids were requested from other companies because we have worked with OHM Advisors in the past, but a Board Member suggested that we should seek bids from other companies to make sure that we were getting a fair price. Another Board Member said it is good to work with someone who knows how things work in Our Township, because of their previous experience in the Township.

*One of the Board Members asked if we really needed an updated version of the 5-Year Parks and Recreation Plan, because we do not really have any recreational projects that would work in the Township. That will need to be checked on and brought back up at the next meeting when Anderson contacts MTA to find out the answer to whether we need to really update the plan.

*There was a brief discussion of a moto cross track being put on the 160-acre property the Township owns, but after the discussion it was dismissed because of possible liability issues. Moved by Anderson Seconded by Zimmermann, CARRIED to approve the bid for the Master Plan/Zoning Ordinance update.

Township Property for Hunting- Becker was approached by a resident that wanted to know if the Delano Rd property was still available to hunt on. The property was posted for no hunting or trespassing in the fall. The question was raised whether we wanted to allow people to hunt on the property anymore or not. The Board was in agreement that there should be no hunting.

Water Meters- The Township needs to order the meters now for use in the spring for the continuation of the meter replacement process that we have started. The meters take 6-8 weeks to manufactured, so it is best to order now.

We will be doing Section 2 next. It was suggested that we order 225 meters like we did for Section 1.

Moved by Zimmermann, Seconded by McAlindon, CARRIED to approve ordering 225 meters for Section 2.

Assessing Resolution Paperwork- The Assessor needs to have on file a resolution for establishing a policy regarding Accessibility of the Township Assessor's Office to Township Taxpayers, because of State Laws on Assessing.

Moved by McAlindon, Seconded by Gehris, CARRIED to approve the Assessing Resolution.

Snowplowing- We received a bid from Karl's Pro Serve and from Dennis Nelkie. The bids were as follows:

Karl's Pro Serve- plow full lot and to main door and in front of firemen's service door- \$150.00.

Heavy Snow will be fire doors and part of lot till one snowing \$100.00 with touch ups a Minimum of \$40.00. Salt will be \$15.00 per bag.

Dennis Nelkie- snowplowing and salting \$65.00 per plow, including driveway, sidewalks, and all fire barn doors. Which is the same as last year's price.

Moved by McAlindon, Seconded by Zimmermann, CARRIED to approve Dennis Nelkie's bid for snowplowing.

Budget Matters- There are a couple of areas that need the actual budget number adjusted to cover costs, because the overage is too large to move from other areas of the budget. There

are a couple of line items that can be amended by moving from one line item to another, because they are smaller.

Moved by McAlindon, Seconded by Zimmermann, CARRIED to adjust budget numbers as needed to cover any budget overages and make smaller amendments.

There will be a copy of the changes that are made given to the Board Members at the next meeting in February.

Next Meeting: February 9, 2021 at 7pm.

Adjournment:

Moved by Gehris, Seconded by Zimmermann, CARRIED to adjourn at 8:42pm.

Kimberly Anderson
Whitney Township Clerk