The meeting of the White River Township Board was called to order at 7:04 PM by Supervisor Mike Cockerill followed with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call: Mike Cockerill Supervisor, Patti Sargent Clerk, Deb Harris Treasurer, Laura Anderson & George Dufresne Trustees. All present. Following roll call Mike Cockerill recused himself and asked Clerk Sargent to chair the meeting.

1. Approval of Agenda: Harris moved to amend the order of the agenda, with the planning commission and CEIC representatives presenting after Brenda Moore in item 4. Anderson supported. All in favor, none opposed. Amended agenda approved. Cockerill – recused.
2. Approval of November 9, 2022, Township Board meeting minutes. Harris moved to approve the November 9th meeting minutes. Anderson supported the approval. All in favor, none opposed. November 9, 2022, meeting minutes approved. Cockerill – recused.
3. Accounts Payable: Sargent. Harris moved to approve the accounts payable. Dufresne supported. Roll Call: Patti Sargent - YES, Deb Harris - YES, Laura Anderson – YES, George Dufresne – YES, and Mike Cockerill – recused. Accounts payable is approved.
4. Presentations:

a. Muskegon County Drain Commissioner, Brenda Moore to discuss the detention ponds. Brenda’s office allowed her to ask the township if White River Township would be interested in partnering with the Drain Commission to create a park at the detention ponds. There is an 18-month timeline to work on creating a plan for a park.

b. Susan Lloyd, chairperson of the Planning Committee, presented information from the township attorney, Clifford Bloom, in which he suggested the township hire Williams & Works to assist with the special land use and site plan reviews. Williams & Works has engineers and surveyors on staff. The initial price would be $5,000.00 with additional costs per consultation. The planning commission would use this service with fidelity, only when needed. Dufresne noted that the assistance they would provide would be a lengthy process. In addition, the township would want the public involved in the process. Dufresne moved to engage Williams & Works immediately. Harris seconded the motion. Roll Call: Patti Sargent - YES, Deb Harris - YES, Laura Anderson – NO, George Dufresne – YES, and Mike Cockerill – recused. the Board has approved the company of Williams and Works to help the Planning Commission with site plan review and ordinance amendments.

c. Harris, Treasurer – The township attorney, Clifford Bloom, advised White River Township that they could enact a 6-month moratorium in order to work on the Solar Ordinance and Amendments. Harris moved to ask the attorney to draw up a 6-month moratorium. Anderson supported the motion. Roll Call: Patti Sargent - YES, Deb Harris - YES, Laura Anderson – YES, George Dufresne – YES, and Mike Cockerill – recused. the Board has approved working with the township attorney to enact a 6-month moratorium on Solar Energy Systems.

D. CEIC – Barb Reese and Claire Schlaff reported that CEIC is still waiting for the legal document between the state and Chemours. While they are waiting for the document, they would like to conduct sediment testing of Sadony Bayou. In order to pay for the testing, they would need to fund raise and would like the township to collect the funds raised. Harris answered that the township cannot collect money as a fund raiser because they are not a 501C3. She suggested they contact the Muskegon Community Foundation for support in fund raising.

