

WHITE RIVER TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING

February 09, 2021 7:00 PM

Masks and Social Distancing is mandatory.

The meeting of the White River Township Board was called to order on a ZOOM meeting 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 & Bob Suits Trustees

1. Approval of Agenda: Motion by Suits to approve meeting agenda, supported by Harris. All aye, motion passed.
2. Approval of January 15, 2021 Board meeting minutes.
Motion by Suits to approve January 15, 2021 meeting minutes with a correction, supported by Harris. All aye, motion passed.
3. Accounts Payable: Motion by Suits to approve accounts payable with new line item to pay Viking Athletic Center and White Lake Senior Center for Township residents dues and move 1061.02 out of Township Board and add same amount to accessing. Supported by Harris. Roll Call: Anderson: aye, Suits: aye, Sargent: aye, Harris: aye, Cockerill: aye. Motion passed.
4. Correspondence: Letter from Mr. Tony Brownell wanting to help with beach or Mouth Cemetery clean up.
5. Reports:
 - A) Financial January 2021 report: noted.
 - B) Constable report:
Cockerill changed the lightbulb at the pier and cut the wires on the life ring stations. Telephone near the west end of the parking lot to be used to call 911 in case of emergency. Stickers directing the public to do so will be placed on the life ring stands when weather permits.
 - C) Solid Waste:
Harris reports meeting of Waste Authority in January 2021. Financial outlook is positive. White River Township subsidy is \$3839 for fiscal year 2021. IF there is a Pride Day in 2021 the WRT will pay \$1388 for the 1 day use of the Waste Station by Township residents. An announcement will be made regarding the Pride Day with the current Covid-19 conditions taken into consideration.
 - D) WLEC / recent meetings. H
Anderson reports Committee is reviewing parameters for sediment testing in Sadony Bayou. There is discussion with Chemours regarding a conservation easement. WRT is also going to work with Chemours to determine if a continuation of the bike path through the Chemour property is feasible
 - E) Planning Commission (No January meeting due to COVID-19 shutdown).
 - F) Ambulance
Cockerill reports the new ambulance is now in service; it needed an upgrade in its gurney fastening system which was completed. There will not be a reduction in ambulance millage this fiscal year. Average response time was 8 minutes. The WLAA signed a 1-year agreement with Harbor Hospice to transport their clients.

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G) Fire Authority:

Cockerill reports they had a clean audit. There is now power, though no lights, to the new tower. The bond will be paid off in 2023. One new firefighter is in training.

6. Public comment: No comment.

7. Unfinished Business:

A. Fruitvale Road Property Sale update

A land survey to take place within the next two weeks. WRT attorney is to give his opinion on the contract.

B. Stickers for life Ring Stands and 911 phone at pier on order from The Trophy Center of West MI.

Stickers will be put on life ring and phone stands when weather conditions permit.

C. Budget planning to follow this meeting

D. BSA software for inspections update.

Building Assessment software bid was \$9,650. The building assessor states it is okay to wait on the new software at this time.

E. City of Montague Climate Resolution / Pledge to the environment, what can we do?

Cockerill motions to approve resolution and appoint Mary Kriesel to join the environmental committee and report back to the board; supported by Harris. All aye,

mental
motion passed.

8. New Business:

A. Senior Millage disbursements. Will go to Viking Athletic Center memberships and White Lake Senior Center Memberships for White River Residents over the age of 60.

B. How to schedule a walk time with the Viking Athletic Center 231-893-1070

<https://vikingstore.shopsettings.com/>

Walk time is limited to 45 minutes per session with 15 people maximum at the Athletic Center.

C. Franchise agreement with Great Lakes Energy.

Suits motioned to join Great Lakes Energy franchise for fiber optic support for 2021 with approval by WRT attorney, supported by Sargent. All aye, motion passed.

D. Amended Franchise agreement with the City of Montague.

Motion by Suits to agree to water contract with City of Montague to include only those houses with house numbers that are within the 2004 map agreement, supported by Anderson. All aye, motion carried.

E. Election schedule for next year. May 7, November 2, with possible August 3rd elections.

May 7, 2021 election will be for WLAA millage.

F. Millage vs Headlee amendment

Prior to the Headlee amendment in 1978, WRT taxed at 1.3 mills. Mills now stand at 0.74515. If WRT raised it to 1.0 mill we would increase tax revenue for the township. The Muskegon County Commission will be voting to support or reject the Headlee Amendment rollbacks. Please let your Commission Cyr know that WRT supports the

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removal of the Headlee roll back and an increased millage for the township. White River Township takes in the least amount of millage in the county.

G. Special Exception Lonts Lane. SE for 17 and 23 Lonts lane is for the revetment only. Motion by Harris to approve the special exceptions for lots 23 and 17 supported by Anderson. All aye, motion passed.

H. Board of Review: Organizational Meeting on Tuesday, March 2nd at 4:00pm.

Board of Review for Public: Will be held by ZOOM meetings on Wednesday March 10 (1 PM to 4 PM and 6 PM to 9 PM) and Thursday March 11, 2021 (9 AM to 3 PM)

9. Supervisor Comments: None

10. Public Comment: Solar plans for local area are progressing. Zoning Ordinances to be reviewed by
Planning Commission members.

11. Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 8:15 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Janet Graham, Deputy Clerk
Patti Sargent, Clerk