

WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING MINUTES

In Person Meeting on November 16, 2023 at 7:00PM

- I. Call to Order at 7:00pm, Pledge of Allegiance, Roll Call, Present: Howard Whaley, Barbara Hoffer, Kevin Whaley, Nancy Rogers, Eric Whitford.
- II. Motion to approve Special & Board Meeting Minutes from 10/19/2023 by N.Rogers, 2nd by E.Whitford, all in favor, none opposed.
- III. Motion to approve agenda with additions 1- VII. h) ZBA Wages/Terms 2- V. i) Ordinance Review 3- V. j) Check Reader by H.Whaley, 2nd by E.Whitford, all in favor, none opposed.
- IV. Budget / Financial Reports / Bills
 - a) Motion by B.Hoffer to approve financial reports as amended, 2nd by N.Rogers, Roll call vote: all in favor.
 - b) Discussion of CD – Motion by H.Whaley to put \$80,000 from ARPA funds into a 6 month CD at Mercantile Bank, 2nd by B.Hoffer, Roll call vote: all in favor.
- V. Open Issues/Visitors – Jason Hannath/DTE present
 - a) Used Equipment lot, Police Power Ordinance – ongoing, nothing new at this time.
 - b) Filing Cabinets are at the hall & must be moved into office.
 - c) Issue with the Sigma account has been resolved, we haven't received election reimbursement yet.
 - d) DTE Solar farm update & ongoing issues discussion. All complaints re: subcontractor trucks not using designated routes should be forwarded to Supervisor Whaley for documentation.
 - e) Election updates – Our township millage proposal passed, New Absentee Voter Ballot Box arrived and ready to be installed.
 - f) Review & discussion of Blueprints/estimates. Nancy to provide electronic copy of Blueprints to Board Members for review before December meeting for further discussion. Potential Special Meeting in January for public comments/discussion.
 - g) Information was provided to the auditor as requested to complete the F65.
 - h) Hall Rental Updates / Tax Bill Updates:
 1. AAFA rented the hall for 3 days of training & there was a rental for a funeral.
 2. 2 Hall rentals have been scheduled for December so far.
 3. Eric & Barb have submitted wording to be included with Winter Tax bills.
 - i) Ordinance Review with proposed amendments – ongoing, Planning Commission meeting needed before December Board Meeting. Public Hearing will be needed with 3 week notice for posting. Zoning Officer term has passed - Motion by B.Hoffer to reappoint Howard Whaley as Zoning Officer (term expired) for 2 years or until a new Z.O. can be appointed, 2nd by N.Rogers, 4 in favor, H.Whaley No.
 - j) Discussion of Check Reader – Motion by H.Whaley to approve purchase of a single check reader from Mercantile Bank using Office Equipment Budget, 2nd by E.Whitford, Roll call vote: Yes/H.Whaley, B.Hoffer, K.Whaley, E.Whitford, No/N.Rogers.

VI. Public Comment for old business/open issues

- a) Parking lot & playground updates/discussion brought up by Carl Kilpatrick.
- b) Road Commission / gravel discussion brought up by John Chvojka.

VII. New Business

- a) County Township mtg updates -
- b) BS&A Update
- c) Cemetery - Jose Whitford has given his resignation. We received one bid for digging & foundations at the cemetery. A new Cemetery Fee Resolution was presented by N. Rogers.
 - 1) Motion to adopt R-2023-025 as presented by E. Whitford, 2nd by B. Hoffer, roll call vote: all in favor.
 - 2) Motion to go into contract with McAllister's Escavating, llc with the new bid pending proof of liability insurance by E. Whitford, 2nd by N. Rogers, roll call vote: all in favor. Nancy & Howard to sign contract.
- d) Discussion re: Russ Fowler needing Special Use Permit to operate Terror on 27 business. Howard to contact them.
- e) Discussion re: AAFA concerns about them being charged Hall rental fee.
- f) The Road Millage Proposal passed. Motion to abolish current Road Special Assessment by E. Whitford, 2nd by N. Rogers, roll call vote: all in favor.
- g) All were encouraged to attend the County Planning Steering Committee meeting in December.
- h) Discussion re: ZBA wages/terms – Motion by B. Hoffer to stagger the three year terms with N. Rogers first term ending 1 year, K. Diffin at 2 years, A. DeMott at 3 years and to amend R-2023-007 to reflect ZBA at \$25/hr. with a 1 hour minimum; 2nd by N. Rogers; roll call vote: all in favor. First meeting went well. Addison was named chairperson, Nancy was named secretary.

VIII. Letters/Correspondence: K. Whaley presented an invoice from David Whaley for use of the backhoe during summer projects at the hall.

IX. Additional Public Comment --- none

X. Motion to adjourn by N. Rogers, 2nd by K. Whaley, all in favor, meeting adjourned at 9:21pm.

Respectfully submitted by Barbara Hoffer, Washington Township Clerk

Approved 12/21/2023
Barbara Hoffer, Twp. Clerk
~~Howard~~
supervisor 12/21/23