

Minutes for Regular Meeting for Whitney Township
held on June 14, 2022

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

Present: Anderson, Gehris, McAlindon, Becker, Zimmermann
Absent: None

Minutes:

Moved by McAlindon, Seconded by Zimmermann, CARRIED to approve the minutes from the May 10, 2022 meeting, as printed.

Treasurer's Report:

Gehris went over fund sheet for the General Fund and Water Department.

May 2022

General Fund

Income	\$34134.44	Disbursements	\$25896.22
Balance on Hand	\$322583.63		

Water Department

Income	\$48474.49	Disbursements	\$73933.76
Balance on Hand	\$17957.66		

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

Zoning Report:

A shed was brought onto a property in the Township without the proper permits and someone is living in it.

Property owner at 287 N Huron Rd is working on cleaning up the property.

Assessor's Report:

Everything is settled with the County.

Working on a lot split for a resident. Working on assessing two properties being combined without combining them.

Fire Authority Report:

No new fire barn, they are looking at getting a new fire truck instead. The fire chief is trying to get a couple more bids for the barn, just to satisfy the Board's request from a couple of months ago.

Whitney Township needs to replace the light fixtures in the fire barn.

Sims-Whitney Utilities Authority Report:

Nothing new on the everyday operations.

The mediation settlement is not going as smoothly as we had hoped. The Board needs to decide if we want to stop negotiations and go to court or keep trying to get an agreement signed.

Moved by Gehris, Seconded by Becker, CARRIED to inform the Attorney to stop negotiating and go to court.

Sims Whitney Cemetery/Transfer Station Report:

The next meeting is June 30, 2022 at 7pm at Sims Township Hall.

The gravel has been laid at the Transfer Station.

Flags were done at the Cemetery on May 23, 2022 for Memorial Day.

Both tractors for the Transfer Station were taken in for repair. We are going to have to consider buying a new mower to replace the John Deere.

The Cemetery beach has high e-coli levels and is closed for now.

Public Comment:

*Mr. Ming was here from the AuGres Sims School District to talk about the millage renewal that is on the ballot in August. It is for non-homesteaded properties, and they are not asking for additional monies.

*The Dime Drain Culvert will be replaced sometime in the next month or so. A resident asked if they were going to install guard rails like there is now. Anderson will contact Road Commission to find out.

*P. Cardinal asked about the new fire barn not being built.

Old Business:

Roads & Dust Control- talked about the Drain project already.

Dust Control will be done within the next couple of weeks. Road Commission is working on grading and finishing the new gravel that was laid.

More residents have approached Becker about getting ditching done on their roads.

Leasing Copier & Water Bill Printer- The copier company has sent a bid for the new printers (which is attached to the minutes). There are 2 models of copiers for the Clerk/Supervisor Office and a smaller printer for the Treasurer's Office. We need to decide which model to get and decide whether to lease or purchase outright. It would be cheaper to buy outright. There is a monthly maintenance fee of \$35.00 for the copiers. McAlindon would like to see the Township buy a printer from Best Buy or Walmart to use instead of purchasing a large printer again.

Moved by Becker, Seconded by Zimmermann, CARRIED with one no vote to purchase the BP70C31 & MXB350P copiers from Image Business Solutions.

Women's Bathroom Repair- the plumbers will be here on June 21st to do the repair.

Mowing- Karl said okay to the question of charging a flat rate.

New Business:

Water Rate Increase- the last rate increase on the ready to serve fee was in 2019 and the last increase in the water rate was 2020, so it is time to consider a raise to both rates.

Gehris proposed a 3% increase in the ready to serve fee, which would mean that the rate would go from \$65.00 to \$67.00.

Water rate proposed increase is 2%, which would mean that the water rate would go from \$5.71/thousand gallons to \$5.82/thousand gallons.

Moved by Gehris, Seconded by Anderson, CARRIED to increase the ready to serve fee to \$67.00 and the water rate per thousand gallons to \$5.82, effective August 1, 2022.

Router for Compute Network- the router keeps failing and we must keep going to the rack and unplugging and plugging it back in to get the internet to work.

Mileage Rate- Gehris informed the Board that the mileage rate has increased from .585/mile to .625/mile. The Board had passed a motion to follow the federal mileage rate, but that is something that is managed at the Annual Meeting, so nothing is going to be done about it at this time.

Lawyer- we need to think about replacing Mr. Eppert as the Township Attorney. He is not returning phone calls in a timely manner and that is causing delays in dealing with zoning issues that arise. Becker would like to keep him on but using Jamie Nisidis for pressing issues that need to be managed quickly.

Planning Commission- we need to do something about the Chairman of the Planning Commission, because he hasn't been making it to all the meetings. We are supposed to meet 4 times a year per the Zoning Ordinance and sometimes we are lucky if we meet twice a year.

Anderson is going to contact the MTA to ask about how to remove someone from a Board.

Pay the Bills-

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

Adjournment-

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

Kimberly Anderson
Whitney Township Clerk