

Minutes for Whitney Township Regular Meeting  
Held on May 11, 2021

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

Present: Becker, Gehris, McAlindon, Zimmermann, Anderson

Absent: None

Minutes:

March 28, 2020

Moved by Gehris, Seconded by McAlindon, CARRIED to approve the minutes from March 28, 2020 meeting, as printed.

April 13, 2021

Moved by McAlindon, Seconded by Zimmermann, CARRIED to approve the minutes from April 13, 2021 meeting, as printed.

Treasurer's Report:

Gehris went over fund sheets for General Fund and Water Department.

April 2021

General Fund

Income	\$32008.00	Disbursements	\$26838.03
Balance on Hand	\$199252.98		

Water Department

Income	\$27187.37	Disbursements	\$12061.66
Balance on Hand	\$82235.03		

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

Linda Pyle has been hired as the new Deputy Treasurer and has been in the office already to be sworn in and start learning the job. The Board needs to approve L. Pyle being able to collect and handle water bills.

Zoning Report:

M. Fil handed in his last report and all the Township's belongings that he was using for the job. He stated to Anderson and Gehris that he would be willing to stay on as Zoning Administrator if he got a raise to \$800.00/month.

We need to advertise the position in the Arenac County Independent.

Assessor's Report:

J. Landry was not present due to illness.

Fire Authority Report:

No meeting was held last month, due to no quorum.

Where does the new fire barn stand?

Sims-Whitney Utilities Authority Report:

Nothing new last month.

Need to talk to Attorney about legal issue with Bob Wiltse.

Sims Whitney Cemetery/Transfer Station Report:

Do not know when we are meeting next.

Garbage tags- we need to find out about whether there are new commercial tags for 2021 and what we are going to do about the residential tags, also. We really should not be using the same tags from year to year, there should be a date on them or a new color for each year.

R. Zimmermann would like to see if we could change to stickers for in the cars instead of tags. They would be harder for people to share with people outside the Townships'.

Public Comment:

G. Minard came to talk to the Board about her brother's tax bill to try and get him a refund on the administration fees, since they did not get the bills when they came out. J. Gehris was told by the County Treasurer that the homeowner is responsible for making sure that they request a tax bill if they do not receive one mailed to them when they are initially sent out. It is not the Township's responsibility to make sure that each resident gets their tax bills, the resident should know that they are supposed to receive 2 tax bills a year and if they did not get them, they should be calling the Township Hall to find out where they are or requesting another copy. \*The taxes in question were paid in Standish because they were late. The resident claims that they were not paid because the property was changed over into a relative's name without permission and no one received a bill. They are asking for the administration fees and interest back because the property should not have been changed into someone else's name. The Treasurer and the Board need to find out how the property got changed into someone else's name and then they will decide on whether a refund will be given.

A resident asked about the short-term rental at 2254 N. Huron Rd. The Zoning Administrator sent a letter explaining that they needed to apply for a permit to rent out the property according to the Short-Term Rental Ordinance that is in place in the Township. The owners have come in to get an application 2 different times, but neither application has been returned. The Ordinance states that non-resident owners are to apply for a variance to use their property as a rental property as well, but that was not stated in the letter, so the Township will have to send another letter stating that a variance needs to be applied for, as well. The biggest problem we face now is that the Zoning Administrator has quit and we have no one to send them another letter until a new Zoning Administrator has been hired.

Anderson is going to contact Mr. Eppert to consult about the issue again.

Old Business:

Roads- quotes were received for the roads that were listed in the Road Plan and just need signatures from all the Board Members. Anderson will scan and email back to Road Commission, so that the work can be scheduled as soon as possible.

Bids- There are several projects that need to have bids reviewed and approved by the Board. They are as follows:

\*Driveway price is \$2209.00, that was already approved at the last meeting this bid was only given out for informational purposes.

\*Roadside Mowing- Ken Swartz is unable to mow the roadside this year and we have received a bid from the person that does the mowing for the County. The bid is for \$50.00 per road mile. Need to find out if that is for both sides of the road. Moved by Zimmermann, Seconded by Gehris, CARRIED to approve roadside mowing bid if it is for both sides of the road and the mowing is done twice a year.

\*Windows/Power Washing- We received a bid for cleaning the windows and power washing the building, with the following prices being given:

Outside Windows only \$75.00

Inside/Outside Windows \$120.00

Power Washing and Windows with only Outside Windows \$425.00

Power Washing and Both Inside/Outside Windows \$475.00

Moved by McAlindon, Seconded by Zimmermann, CARRIED to approve the bid for Power Washing and washing Inside/Outside Windows.

\*Audit- Stephenson and Company has given us a letter laying out the pricing for the audit for the Township with three different options.

Option 1- Single Year for \$6085.00

Option 2- Three Years with pricing for 2021- \$5915.00

2022 for \$6090.00

2023 for \$6275.00

Option 3- Five Years with pricing for 2021-\$5795.00

2022 for \$5970.00

2023 for \$6150.00

2024 for \$6335.00

2025 for \$6525.00

Moved by Becker, Seconded by McAlindon, CARRIED to approve the bid for Option 3 from Stephenson and Company.

\*Trees- Karl from the lawn service would like the Township to consider cutting down all the trees in the yard. The Board agreed that that is not an option.

Zoning- Short-Term Rental- already discussed in public comment.

New Business:

Land Use Permits- The Board needs to consider whether to charge for land use permits, most Townships in the area already charge for land use permits. The price of \$20.00 was suggested by J. Gehris.

Moved by McAlindon, Seconded by Zimmermann, CARRIED to institute a charge of \$20.00 for a land use permit, starting June 1, 2021.

Pay the Bills:

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

Adjournment:

Moved by Anderson, Seconded by Zimmermann, CARRIED to adjourn at 8:55pm.

Kimberly Anderson  
Whitney Township Clerk