The special meeting of concerned citizens and the White River Township Board was called to order at 4:00 PM by Supervisor Mike Cockerill.

In attendance: Mike Cockerill Supervisor, Patti Sargent Clerk, Deb Harris Treasurer, Laura Anderson & George Dufresne Trustees.

Also in attendance: Cliff Bloom, White River Township Attorney; Micheal Herremans, Lieutenant Muskegon County Sheriff; Gary Kozicki Pastor of Christ the Rock Harvest Church, and 30 residents of White River Township.

1. Supervisor Cockerill: Opened the meeting and introduced Lieutenant Herremans and Attorney Bloom. Each person that wanted to address their concerns was asked to keep comments to under 5 minutes.
2. Lieutenant Herremans introduced himself and explained his role and the activity that caused the Citizens to request a meeting.

There were multiple car break ins with missing items and a stolen car between March 21 and March 27, 2022. The car was stolen out of a garage on West Old Channel Trail and parked in the woods near Christ the Rock Harvest Church. Footprints in the snow lead from the stolen car to the Church where the person responsible for the car theft admitted to taking the car and was arrested. He was on parole at the time of these crimes.

1. Attorney Cliff Bloom introduced himself and explained that in his 39 years representing municipalities he has never heard of a church in such a rural area taking in at risk individuals. There is a limited budget, limited resources, and infrastructure in White River Township. There is not a police department like in an urban setting. Group homes are regulated by the state for more than 6 (six) people staying at a time. There are no homeless shelters or halfway houses in White River Township. There are not regulations or ordinances that cover that sort of thing. If a church houses a known felon or criminal a lawsuit could be brought upon the church if crimes are committed by the individual staying at the church.
2. Several residents of White River Township spoke and expressed concerns.
3. 4 (four) residents/ property owners of White River Township have formed a committee of concerned citizens. Jeff duPuis, Kathy Miller, Debbie Bepristis, and Stephan Niezgoda will follow up with Pastor Kozicki on April 4, 2022, at 7 pm.
4. Meeting adjourned at 5 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Patti Sargent, Clerk