

**Winterfield Township Regular Board Meeting
May 12, 2020
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: Mike Clark, Zoning Administrator/Ordinance Enforcer, Jim and Zachary VanWormer, MVW and Associates, Inc., Richard and Donlea Dommer

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

Review Minutes April 17, 2020: Motion by Peterson, second by Laughlin, to approve the April 17 Special Meeting Minutes as written. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Peterson presented the Treasurer's report for May 12, 2020. Hammar moved to accept the report, seconded by Prielipp. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.

Public Comment: None

Assessor Comments: At the April 17, 2020 Special Meeting, the Board voted to hire MVW Associates, Inc. as the Township's assessors. James VanWormer reviewed the history of the company that was founded by his father in 1985. Jim has been an assessor for 27 years. His son, Zach, will serve as Winterfield's assessor. They are both level 2 certified. They currently are the assessors for 15 units, 6 of which are in Clare County.

Zoning Officer's Report: Mike Clark said that he approved a 2,000 square foot addition on the Consumers Building. It was agreed to pursue zoning violations after the restrictions due to COVID-19 are released.

Treasurer's Report: Linda Peterson said she has received the settlement check from the County. She will have the final report for the budget meeting.

Planning Board Report: Shelly Laughlin said that they will be having a Planning Commission meeting on June 9.

Old Business: A1a) Planning Commission: Laughlin suggested, based on a class she took through MTA, that members should take at least one class a year. The Board would also like to discuss staggered terms. The Board tabled this discussion until the first Budget meeting.

A1b) Board Resolution 2020-2, Asserting Township Board Right to Approve Master Plan: Approval of this resolution will allow the Board to have final approval on the Master Plan. Blackledge moved to approve Resolution 2020-2. Hammar seconded. Ayes: 5, Nays: 0. Motion carried.

New Business:

B1) Clare County Emergency Telephone Service District Final Plan: Blackledge received a copy of this plan from the County. The Board was asked to review it and make comments. There were no comments on the plan.

B2) Clare County Equalization Dept. Contract: Then new assessor, Jim VanWormer commented that he recommends signing the contract for the parcel services. **Peterson moved to accept the Equalization Contract with Clare County, Prielipp seconded. Ayes: 5, Nays: 0. Motion carried.**

B3) Set Dates for Budget Meetings: The Board set June 16, 2020 at 2 pm for the first budget workshop meeting. (This was later changed after tonight's meeting to June 15, 2020 at 2 pm.) The public hearing and final budget approval meeting was set for June 25, 2020 at 2 pm.

B4) Consumers' Letter Regarding Free Gas: Harmony Nolan from Consumers Energy contacts Supervisor Hammar every spring with updates on what is happening in the Township. She sent him a letter that will be sent to some gas users in Clare County regarding the disconnection of some gas wells. Some Board members were confused about who will receive these letters. It was also mentioned that the "free" gas is actually not free, but a result of the original contract with the landowners.

Marion Fire Department Budget: Hammar shared budget information he received from the Fire Department. Winterfield will budget approximately \$24,000 for their services. They are now able to make ID cards if needed. The ISO Rating went down last year.

Hammar also mentioned that he would like to update the 5-year road plan.

Budget Report: Blackledge included a budget report to date for the General Fund, Transfer Station Fund and Roads. She recommended that the Board Members look over the reports as the budget preparation process will begin in June.

Review Township Expenditures: Laughlin moved to approve the General Fund checks 5163 through 5177, and the Transfer Station checks 2059 through 2062 as shown on the reports. **Second by Peterson. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.**

Public Comment: None

Adjournment: Motion by Laughlin, seconded by Hammar, to adjourn the meeting at 8:39 pm. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Bonnie Blackledge, Winterfield Township Clerk