

WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING MINUTES

IN PERSON MEETING

February 20, 2025 at 7:00pm

Held at Washington Township Hall, 8989 S. Baldwin Rd. Ashley, MI 48806

- I. Meeting called to order at 7pm by Supervisor Whaley; Pledge of Allegiance, Roll Call – Present: Howard Whaley, Kevin Whaley, Tarry Stahl, Nancy Rogers; Absent – Eric Whitford.
- II. Motion to approve of minutes from January 16, 2025 Board Meeting as presented by K.Whaley, 2nd by T.Stahl, all in favor.
- III. Adjustments of Agenda – Remove V.h. Remove V.l.; motion to approve as adjusted by H.Whaley, 2nd by K.Whaley, all in favor
- IV. Adjustment of financial reports – Road Millage begin date 1/16/2025, motion to approve as correction by N.Rogers, 2nd by K.Whaley, roll call vote- Yes: N.Rogers, K.Whaley, T.Stahl, H.Whaley. Budget 24/25 totals correct but line items need corrections at Final Budget Meeting due to incorrect activity input when setting up new accounting software (BS&A) per Pam Reed, Deputy Supervisor.
- V. Open Issues/Visitors – Jason & Theresa Hanneth/DTE, Steve Sopocy/County Commissioner
 - a) Solar Update- Solar to come online dates not yet announced.
 - b) PILT Info – Theresa/DTE Solar discussed/explained Ad Valorem vs PILT; Motion by Nancy, 2nd by Kevin to approve application for PILT certification, Roll call vote: Yea’s – N.Roger, K.Whaley, T.Stahl, H.Whaley, Absent – E.Whitford; (Dep Clerk) to post Notice of Public Hearing during the March Board Mtg. re: PILT discussion, (Clerk) to send notification letter to all parties involved.
 - c) Grants update- All grant payments have been received and accounted for.
 - d) Website update and .gov emails update- Website is up and running, still working on Microsoft 365 so we can assign and access .gov emails using Outlook.
 - e) Addition update- Nancy *note-contractor requested only one contact person for the township; Occupancy permit has been approved; Keys to be copied on DO NOT COPY stock for assigned distribution; extra EXIT sign to be installed in basement.
 - f) Pledges need to be collected
 - g) Ribbon Cutting Ceremony- April 5th 10pm-2pm, Howard to invite DTE, Nancy invited Road Commission members
 - ~~h) Invenergy Fund – Kevin/Eric~~
 - i) MTA/TGA Training- still strongly suggested for all board members
 - j) Planning Commission update- Kim Diffin reported CREO’s being considered; the April 15 PC meeting will also be a Public Hearing re: rezoning applications.
 - k) Legal Review for Commercial Zoning- Eric has contacted the twp attorney, suggested wording for resolution, more questions yet to be answered.
 - ~~l) Suggestions for new auditor – Kevin~~
- VI. Public Comment for old business/open issues - none

VII. New Business:

- a) Road Commission Meeting- the board annual meeting with the GCRC was on 2/28/2025
 - a. R-2025-010 Gratiot County Road Commission DRAFT to be considered/approved at Final Budget Mtg.
- b) Maintenance and Chloride Agreements – Discussion of costs; to be considered/approved at Final Budget Mtg.
- c) BOR Resolutions- Poverty Guidelines and meeting date changes (Organizational mtg. March 4th @5pm, BOR March 11th 3-9pm and March 12th 9am-3pm) – Resolutions considered & approved:
 - a. R-2025-005 Partial Poverty Tax Exemption Guidelines
 - b. R-2025-006 Poverty Tax Exemption Guidelines
 - c. R-2025-007 Protest in Writing to Board of Review
 - d. R-2025-008 Alternate Board of Review Dates
- d) Resolutions for Contract Employees/New Cemetery Contract considered/approved:
 - a. R-2024-015 Rev. 2025 Lawn Care Agreement
 - b. R-2025-011 Grave Digging Agreement
- e) Revision to Zoning Fee Schedule- Suggested wording considered/approved:
 - a. R-2024-016 Rev. 2025
- a) BS&A additional Training for Tarry, Kevin & Annette- rec'd quote of \$1,100 per module; can access help desk w/remote help per subject for free.
- b) Suggestions for Planning Commission member(s)- please submit suggestions to Township Supervisor.

VIII. Letters/Correspondence: none

IX. Additional Public Comments:

- a. Suggestion to consider paving an alternate route to town to avoid getting on US127.
- b. Zoning Board of Appeals training to be considered, (Dep Clerk) to look into cost & notify ZBA members.
- c. R-2025-009 MTPP General Policy DRAFT & R-2025-012 General Appropriations Act DRAFT to be discussed/approved at Final Budget Mtg.

X. Motion to adjourn by Nancy, 2nd by Tarry, adjourned at 9:05pm

Respectfully submitted and posted by Barbara Hoffer, Deputy Clerk

Approved: _____

Washington Township Supervisor / Date

Washington Township Clerk / Date