

**Winterfield Township Board Meeting
November 12, 2019
Minutes**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Supervisor Hammar. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those present.

Members Present: Mark Hammar, Supervisor; Bonnie Blackledge, Clerk; Linda Peterson, Treasurer; Fred Prielipp and Shelly Laughlin, Trustees

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Lori Martin, Clare County Clerk; Carl Traynor, Transfer Station Attendant; Ray Faulman, Sexton; Mike Clark, Zoning Administrator; Marilyn Grose, Delores Jenkins, and Ray Blake, EverReadyClub; David Hoefling, County Commissioner; and Bill Hoefling.

Review of Agenda: Motion by Laughlin, second by Peterson, to accept the agenda as adjusted. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.

Review Minutes September 10, 2019: Motion by Peterson, second by Prielipp, to approve the July 9 Meeting Minutes as written. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Peterson presented the Treasurer's report for November 12, 2019. **Laughlin moved to accept the report, seconded by Hammar. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.**

Public Comment:

Members of the EverReadyClub were in attendance at the meeting regarding the idea of a flagpole and flag in honor of Lucille Prielipp. Hammar mentioned that if the flag is up at night, there must be a light shining on it, so it should be erected near the Township Hall light. The EverReadyClub said they would like the Township to purchase the pole and they would reimburse us. It should be less than \$500. The VFW would supply a flag. They would also like a plaque for Lucille, either on the pole or inside the Hall. The Board will look into this request.

County Commissioner's Report, David Hoefling: The Commissioners approved the update to the County Plan. There will be increased security at the courthouse. No one will be allowed to carry weapons unless they have approval by the Chief Judge. They are also moving the metal detectors. Jerry Bird was appointed to the Board of Canvassers. The regular County Commission meetings are the third Wednesday of the month at 9 am. At their November and December meetings they will hold hearings on the Road Commission. A new manager, Duane Rogers, was hired and will start November 25.

County Clerk's Report, Lori Martin: Martin discussed the 55th Circuit Court collections that include restitution, fines, and costs. They collected approximately \$49,000 in 2017. The oldest case was 34 years old. As of the third quarter in 2019, they have collected \$99,000. The Register of Deeds will have records on line starting in January. They are working on

securing a vendor. Martin gave an update of the three elections scheduled for 2020. Jury Duty is going well since they revised the letter. Discharged military can file in the Clerk's Office. They have Veteran ID cards that work within Clare County, but do not replace the VA cards.

Zoning Officer's Report, Mike Clark: No report

Treasurer's Report, Linda Peterson: Since 2020 is a leap year, the wording on the tax bills for delinquent charges will change. Peterson looked over the special assessment on rubbish fees and resolved the issues.

Planning Board Report, Shelly Laughlin: The consultant discussion will take place under Old Business on the agenda.

Clerk's Report, Bonnie Blackledge: Blackledge shared a brochure from MTA offering classes later this month.

Trustees' Report, Shelly Laughlin and Fred Prielipp: No report

Supervisor's Report:

Old Business: A1) Keehn Road: Since the Road Commission has just hired a new manager, Hammar suggested that we table this item until the January meeting.

A2) Update of Master Plan/Zoning Ordinance: The Board reviewed bids from Wade Trim and Jacob Witte from Fahey Schultz Burzych Rhodes PLC. Peterson said that Wade Trim did the work in the past and she was happy with the process. Hammar said there is a lot of legislation going on now as there are many new developments in zoning. For various reasons, some other townships in Clare County are suspending zoning, but the Board agreed that they would like to continue to keep Winterfield Township zoned. If we zone, we should enforce it. Laughlin said the zoning board is ready to move forward with this project. **Laughlin made a motion to move forward with Wade Trim on both items – the Master Plan and Zoning Ordinances. Hammar seconded. Ayes: 5, Nays: 0. Motion carried.** Laughlin will take charge of this project and obtain a timeline.

New Business:

B1) Michigan Chloride Sales, LLC: After Hammar contacted them, the brining dates for 2020 were suggested – May 8, July 2, and August 29. **Blackledge moved to approve the Michigan Chloride proposal for 2020. Hammar seconded. Ayes: 5, Nays: 0. Motion carried.**

B2) Snowplowing for 2019-20: Carl Traynor said that he normally plows when there are two to three inches on the ground. Currently, he gets \$50 for the Transfer Station and \$45 for the Township Hall. It was suggested that the rate increases to \$55 for all the places he plows, including the cemetery when needed and the road to the Internet tower. **Prielipp moved to increase the plowing payments to \$55 for each spot. Laughlin seconded. Ayes: 5,**

Nays: 0. Motion carried. Traynor will consult with Ray Faulman to see when the cemetery needs to be plowed.

B3) Township Hall-Decommission four tables and microwave; add blinds and bathroom mirror; repair ice stop and rain gutters: There are four tables that are old and heavy that the Board would like to remove from the Hall since the newer, lighter ones are adequate. The old microwave is not needed since it was replaced with the kitchen remodel. Laughlin said she will look into a non-profit that could use this equipment and let Carl Traynor know since Traynor volunteered to transport the items. The Board decided that blinds for the windows are not necessary since they are rarely used. Hammar will ask Ed Miller to put the poster boards back up on the walls. Blackledge will check Home Depot for a mirror since the one purchased for the bathroom last spring has disappeared. Hammar will look into repair for the ice stops and rain gutter. The propane level needs to be checked.

B4) 911 Telephone new operation paperwork: Hammar distributed a document-Clare County Central Dispatch Policy & Procedure Manual that addresses dispatch procedures.

B5) Ambulance Issues: Hammar and Peterson attended a meeting today regarding issues with ambulance response times. The ambulance service receives an average of ten calls per day. The northern townships have more concerns about response times. One issue is that a doctor must be available to communicate with the ambulance. Another issue is that Clare County is not able to hire enough personnel. The ambulance drivers need to understand the roads instead of just using GPS. There will be another meeting to continue discussion on this problem.

B6) Website Update: Paul Fields used a drone to take pictures of areas in the Township. Hammar would like to add these photos to the website. There is a lot of information on the home page that could be moved to make the website more appealing. Hammar and Blackledge will work on improving the website.

B7) Road Work – 2020: Hammar prepared and reviewed an updated plan for road work that is proposed from 2019 to 2022. He will present this plan to the Clare County Road Commission at a future meeting. Prielipp expressed interest in attending with Hammar.

Other News from the Supervisor:

- Chris Nieman, Forester, said that the site should generate an average of 13 cords per acre, an \$8,000 to \$10,000 value.
- The DNR updated their map of ORV roads. Hammar distributed copies.

14) Budget Report: Blackledge included a budget report to date for the General Fund, Transfer Station Fund and Roads and reviewed them briefly with the Board. She noted that there are two categories in General Fund where the budget may need to be adjusted, and put a memo in the packet regarding these areas. **Blackledge moved to add \$6,000 to the capital improvements line item in the Township Hall category. Peterson seconded. Ayes: 5, Nays: 0. Motion carried.** Hammar said that the contingency will be adjusted by

\$6,000. Another area that needs to be watched carefully is the Planning & Zoning category due to the approval of the Master Plan and Zoning Ordinance project.

15) Review Township Expenditures:

Hammar moved to approve the General Fund checks 5021 through 5055, and the Transfer Station checks 2025 through 2033 as shown on the reports. Second by Blackledge. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.

Public Comment: None

Adjournment: Motion by Laughlin, second by Hammar, to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 pm. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Bonnie Blackledge, Winterfield Township Clerk