

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

Tuesday October 12, 2021 7:00PM
(Meeting held in the community room)

Supervisor Myer called meeting to order at 7:00PM.

Roll call—Miller, Allen, Henley, Myer and Kapp-present.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Supervisor Myer read an opening statement regarding the history and current status of the wind energy issue in the township. He stated the purpose of this business meeting of the Wheatfield Township Board of Trustees, and he stated the purpose and rules for public comment.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Opened at 7:04 pm. Five people spoke. Public comment closed at 7:20 pm.

MINUTES:

Motion by Henley to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of September 14, 2021, seconded by Allen. All were in favor. Motion carried.

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

*******REPORTS*******

TREASURER’S REPORT: Given by Miller. Summary as of September 30, 2021:

- ✓ Independent Bank General Fund-fund balance equity:----- \$157,936.85
- ✓ Independent Bank Certificate of Deposit:----- \$100,000.00
- ✓ Independent Bank Tax Roll Checking balance:----- \$ 617,796.88

Motion by Henley to approve the treasurer’s report of September 30, 2021, seconded by Allen.

All were in favor. Motion carried.

- ✓ Some summer taxes are still coming in.
- ✓ Holly attended a training hosted by the Ingham County Chapter of the Michigan Townships Association on Active Shooters. The next ICC/MTA meeting on October 27th via ZOOM. The topic is Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery, Insight and Policy, with two presenters speaking on the subject.
- ✓ We received our American Rescue Plan Act money of \$86,927. It is in a separate checking account.
- ✓ Holly & Denny set up the SAM.gov account for reporting on the ARPA funding. The reporting deadline was moved to April 30, 2022.
- ✓ The cemetery Certificate of Deposit is nearing its renewal date. With no objection from the board Holly would like to place the \$1,000 award from CivicPlus for Violet Lentz with the cemetery CD funds for the time being.

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

PLANNING COMMISSION: Given by Kapp.

- ✓ At the September meeting the planning commissioners discussed three topics being considered for amendment recommendation—building heights, land divisions and shooting ranges. All three are clarifications in the text of the zoning ordinance.
- ✓ Going forward, the consensus of members was to conduct the next several meetings by discussing one specific topic

of the wind energy issue per meeting, taking whatever time is necessary to cover the topics thoroughly. The next meeting will be on October 21st.

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

- ✓ Don attended the regular meeting as well as a finance meeting, in which they are working on the budget for the next fiscal year. There will be a public hearing for the proposed budget in November.
- ✓ NIESA received a grant from Ingham County for \$750,000.00 from ARPA funds.
- ✓ They approved a resolution for the purchase of an ambulance for \$236,482.00.
- ✓ They held a 9/11 Ceremony and a Retirement Open House on September 11th.

*A copy of NIESA's minutes is available at the township office.

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

- ✓ There were twelve zoning inquiries during the period, two zoning approvals, one land division inquiry and two enforcement issues. Wayne reported that most of the inquiries were for site development zoning regulations for new construction, which was indicative of some potential zoning applications.
- ✓ There are two potential applications for special uses in the works.

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

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

- ✓ Activities included attending two training workshops, working with Holly to set up the SAM.gov account, taking the voting equipment to Mason for contractual maintenance service, submitting the legal notice for the variance hearing on November 10th, as well as notifying the required property owners, and assembling HVAC estimates for the possible replacement of our equipment. During the regular fall maintenance significant corrosion was found in the heat exchangers. Replacement of the 20-year old equipment may be in our future.

*The year-to-date report is attached to the report.

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

SHERIFF: No report.

- ✓ (Sgt. Slack submitted a written report immediately following the meeting).

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

WASC. Given by Allen.

John submitted the September financial report. He reported that they interviewed five candidates for the director position.

*****DISCUSSION ITEMS*****

1. **Defibrillator.** Wayne provided an update with additional information that he gathered. DeLau doesn't inspect defibrillators but there are other options. The battery lasts about 3 years without needing a charge. A wall mount is available for about \$100 and there's no electrical outlet needed. Mike Yanz, NIESA's director can assist with training. Denny spoke to Jason Orton, our insurance agent, who said that there might be a grant opportunity for acquiring a defibrillator. He will be attending the November meeting and will speak to us about this. He will also talk about township liability in emergency situations. This item will be on the November agenda.

2. **ARPA Funds update.** This item was covered in the treasurer and clerk's reports.

3. **HVAC.** This item was covered in the clerk's report.

4. **MTA's Principles of Governance for township officials.** This is a general pledge by township officials to maintain the highest standards and traditions of Michigan townships, embracing principles to guide the stewardship, deliberations and constituent services to safeguard the community's health, safety and general welfare. Move to action for tonight.

*****ACTION ITEMS*****

1. **MTA's Principles of Governance for Township Officials.**

Motion by Allen to adopt the MTA's Principles of Governance for Township Officials below, seconded by Kapp.

We pledge to:

- Insist on the highest standards of ethical conduct by all who act on behalf of this township
- Bring credit, honor, and dignity to our public offices through collegial board deliberations, and diligent, appropriate responses to constituent concerns
- Actively pursue education and knowledge, and embrace best practices

- Treat all persons with dignity, respect and impartiality, without prejudice or discrimination
- Practice openness and transparency in our decisions and actions
- Cooperate in all reasonable ways with other governmental entities and consider the impact our decisions may have outside out township borders
- Communicate to the public township issues, challenges and successes, and welcome the active involvement of stakeholders to further the township’s well-being
- Strive for compliance with all state and federal statutory requirements
- Refuse to participate in any township decisions or activities for personal gain, at the expense of the best interests of the township
- Further the understanding of the obligations and responsibilities of American citizenship, democratic government and freedom

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

2. Payroll and Accounts payable (September 2021 payroll and expenses).

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

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

*Payroll and list of expenses attached.

***Final Notes:** The Poverty Guidelines, adopted annually, will be on the November agenda under discussion and the December agenda under action.

Motion to adjourn by Henley, seconded by Myer. All were in favor—motion carried.
Meeting ended at 7:49 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise Kapp, Clerk

Date

Next board meeting:
Tuesday November 9, 2021 at 7:00 pm.