1. Correspondence: Nothing to report
2. Reports:
	1. Financial November 2022 report: Harris. Financials noted.
	2. Constable report: Cockerill. Life rings have been removed from the pier. The one life ring that was missing has been replaced.
	3. Solid Waste: Harris. No meetings.
	4. CEIC / recent meetings: Anderson. CEIC is looking at Lakeshore Environmental for sedimentary testing. CEIC will meet on 12/7/22 with The Beacon to provide information for articles about CEIC’s involvement with Chemours. CEIC is pursuing a Trust Fund Grant from the Muskegon Community Foundation for potential use of the Chemours property as a park.
	5. Climate Action Meeting: Kriesel. No meetings.
	6. Recycling: Goericke. No meetings.
	7. WMEAC: Sargent: Septic systems care and maintenance near lakes and streams. Meeting to be held on 12-14-22.
	8. Planning Commission. Lloyd or Dufresne. Noted earlier under item 4.
	9. Ambulance: Cockerill. Three bids were submitted to rechassis. They went with a Muskegon company at a cost of $140,000.
	10. Fire Authority: Cockerill, Cederquist. The new pumper truck needed to be repaired.
3. Public comment: Township residents were asked to hold their comments to 3 minutes each. The following residents spoke regarding the proposed Solar Farm by National Grid Renewables. 1. Tim Balcom; question about setbacks, 2. Denise Eilers; cited the master plan, 3. John Howell; question about taxes for solar farms, 4. Matt Hedges; He would like to farm the land, 5 and 6. Bruce and Lauren Wackernagel – thanked the board for the moratorium, 7, Bill Ditty; His math indicates 770,000 solar panels with 16.8% of the township covered with them, 8) Chris Stark; concerned about long-term effects of the panels, 9. Ron Harris; suggested we should conduct a wildlife impact study, 10. Edith Bogart; The residents are paying for this project since NGR is getting grants, paid for by taxpayers. She also asked everyone to pay attention to the last paragraph in the letter from the attorney, 11. Ele Goudreau; Shared an article about hazardous Solar Farm Waste, 12. Kayli Bono; Asked about township farmland that was previously wetlands, 13. Joel Smith; Referred to page 24 of Master Plan, 14. Shelly Grattatiori; Asked about bonds, 15. Lori Shehan; Asked township to look at other communitys’ ordinances, *(Industrial use needs to be on marginal land, not prime farm land.)* 16. Sam Bender; Suggested opening up industrial zoned areas like the Chemours property. He also suggested amendments for noise reduction during installation, property value guarantees for people that sell their homes, and to look at dollar amounts that may be out of date,17. John Laughton; Compared NGR to Dupont when Dupont first came into the township, 18. Craig Smith; Don’t let the land be highjacked by NGR, 19. Liz Hedges; Real Estate Agents are getting multiple calls from people wanting to move if the solar farm goes in, 20. Alyssa Pishell; Wanted to know what this will cost the township, 21. Mitch Johnson; What happens in 20 years when the farmers are no longer here? 22. Mary McCaully; What will we do with cropland if it has been industrial? 23. Jeff Stein asked about the procedure for joining the zoning board.

Harris concluded the public comment portion by stating that the township board did not invite the solar farm into the community. Clerk Sargent stated the NGR presenters at the 12-8-22 informational meeting said that our township had a very robust ordinance.

1. Unfinished Business:
	1. ARPA funds: Solar Panels have been approved and are now operating and the Lamos Road repaving has been completed from Post Rd to Meinert Rd. The Township cost for the Lamos road project was $168,000. Montague Township also spent $168,000. The Muskegon County Road Commission paid $336,000 for this project.
	2. Stairs to Lake Michigan Beach from Hancock road end information. Harris talked to the engineer with the Muskegon Road Commission to resurvey and stake the road end. Once the area is staked the township can proceed with plans for stairs to access the beach.
	3. Cemetary report. The rules for Hubbard Cemetary have been updated and are available. The cost of a plot is $100 for residents of White River Township and $200 for nonresidents.
	4. Land Splits to be done by the County of Muskegon GIS department. Harris moved to accept GIS Administration from Muskegon County to do land splits and boundary adjustments in White River Township. Anderson supported the motion. Roll Call: Patti Sargent - YES, Deb Harris - YES, Laura Anderson – YES, George Dufresne – YES, and Mike Cockerill – recused. Land Splits will from be done by the GIS administration of Muskegon County in the future.
2. New Business:
	1. Public Hearing December 20, 2022 at 6 pm to discuss amendments to the Solar Ordinance. The Ordinance and amendments will be available for viewing or copying at the Township Hall.
	2. The public information meeting set up by and arranged by the Solar Company was held on Dec 8, at 6 pm at the Montague High School.
	3. Election results explained: Why are there no absentee ballots listed in the results? Sargent explained that White River Township has one vote tabulator. Both in person ballots and absentee ballots go through the same tabulator machine. The absentee ballot numbers were reported in the November 2022 meeting minutes.
	4. Census report 2022. This report is available online
	5. Sargent moved to appoint Mr. Ron Bailey to the Zoning Board of Appeals. (ZBA) Harris seconded the motion. All in favor, none opposed. Welcome Ron Bailey to the ZBA.
3. Supervisor Comments: Nothing to report
4. Public Comment: Letters regarding the Solar Ordinance can be submitted to the board. They will be placed in a folder the township is keeping.
5. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:56pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Julie Goericke, Deputy Clerk

Patti Sargent, Clerk.