

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE WHEATFIELD TOWNSHIP  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
INGHAM COUNTY, MICHIGAN**

**Tuesday May 11, 2021 7:00PM**

(Meeting held via ZOOM; link posted on the bulletin board and provided by supervisor Myer)

Supervisor Myer called meeting to order at 7:00PM. The basis for the virtual meeting is the Continuation of the State of Emergency for the County of Ingham declared by the Board of Commissioners and expiring on May 31, 2021. Roll call— Allen, Myer, Henley, Miller and Kapp-present. The physical location of all board members is Wheatfield Township.

**Guest:** Julie Chrisinske, Head Librarian of the Williamston Branch of the Capital Area District Library (CADL) presented the annual report. Serving library users safely was the chief concern during the unusual year of a pandemic. Many ways and means were employed to achieve this end, such as deploying internet hotspots to area schools, creating a lot of online content, providing door side service, taking appointments for computer use, providing personalized “grab & go” packets for users, giving free homework help, assembling library kits for users of all ages and more. With warmer weather some outdoor activities will occur until the library can welcome users back in person.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** Opened at 7:06 pm by Supervisor Myer with the following reminder, “At this time in the meeting citizens have an opportunity to address the board regarding any item(s) of interest. It is the practice of the board not to dialogue with the public during the meeting, however questions or concerns at this time may be assigned for follow-up by the board at a later date. Due to the time constraints, we would ask that your comments be limited to 3 minutes to allow everyone to have an opportunity to speak that wishes to. Please use the raise hand feature if you wish to speak.”

- Chris Holzer stated that home equity is approximately three-fourths of America’s net worth and asked the board to be cognizant of property values when considering the regulation of large wind energy systems in the township.
- Closed at 7:12 pm.

**MINUTES:**

**Motion** by Allen to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of April 13, 2021, seconded by Miller.

*Roll Call vote: Henley, Myer, Miller, and Kapp-yes. Motion carried.*

\*Copies of the minutes are available at the township office.

**\*\*\*\*\*REPORTS\*\*\*\*\***

**TREASURER’S REPORT:** Given by Miller. Summary:

- ✓ Independent Bank General Fund-fund balance equity:----- \$125,067.93
- ✓ Independent Bank Certificate of Deposit:----- \$100,000.00
- ✓ Independent Bank Tax Roll Checking balance:----- \$ 15,006.68

**Motion** by Henley to approve the treasurer’s report of April 30, 2021, seconded by Kapp.

*Roll call vote: Allen, Kapp, Henley, Myer and Miller-yes. Motion carried.*

- ✓ Holly is completing the final settlement of the 2020 tax year. The final payment to the township was \$13,406.68 and the amount of delinquent taxes sent to the county was \$2,631.43.
- ✓ Holly completed one year of the MMTA training via zoom.

\*Copies of the treasurer’s report are available at the township office.

**PLANNING COMMISSION:** Given by Kapp.

- ✓ The planning commission met on April 15<sup>th</sup> virtually. During the opening statement, attached, Mike Kapp urged the public to contact the office with any questions and promised that he would return all calls. Folks were also

encouraged to provide written comments, all of which are being catalogued and retained in the office.

- ✓ The timeframe of the Large Wind Energy Systems Moratorium was discussed and the feedback from planning commissioners on the necessary timeframe ranged between five months to twelve months.

\*A copy of the planning commission report is available at the township office.

**N.I.E.S.A.:** Given by Henley and submitted in writing. Summary:

- ✓ The general level of activity is higher than the same time last year.
- ✓ One full time and two parttime employees have left NIESA recently.
- ✓ The rehabilitation Standard Operating Guideline (SOG) will be acted upon at the next meeting.
- ✓ The board is discussing a separate billing ordinance to accommodate fee changes more efficiently.
- ✓ They are having some vehicle issues and they are receiving bids for a new ambulance.
- ✓ \*A copy of NIESA's minutes is available at the township office.

**CEMETERY:** No report.

- ✓ Dennis Cemetery:
- ✓ Cabot Cemetery: There are no lots available.
- ✓ Spaulding Cemetery: There are no lots available.

\*A copy of the cemetery report is available at the township office.

**SUPERVISOR:** Given by Myer and submitted in writing. Summary:

- ✓ The level of activity for zoning administrator duties continues to be high.
- ✓ There were seven zoning inquiries during the period, a discussion regarding an application from the Sheriff's Department for a shooting range, one land division and three enforcement issues.
- ✓ Progress on the clean-up and rehabilitation of the Maple Island site is ongoing.
- ✓ There were some communications on the Large Wind Energy Systems issue.

\*A copy of the supervisor's report is available at the township office.

**CLERK:** Given by Kapp and submitted in writing. Summary:

- ✓ Most of the efforts were around preparing the hall for rentals when we get the green light. Carpet cleaning was last done in 2017, and the hard surface floors have not been done since 2001. With the board's agreement I would like to get this done before we reopen. The estimate is \$812.00.
- ✓ Work on the budget for the 2021-2022 fiscal year continued.
- ✓ The cemetery mowing services agreement was completed.
- ✓ Responded to an ongoing FOIA.
- ✓ Attended four virtual meetings during the period.
- ✓ The year-to-date report is attached. Note the Attorney line is over-budget.

\*Copies of the clerk's report are available at the township office.

**SHERIFF:** Submitted in writing by Sergeant Cheryl Huhn.

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\*Copies of the Sheriff's report are available at the township office.

## \*\*\*\*\*DISCUSSION ITEMS\*\*\*\*\*

1. **Large Wind Energy Systems (WES) Moratorium.** A draft ordinance with changes was read and discussed by the board. The changes were intended to clarify the language. It will be submitted to Tom Hitch for review and returned to discussion on the June agenda.
2. **Budget amendment.** As reflected in the most recent year-to-date report the Attorney budget is over by \$\$672.16, and with this month's payment, it is over by \$847.66. There are still two months before the end of this fiscal year. The board agreed to increase this budget line by \$2,000.00. Move to action.
3. **Budget meeting schedule.** A special meeting to discuss the budget was scheduled by consensus for **Wednesday May 26<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am.**

## \*\*\*\*\*ACTION ITEMS\*\*\*\*\*

### 1. **Appointment to the Zoning Board of Appeals.**

Supervisor Myer read the bio for Larry Doyle, a 20-year township resident who has agreed to serve on the ZBA.

**Motion** by Henley to approve the appointment of Larry Doyle to a three-year term to the Zoning Board of Appeals, seconded by Myer.

*Roll call vote: Myer, Allen, Miller, Henley and Kapp-yes. Motion carried.*

2. Payroll and Accounts payable (April 2021 payroll and expenses). Reports attached.

**Motion** Allen to pay the April 2021 Accounts Payable (payroll and expenses), seconded by Henley.

*Roll call vote: Myer, Miller, Allen, Kapp and Henley-yes. Motion carried.*

\*Payroll and list of expenses attached.

3. Budget Amendment

**Motion** by Kapp to approve the budget amendment to transfer \$2,000.00 from the general fund to Attorney line item 101-210-801-002, seconded by Allen.

*Roll call vote: Kapp, Henley, Myer, Miller and Allen-yes. Motion carried.*

**Motion** to adjourn by Miller, seconded by Henley. All were in favor—motion carried.

Meeting ended at 7:55 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

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Denise Kapp, Clerk

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Date

**Next board meeting:**  
**Tuesday June 8, 2021 at 7:00 pm.**