

**Winterfield Township Board Meeting
September 10, 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: Chris Nieman, Procurement Forester Michigan Lumber and Wood Fiber, Inc.; Karl Hauser, Director Clare County Veterans Services; Mike Clark, Zoning Administrator; David Hoefling, County Commissioner; and Bill Hoefling.

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

Review Minutes July 9, 2019: Motion by Peterson, second by Laughlin, 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 September 10, 2019. **Laughlin moved to accept the report, seconded by Blackledge. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.**

Public Comment:

Karl Hauser, Director Clare County Veterans Service Director: Hauser works for Clare County helping veterans get benefits. Hauser talked about the services that are provided for the approximately 2300 veterans in Clare County. He would like to get more involved in the program. He handed out a flyer for the Veterans Coffee Hour that is held the second Tuesday of every month from 9 am to 10 am at Hayes Township Hall for veterans and their guests. Clare County is partnering in the Vietnam 50th Celebration, and will be giving out certificates and pins at the County Building.

County Commissioner's Report, David Hoefling: Hoefling discussed the budget process for Clare County and talked about some of the cuts that were made in order to have a balanced budget. In the past, the fund balance was used to balance the budget, but there are no excess funds this year. They have had to freeze hiring practices. When asked what is the current status of the Road Commission director's position, Hoefling said that nothing has been done because the focus has been on the budget at this time.

Zoning Officer's Report, Mike Clark: No report

Treasurer's Report, Linda Peterson: Tax payments continue to roll in. After summer tax collection is complete, Peterson will review the special assessment roll.

Planning Board Report, Shelly Laughlin: Laughlin referred to an email she sent regarding the update of the Master Plan. The consultant at Wade Trim said that the entire process will take about a year, beginning with the Master Plan and then starting the Zoning. She received a formal quote that estimates both tasks to cost approximately \$17,750. This proposal includes a detailed explanation of all that will be done. Laughlin suggested to table this item until the November meeting to give the Board members time to review it.

Clerk's Report, Bonnie Blackledge: Blackledge distributed copies of Resolutions 2019-2, 3, and 4 to the Board members. She asked if anyone was interested in attending the MTA On the Road meeting in Gladwin on October 8. She prepared a summary of bringing expenses for 2019 of \$27,602.27, noting that they are spread across two fiscal years. Two credit card vouchers were presented and approved. The 2019 Clare County Road Commission Construction Map was distributed.

Blackledge asked whether there was any progress on the Transfer Station rules. Hammar said that construction trash cannot be sustained and he will be talking to Carl about what to do about it. He said people doing construction should get their own dumpster.

Trustees' Report, Shelly Laughlin and Fred Prielipp: Laughlin asked if the EverReadyClub have a place to lock up their supplies, and she was told the new cabinet keys have been given to them.

Supervisor's Report:

Old Business: A1) Forestry/Wood Cutting: Chris Nieman, Procurement Forester, reviewed the areas on the map and explained where they intend to cut and which type of trees. They will be retaining the White Pines, White Oak and Red Maple, but cutting the Black and Pin Oaks, Aspen, and Jack Pines. The work is detailed in a proposed agreement. The Board would like a Management Plan, as stated on page 2. They will also include the two-acre parcel adjacent to the cemetery. There will be a 30-foot visual buffer along Cook Avenue. **Prielipp moved to accept the revised contract from Michigan Lumber and Wood Fiber, Inc. Hammar seconded. Ayes: 5, Nays: 0. Motion carried.** The revised contract also includes the condition that two to three brush piles per acre will be created for wildlife utilizing the tops of the trees.

A2) Keehn Road: Hammar explained the three options for Keehn Road that were prepared by the engineer and included in the Board packet. Due to the fact that the Clare County Road Commission is currently without a director and their assistance in funding this project is undetermined, the Board decided to table this item until the November meeting.

New Business:

B1) Painting Township Hall: Three names were mentioned as possible painters for the Hall. The kitchen, bath, and meeting area all need to be repainted. Laughlin suggested a light gray color and everyone agreed. She will choose the paint at the Marion Lumberyard. Mark will look into who is available and what they would charge and make a decision.

B2) Update of Master Plan – Wade Trim This was discussed during the Planning Board Report.

B3) Tire Recycling 2020-Workers Needed: Winterfield will be participating in the Middle Branch Township tire recycling program again next summer. They are applying for another grant.

B4) Flag Pole in Memory of Lucille Prielipp: The EverReadyClub would like to erect a flag pole in memory of Lucille Prielipp who passed away recently. The Board is in favor of the idea. Hammar said it should be placed close to the light pole to provide the required lighting. He will contact the group.

B5) PA116 Approval – Gernaat: Blackledge received the application paperwork after the Planning Commission had approved it. She discovered that the State requires approval from the Board with notice to other agencies. When land is entered into PA116 Farmland and Open Space Preservation Program, limitations are placed on what can be done on the property in exchange for a reduction in taxes. **Blackledge moved to approve Application Number 2019-1 for B&L Real Estate LLC (Brad and Lori Gernaat). Second by Peterson. Ayes: 5, Nays: 0. Motion carried.**

B6) L-4029 Approval: The Board is being asked to approve the L-4029 Form for 2019 Winter Taxes. Blackledge received the latest millage rates from the Assessor which match the figures provided by Treasurer Peterson during the budget approval process. **Blackledge moved to approve the L-4029 Form. Hammar seconded. Ayes: 5, Nays: 0. Motion carried.**

Other News from the Supervisor:

- The Fire Fighters' training will be improved. There is an issue with PFAS contamination in the water in Oscoda County due to foam spray used to contain fires there in the past.

14) Budget Report: Blackledge included a budget report to date for the General Fund, Transfer Station Fund and Roads and reviewed it briefly with the Board.

15) Review Township Expenditures:

Laughlin moved to approve the General Fund checks 4980 through 5020, and the Transfer Station checks 2014 through 2023 as shown on the reports. Second by Peterson. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.

Public Comment: None

Adjournment: Motion by Prielipp, second by Hammar, to adjourn the meeting at 8:47 pm. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Bonnie Blackledge, Winterfield Township Clerk