

## WHITE RIVER TOWNSHIP TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING

**Monday, June 15, 2020 7:00 PM (RESCHEDULED FROM JUNE 9, 2020)**

This meeting will be held in the Township Hall.

**Masks and Social Distancing is mandatory.**

The rescheduled meeting of the White River Township was called to order at 7:00 PM by Supervisor Mike Cockerill with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call: Mike Cockerill Supervisor, Patti Sargent Clerk, Deb Harris Treasurer, Laura Anderson and Bob Suits, Trustees. All Present.

1. Approval of Agenda. Sargent moved to make changes to the current agenda. The changes included moving current items on the agenda to earlier times and to add H (Mouth Cemetery) to New Business. The motion was supported by Anderson. All in favor, none opposed. The updated agenda was approved.
2. Guest Speaker Botanist Connie Crancer spoke of the invasive species garlic mustard, and the recommended ways to eradicate it. Pulling it up prior to flowering and either bagging or burning the weed is recommended. An invasive species, it crowds out many of our native wildflowers and plants.
3. Public Comment:
  - A. Tim Prosch spoke about the concerns regarding erosion damage to Lake Michigan shoreline most specifically the Barrier Dune Sanctuary in White River Township. He suggested sandbags placed along the lakeshore from Ferry Street to just beyond the Dune Sanctuary. Harris has contacted authorities regarding sand bagging the Dune Sanctuary and was told nothing could be placed along the shore that would “harden the shoreline” per purchase agreements with the Land Conservancy other grants that helped pay for the Dune Sanctuary.
  - B. Lori Sheehan expressed concern regarding the difficulty accessing the beach and/or the Dune Sanctuary. It was suggested that the Muskegon County Road Commission remove one- half of the rocks at the end west of Ferry Street and replace those rocks with large sandbags which could be used to better access the beach. Concerned citizens are encouraged to contact the Muskegon County Road Commission. Harris will draft a letter to the Road Commission regarding access to the Dune Sanctuary beach from the road end.
  - C. Tim Langland Planning Commissioner: A private road built north of Meinert Park does not meet zoning codes therefore the White River Township is not liable for emergency vehicle access. Mr. Langland also pointed out the Covid-19 pandemic will negatively affect state and local finances.
  - D. Bob Lloyd: Questions access to the beach at the west end of Ferry Street. He stated that an official at the Muskegon County Road Commission told him “there is no problem with access”.
4. Approval of April 14, 2020 regular board meeting minutes. (No May, 2020 meeting was held). Motion by Cockerill to approve minutes, supported by Harris; All in favor, none opposed, Motion passed.

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5. Accounts payable: Review of May and June 2020 accounts to be paid. Motion by Anderson to approve accounts payable, supported by Harris. Roll Call: Suits: aye, Anderson: aye, Harris: aye, Sargent: aye, Cockerill: aye. Motion passed.

6. Correspondence: Letter received to have the Township consider making the boat launch at the end of Lau Road require a vehicle sticker with monies raised to go for needed launch repairs. Because there is no way to "police" the use of these stickers the idea was tabled.

### 7. Reports:

A. Financial April and May, 2020: noted.

B. Constable report: Life rings and stands have been repaired and are in place.

C. Solid Waste: noted

D. WLEC/recent meetings: no meeting for over 3 months due to Covid 19.

E. PC has not had a meeting since February, 2020.

### 8. Unfinished business:

A. Dune Erosion concern/Ferry Street/ Lloyds' Landing/Road Ends/Dune Sanctuary. All addressed during public comment.

B. Camping permits and enforcement of Camping Ordinance. Due to resident complaints, the Pastor of the church at the corner of Sunset Lane and Indian Bay Road was invited to attend a township board meeting to discuss campers and trailers parked at that property.

### 9. New Business:

A. There will be a Public Hearing on June 16, 2020 6:30 PM to address any concerns the public may have regarding a new residence to be built in Critical Dune Overlay. Neighbors were notified and a notice appeared in the BEACON as required by law.

B. Special Exception for 9 Lonts Lane for deck and pavement expansion. The area has not been marked yet so the Board is unable to make a determination. the Zoning Administrator Dufresne to call.

C. Audit: Went well.

D. Hall Rental: Suits made a motion to contact the Health Department with all questions regarding the rental of the Township Hall. Sargent supported the motion. Roll call vote. Sargent aye, Anderson No, Harris No, Suits aye, Cockerill No. Motion failed. Cockerill motioned to close hall for rentals during pandemic. Supported by Anderson. Roll call vote. Sargent aye, Harris aye, Suits No, Anderson aye, Cockerill aye. Motion passed. There are to be no Township Hall rentals until further notice.

E. Confidential township attorney letter. Mike Cockerill will call Attorney Bloom to discuss changes in the letter.

F. Election Absentee Voting and Reimbursement. State of Michigan sending absentee ballot applications statewide. The Township Hall will be open Saturday August 1, 2020 from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM for anyone who would like to register to vote or fill out an absentee application and/or ballot. Waiting on state reimbursement for March election.

In the August election, the Township will have a request for a millage override of the Headlee amendment rollback. If approved by the voters, this would be an increase of \$24.91 per \$100,000 taxable value per year for the Township.

G. 2020 Census: Please fill out your census if you have not done so.

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H. Mouth Cemetery: The White Lake Historical Society will meet at the Cemetery on July 16, 2020 at 7:00 PM. All interested township residents are invited.

I. Residents with a swimming pool overlooking Lake Michigan have request rock revetment on their lakefront property. Neighbors have until 6/24/2020 to respond. Motion by Harris to approve rock revetment if letters with neighbor approval are received by 6/24/2020. Motion supported by Cockerill. All in favor, none opposed. Motion passed. They also request a concrete injection under the pool. We will request a structural engineer to evaluate and request they attend a planning commission meeting for approval for building structures in a CDO.

10. Supervisor Comments:

- A. White Lake Ambulance Authority: Noted
- B. Fire Department: Note.

Meeting adjourned at 8:40 PM.

Respectfully Submitted, Janet Graham, Deputy Clerk Patti Sargent, Clerk