

**Winterfield Township Board Meeting  
July 9, 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:** David Hoefling, County Commissioner; Lori Martin, Clare County Clerk; Mike Clark, and Bill Hoefling.

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

**Review Minutes June 27, 2019: Motion by Laughlin, second by Hammar, to approve the June 27 Special Meeting Minutes as written. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.**

**Treasurer's Report:** Peterson presented the Treasurer's report for July 9, 2019. **Laughlin moved to accept the report, seconded by Prielipp. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.**

**Public Comment:**

Janice Duford lives on the corner of Kirby and Keehn. Because 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue cannot be used by heavy trucks due to the weight restrictions over the bridge there, many trucks and farm vehicles use Kirby Avenue instead. This creates a lot of noise and dust near her home. Hammar said we have a five-year plan for roads, and dealing with the dust issue is included. The recent planned brining was cancelled due to weather conditions. Hammar will look into the issue.

**County Clerk, Lori Martin:** The May 7<sup>th</sup> election went well for those who had one. There will be no elections in Clare County in August. There may be November elections for Farwell Schools and Arthur Township where there may be an attempt to recall three board members. Martin explained the recall process. She has been working with Harrison Schools on voter education. A system that was implemented sending text message reminders for fines and restitution is working well. There are some issues concerning jury duty. The County is currently working on the upcoming year's budget.

**County Commissioner's Report, David Hoefling:** Hoefling reviewed the May County Commission meeting. There is concern about the inmates being put on the County's insurance when health care is needed. Central Dispatch can receive text messages to 911. He also reviewed the June meeting and some ongoing issues with the Road Commission.

**Zoning Officer's Report, Mike Clark:** No report

**Treasurer's Report, Linda Peterson:** Tax payments are rolling in. Peterson investigated the Local Community Stabilization Authority to determine in which fund this money should be deposited. The Township Auditor said the Road Account is fine. No reports need to be filed regarding this income. Since the name on this account has changed over the years from Metro Act Funds to LCSA, Hammar suggested we update the name on the budget next year.

**Planning Board Report, Shelly Laughlin:** The Planning Commission is continuing to review the Master Plan. Andrew Laughlin, recently appointed PC Secretary, is working on a building permit list for the web page. There is a class – MTA Hot Topics – for Planning Commission members that will be held on August 27<sup>th</sup> at the Fox Event Center in Cadillac.

**Clerk's Report, Bonnie Blackledge:** Blackledge distributed the Par Plan magazines. Hammar asked if anyone would like an insurance presentation. No one responded. Blackledge mentioned that Accident Fund, the company that carries our workers' compensation insurance, issues expensive fines if audit reports are late. We may want to look into other companies to compare costs.

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

**Supervisor's Report:**

**Old Business: 1) Forestry Report**

The Board reviewed the information regarding the development of a forestry plan. Hammar included a draft inquiry letter with the packet and included a list of questions to ask as well as a list of foresters who are interested in working with Winterfield Township. He and Blackledge will work on refining the questions, and he will send letters to the four foresters who have local addresses.

**New Business:**

**1) Duggan Propane Contract 2019-20:** A 2019-2020 Propane Supply Contract was received from our current supplier, Duggan Propane. If we renew the contract, there are bonus savings. **Blackledge moved to approve the contract and allow the Supervisor to work out the details. Peterson seconded. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.**

**2) Assessing Resolutions**

The three resolutions included in the board packet were sent by our assessor in response to an inquiry from Hammar based on information gained from an MTA workshop on assessing practices. These resolutions will ensure our Township meets State requirements. Some parts were adopted previously, but these versions are updated to meet current standards.

**Laughlin moved to approve Resolution 2019-2, Tax Exempt Review Policy for Winterfield Township. Seconded by Prielipp. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.**

**Peterson moved to approve Resolution 2019-3, Allowing a Qualified Property Owner to File a Written Request with the July or December Board of Review to Claim a Principal**

**Residence Exemption. Seconded by Laughlin. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.** It was stated that this resolution will replace 2013-1.

**Laughlin moved to approve Resolution 2019-4, Waiving Penalty Fees and Interest for Failure to File a Property Transfer Affidavit. Seconded by Hammar. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.** This is a duplicate of existing Resolution 2018-2.

### **3) Brining Costs/Schedule**

Hammar asked the Board whether we should try to reschedule the brining that was cancelled last week. He will check to see if they are able to do it in the next week or two.

### **4) Transfer Station Issues**

A resident stopped by Peterson's home to ask whether there was a restriction on the amount of trash that could be dropped off. It appears there was miscommunication between this resident and the attendant as there is no limit. There was also a question about the use of one dumpster for cardboard only. Apparently, residents have been asked to remove the trash from boxes, then break down the boxes to place them in this dumpster. There was confusion among the Board members as this policy had not been approved by the Board. Hammar will work with Carl Traynor to create rules for this policy that will begin on August 1. Fliers will be distributed with rules for cardboard and the 20-yard dumpster.

### **Other News from the Supervisor:**

- Hammar checked with John Hancock on the pension fees. The fees are what they are and we are required to pay them.
- Hammar shared a letter from Katie Monroe at Prein & Newhof regarding the soil borings on Keehn Road.

**14) Budget Report:** Blackledge included a budget report to date for the General Fund, Transfer Station Fund and Roads and asked the Board to check these over for any errors.

### **15) Review Township Expenditures:**

**Laughlin moved to approve the General Fund checks 4965 through 4979, and the Transfer Station checks 2011 through 2013 as shown on the reports. Second by Hammar. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.**

**Public Comment: None**

**Adjournment: Motion by Laughlin, second by Hammar, to adjourn the meeting at 8:43 pm. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.**

Respectfully submitted,

Bonnie Blackledge  
Winterfield Township Clerk