

Minutes from Regular Meeting for Whitney Township
held on November 14, 2023

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

Present: Anderson, Becker, Gehris, Zimmermann, McAlindon

Absent: None

Minutes:

Moved by Gehris, Seconded by Zimmermann, CARRIED to approve the October 10, 2023 minutes, as printed.

Treasurer's Report:

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

October 2023

General Fund

Income	\$38843.25	Disbursements	\$30605.11
Balance on Hand	\$174588.95		

Water Department

Income	\$39600.65	Disbursements	\$19090.01
Balance on Hand	\$149572.90		

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

Joint Water Agreement- as part of the mediation settlement the SWUA Board was to review and update the Articles of Incorporation and Joint Water Agreement. Gehris and DeLeo have been working on the updates and the Articles of Incorporation have been approved, now we need to approve the Joint Water Agreement updates. The employees have an issue with the Chairman being so involved in the notification on vacation days and having to put their vacation time in writing at all.

D. Becker questioned whether the water lines and other water related issues are in this agreement as being owned by the Authority. The only thing that is owned by the Authority is the water towers and the water plant. There was also an issue about allowing other entities to join the Authority Board and whether that should be allowed. Anderson is going to send the agreement to the attorney to review for further issues.

Moved by McAlindon, Seconded by Anderson, CARRIED to table the Joint Water Agreement approval until the attorney reviews the document.

Zoning Report:

J. Vinson is on vacation, but before he left, he had 3 people who were put on notice that when he came back if their property wasn't cleaned up there was going to be further action taken. There are a couple of people who feel that J. Vinson is not doing his job properly. Becker brought up the fact that we haven't taken anyone to court recently, which was responded to by saying that it is a good thing that we aren't in court all the time. By not going to court we save time and money, which also means that J Vinson is doing his job properly.

J. Vinson tried to reach the gentleman with the sand issue but had not been able to reach him before he left for vacation.

J. Archambeau spoke about Josh and his issue with J. Brown and that he is not happy with how J. Vinson is doing his job. He feels that J. Vinson has only been helping himself on the job, because he has made improvements to his property.

J. Archambeau has spoken with the Road Commission about the private road running along his property. It was pointed out to J. Archambeau that the plat map dedication states that the roads are for all people in Pinewood Subdivision not just the people living on Lake Drive. It was also pointed out that there was a court decision that was made in 1990 stating that most of the roads in Pinewood Subdivision including Lake Drive are public roads.

Assessor's Report:

J. Landry is working on 2024 roll and everything that that entails.

Fire Authority Report:

The Fire Authority received a grant from the State for equipment.

Sims-Whitney Utilities Authority Report:

The underground tank was inspected this week. Still waiting for parts for the second filter membrane, so they can finish installing it.

Sims Whitney Transfer Station/Cemetery Report:

The new compactor is here and is larger than we thought it was going to be. They took several of the smaller dumpsters out and are moving the metal trailer further in on the property.

Public Comment:

Representative Hoadley came to introduce himself and give the Board an update on legislation that has been passed recently.

There was a new Labor law passed, several pieces of legislation on Elections passed, and the new Renewable Energy package of bills, also passed.

The bill on commercial fishing for out of state fisherman is dead in the legislature. There was a discussion on fishing and cormorant control issues.

There was a discussion of the DNR Property at the Singing Bridge access and what is going to be done down there. Anderson received correspondence that stated that the DNR was trying to get grant funding to do the improvements that need to be made.

S. Gingerich would not like to see the ditching done on Delano Road, because it would flood out a lot of farmland and cause soil erosion along the road. He has spent a lot of his own money to ditch along his property to keep the water down and would not like to see that money go to waste by flooding him out. The real issue along that road is the overgrown trees and debris that is blocking the water from moving properly.

J. Archambeau asked about shipping containers being used for storage on private property. Is there a fee involved? He would like to see an ordinance passed to not allow them in the Township.

Old Business:

Roads- Ditching Delano Road- we have a quote for ditching the road for \$24000.00. The Board discussed the issue and decided to make the following motion.

Moved by Anderson, Seconded by McAlindon, CARRIED to not ditch Delano Road.

New Business:

2% Tribal Grant- the distribution is Friday in Standish at 2pm. Zimmermann has volunteered to attend on behalf of the Board.

Cameras for the Hall- With the new legislation on election security we must have a camera pointed at the Absentee Ballot drop. The State is paying for the one camera and the installation for all the cameras. The camera company said they could install a new 9 camera system for the Hall, but he didn't have time to put together a quote.

Moved by McAlindon, Seconded by Zimmermann, CARRIED to get a security system installed at the Hall not to exceed \$6000.00 in cost.

Pay the Bills:

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

Adjournment:

Moved by McAlindon, Seconded by Anderson, CARRIED to adjourn the meeting at 8:25pm.

Kimberly Anderson
Whitney Township Clerk