

# WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING MINUTES

IN PERSON MEETING

18Jan24 7:00PM

- I. Call to Order by Supervisor Whaley at 7pm, Pledge of Allegiance, Roll Call;  
Present: Eric Whitford, Nancy Rogers, Kevin Whaley, Barbara Hoffer, Howard Whaley
- II. Approval of minutes from last board meeting- Motion to accept as presented by K.Whaley, 2<sup>nd</sup> by E.Whitford, all in favor.
- III. Approval/Adjustments of Agenda – Motion to add GCRC Agreement to VII. c); FOIA Fee Schedule to VII. h); Auditor to VII. i) by E.Whitford, 2<sup>nd</sup> by K.Whaley, all in favor.
- IV. Adjustment/Approval of budget/Financial report/Bills/Bank account reconciliations – Motion by N.Rogers to accept Treasurers Reports w/clerk verification and reconciliations, 2<sup>nd</sup> by E.Whitford, roll call vote: all yes.  
Recommendation by BSA for Treasurer to move interest earned from bank accounts (except Road Millage) into general fund account monthly. W-2's must be filed online, Clerk Hoffer signed up and is waiting for a code to be mailed to complete the online registration. Paper copies of the W-2's will be ready for employees on time.
- V. Open Issues/Visitors – Theresa/DTE gave update on solar. Steve Sopocy/Gratiot County Commissioner present.
  - a) Used Equipment lot, Police Power Ordinance - Lawyer-ongoing
  - b) IRS Mileage – Updated 2024 rate \$.67/mile
  - c) Election update – Clerk Hoffer provided updates on training schedules, AV Ballots, early voting site, dates & times.
  - d) Blue prints/estimates – Nancy presented updates to proposed changes. Gratiot County Commissioner, Steve Sopocy reported that the signed contracts with the building contractor MUST be submitted before December 2024 for the grant.
  - e) Hall rental updates – Clerk Hoffer said there were 3 hall rentals in December, so far none have been scheduled for January or February.
  - f) Terror on 27/update – Supervisor Whaley sent a letter to address of Ilc. Will attempt to get information to contact owner at county level.
  - g) Oaths of Office – Clerk Hoffer reported that Annette Bontrager was sworn in as the new Deputy Treasurer, Joe Fabus/BOR oath is still needed.
  - h) Our BS&A Cloud went live on 1/16/2024. In person training was 1/16 – 1/18/2024, Remote training will be 1/22 – 1/24/2024. The taxes will be updated with the new fiscal year.
  - i) Consumers Energy / Invenergy Decommissioning Surety Bond – We are waiting on confirmation from Twp. Legal representation before further action.
  - j) Treasurer Whaley reported the Check Reader Machine has been ordered.
  - k) ~~Cemetery/McAllister's Excavating, Inc. contract – Nancy/Howard~~ Ordinance/Planning Commission Mtg needed/Special Mtg – Planning Commission Public Hearings are scheduled for 2/13/2024 at 6pm and 7pm.
  - l) Snow removal bid was received from Carl Kilpatrick 1/10/2024. Motion by K.Whaley to accept bid, 2<sup>nd</sup> by N.Rogers, roll call vote: all were in favor.
- VI. Public Comment for old business/open issues – none

VII. New Business

- a) Land use permit by Maple Pork/Eric & Joe Fabus for Agricultural Solar array was received by Assessor Whaley. No board action needed.
- b) Steps on Penalties for Ordinances – N.Rogers recommended postpone until March meeting.
- c) Supervisor Whaley will request to reschedule Road Commission Meeting/GCRC Agreement for 2/21/2024 at 9am.
- d) N.Rogers pointed out a Township Focus article regarding the need for a separate wage resolution for each position be set at the February Budget Meeting. That meeting will be at 6pm prior to the 7pm Board Meeting.
- e) Property and Liability insurance renewal with the Michigan Township Participating Plan via Burnham & Flowers was sent to Supervisor Whaley to sign.
- f) Dep Treasure Wages – Motion by B.Hoffer to pay \$25/hr until the 2024 Wage Resolutions are set, 2<sup>nd</sup> by N.Rogers, roll call vote: all in favor.
- g) Microsoft 365 Info/Decision – After consideration of pkgs available a motion by E.Whitford was made to purchase 365 Family Plan/monthly, 2<sup>nd</sup> by K.Whaley, roll call vote: all in favor.
- h) A resolution for a FOIA Fee Schedule is needed. B.Hoffer made a motion to table the discussion, 2<sup>nd</sup> by K.Whaley, all were in favor.
- i) Auditor – Discussion to keep current auditor & grant BSA read privilege. Motion to keep Campbell Auditing for another year by K.Whaley, 2<sup>nd</sup> by B.Hoffer, roll call vote: all in favor.

VIII. Letters/Correspondence:

- a) Information letter emailed from Citizens for Local Choice dated 1/5/2024 re: local control of solar, wind & energy storage petition to BOE
- b) Information letter from EGLE dated 12/28/2023 re: Drain at US127 at Bear Creek

IX. Additional Public Comment – Township debit/credit card needed. Treasurer Whaley will look into it.

- X. Motion to adjourn at 9:05pm was made by K.Whaley, 2<sup>nd</sup> by E.Whitford, all in favor.

Respectfully submitted by Clerk Hoffer 1/19/2024

Approved 2/15/2024  
Barbara Hoffer, Clerk  
~~Hoffer~~  
SUPERVISOR  
2/15/24