The meeting of the White River Township Board 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 & George Dufresne Trustees. All members were present.

1. Approval of Agenda: Harris moved to approve the agenda. Dufresne supported the motion. All in favor, none opposed. The agenda stands approved.
2. Approval of March14, 2023, Township Board meeting minutes. Cockerill moves to correct the minutes under 5h. A 50/50 grant was awarded from the DNR to replace the Wild Land Gear – not a heater. Sargent moved to approve the March 14, 2023 minutes with the correction. Anderson supported the motion. All in favor, none opposed. The minutes stand approved with the correction.
3. Public comment: Limited to 3 minutes each. The supervisor recused himself for this portion of the meeting. The clerk took over for the public comment.
   1. Paul Schroeder – In regards to the supervisor, Mr. Schroeder said he was communicating with the solar company, not Supervisor Cockerill.
   2. Robert Koert – New resident of WRT. His calculations show 3 out of 5 land use areas would be solar.
   3. Jim Hopkinson – Supports the zoning board.
   4. Alyssa Pischel – Thanked the board, the committees, and the residents for being civil. Does not support Industrialized Solar but does support the new proposed solar ordinance.
4. Special Order of Business: (Comments by Board Members) Nothing to report.
5. Old (Unfinished) Business:
   1. There will be a county wide millage election on May 2, 2023. Many ballots have been returned by the post office to the township hall due to people being away. (Ballots cannot be forwarded) Please see the clerk if you have requested but did not receive a ballot.
   2. Planning and zoning training. Many classes have been assigned at half price. There may be more assignments made.
   3. Public Hearing re: Ordinance 58-2023, will be at the Montague High School Auditorium on Wednesday, April 19, 2023 @ 6:30 PM, the regular Planning Commission meeting will be held on that Wednesday April 19, @ 6:30 pm as well. No Tuesday Planning Commission meeting will be held at the Township hall in April.
6. New Business:
   1. CEIC announcement. CEIC met with Toxics and Remediation Specialist that worked with DuPont for 42 years. She is willing to look at data concerning mixing zones and possible testing of sediment in Sadony Bayou. She told CEIC about advocates that pushed for the EPA to be involved in a site in Toledo. Next meetings; April 13th at 2:30 and April 19th at 2pm. On April 22nd, (Earth Day) students will present at the Chemours site, then Sadony Bayou. On April 25th, 10:30am, meeting with EGLE waste management – hazardous waste section.

Marisa McGlue presented a flow chart identifying steps towards a series of grant applications. She submitted a resolution to the board that CEIC would like signed by local decision makers. Sargent read the resolution aloud. Anderson moved that the board support the resolution. Harris 2nd. Roll Call: Mike Cockerill - yes, Patti Sargent - yes, Deb Harris - yes, Laura Anderson – yes, & George Dufresne – yes. The resolution stands approved and will be signed.

* 1. Appointments to the Election Poll workers for May 2, 2023 election. Laura Anderson, Susan Lloyd, Julie Goericke, Susan Levy, Deb Harris, Margaret Kline, Marrianne Delavan, Chair Patti Sargent. Receiving Board: Brian Thompson and Julie Goericke.
  2. Signs placed on properties for business will be removed if permission from the property owner is not obtained prior to placement of the sign, even in the road right of way.
  3. Resolution 63-2023 Standing Rules – Procedures for the Township Board and Other Bodies and Meetings. This resolution outlines rules such as limiting time for public comments. Harris moves to accept the resolution. Anderson 2nds. All in favor, none opposed. Resolution 63-2023 stands approved.

1. Reports:
2. Financial March 2023 report: Harris. The fiscal year begins 4-1-23 and ends 3-31-24. The budget for the next fiscal year has been presented to the board. Anderson moves to accept the 23-24 budget. Dufresne supports the motion. Roll Call: Mike Cockerill - yes, Patti Sargent - yes, Deb Harris - yes, Laura Anderson – yes, & George Dufresne – yes. The budget for 23-24 stands accepted.
3. Constable report: Cockerill. Life rings are out, and the road sign is now up at the intersection of Eilers and Chase Roads.
4. Solid Waste: Harris. Nothing to report.
5. CEIC / recent meetings: Anderson. See above, 6a.
6. Recycling: Goericke. Next meeting is April 13th. There is a county wide recycling event on April 22nd, Earth Day. The flyer is posted on the Township Hall window.
7. Planning Commission. Lloyd or Dufresne: The Public Hearing will be April 19th, followed by the regular PC meeting.
8. Ambulance: Cockerill. The preliminary budget includes an 8% pay raise for employees. Fringe benefits stay the same.
9. Fire Authority: Cockerill. As of this time last year, there were 107 runs, compared to 67 this year. The Boston Whaler rescue boat needs an expensive repair. (Transom) It may be wiser to get another Sea Doo instead of repairing the boat.
10. Accounts Payable: Sargent. Noted. Harris moved to approve the accounts payable. Anderson supported. Roll Call: Mike Cockerill - yes, Patti Sargent - yes, Deb Harris - yes, Laura Anderson – yes, & George Dufresne – yes. The motion passes and the accounts payable are approved.
11. Other Business or Correspondence: Harris shared that we have two attorneys working with us, Cliff Bloom, our Township Attorney, and Noland, our Litigation Attorney. They are involved in two current lawsuits with the township regarding solar and the end of Hancock Road.
12. Public comment: Limited to 3 minutes each.
    1. John Degen – Would like the Drain Commissioner to come out and answer questions about the Pierson Drain and Sadony Bayou.
    2. Paul Schroeder – Asked Anderson about the lime pits at Chemours.
    3. Tim Balcom – Asked if the township can limit the audience to township residents only. Sargent replied that would not be allowed under the Open Meetings Act.
    4. Craig Harris – Thanked Supervisor Cockerill and his wife for putting up the new Chase/Eilers road sign.
    5. Lauren Wackernagel – Thanks to both boards for the wording in the ordinance that aligns with the Master Plan. Would rather have a 2% cap than a 5% cap.
    6. Melissa Lorenz – Thanks to everybody on the committees for listening to residents and preserving the character of the township. Would rather have a 2% cap than a 5% cap.
    7. Mary Kriesal – She has a sign-up sheet for a CPR class. Sign up if you are interested.
    8. Kym Cyr – The County Commissioner discussed ‘Safe Seniors’, supported by Agewell Services. The attorney services started in 2018 and looks to help seniors from being scammed out of money. The township supports Agewell Services.
13. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:10pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Goericke, Deputy Clerk and Patti Sargent, Clerk