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 - Present, Patti Sargent Clerk - Present, Deb Harris Treasurer - Present, Laura Anderson Trustee- Present & George Dufresne Trustee – Absent.

1. Approval of Agenda: Sargent moved to approve the agenda. Harris seconded the motion. All in favor, none opposed, Dufresne absent.
2. Approval of September 12, 2023, Township Board meeting minutes. Sargent moved to approve the 9-12-23 meeting minutes. Anderson seconded the motion. All in favor, none opposed, Dufresne absent.
3. Public comment: Limited to 3 minutes each.
   1. Rich Nelson, WRT Resident. Asked how long the current master plan has been in effect. Board response: The master plan has been in effect since 2005. It should be reviewed every 5 years, so it has been reviewed a few times and no changes were made.
   2. Susan Lloyd, WRT Resident. The White Lake United Methodist Church is hosting a ‘Safe Senior’ program on October 23, 2023, at noon. She also reported that tomorrow the state legislature will again discuss eliminating local control of wind and solar zoning.
   3. Melissa Lorenz, WRT Resident. Wondered if the state legislative meeting was open to the public. Lloyd responded yes, any committee meeting is open to the public, with limited seating.
4. Special Order of Business: (Comments by Board Members). Sargent reported that the law suit regarding the Hancock road end access will be heard at 10 am on October 20, 2023 in Muskegon at the Muskegon County Courthouse before Judge Hoopes. In other news, a Code Enforcement Seminar will be held on November 13, 2023, in Hudsonville at the 58th District Court. See the clerk for additional information.
5. Old (Unfinished) Business:
   1. Millage proposals and election information for the White River Township November 7, 2023 Election. Sargent reported that 265 Abentee Ballots have been sent out. There is a sample ballot in the window.
   2. Pigeon Hill Resort Junk complaint. Cockerill reported he has been to the property twice. Some junk has been taken away, but more remains.
6. New Business:
   1. Township Resolution 65 – 2023. Sargent explained that if the resolution is passed by the board, it will be sent to our representatives in Lansing tonight. This resolution states that White River Township is opposed to legislation to preempt local control for the siting and permitting of utility-scale renewable facilities including solar, wind, and large-scale battery storage facilities. Anderson moved to adopt Resolution 65-2023. Harris supported. Roll Call: Patti Sargent - Yes, Deb Harris - Yes, Laura Anderson -yes, George Dufresne – Absent, and Mike Cockerill - Abstain. Resolution 65-2023 has passed.
7. Reports:
8. Financial August 2023 report: Harris. Financials were noted.
9. Constable report: Cockerill. The life rings will be removed the first week of November. Sargent will put a notice in the Beacon. Cockerill said the township’s 20 acres off Fruitvale Road should have the Hemlock trees inspected for Wooly Adelgid. He did not treat the Hemlock trees on that property and would like to have them checked. October is a good month to treat them. Cockerill reported that the road signs at Hancock and Lamos are in bad shape and should be replaced.
10. Solid Waste: Harris. The next meeting will take place on October 17, 2023, at 4:30 at the City Hall.
11. CEIC / recent meetings: Anderson. CEIC met last Thursday to discuss the Sadony Bayou Grant. The next out-reach article will explain CEIC’s involvement with the Sadony Bayou Grant and the vision for the area. A virtual meeting was held with Representative Moolenar and staff. Moolenar will draft a letter to EGLE as to why nothing has happened with the CACO for the clean-up of the site. Claire Schlaff is working on a Webinar that will explain the many reasons that are holding up the clean-up.
12. Recycling: Goericke. Nothing to report.
13. Planning Commission. Lloyd or Dufresne: Lloyd reported that the township’s first Town Hall Meeting was held last Tuesday, 10-3-23. The topic for the Town Hall Meeting was to discuss the millage. One resident attended. The next Town Hall Meeting will be on December 5th at 7pm. The topic for that meeting will be the public survey and the master plan. Lloyd also wanted to mention that Craig Harris and Don Kline are doing a great job filling in as Zoning Administrators.
14. Ambulance: Cockerill. Last month was a light month. White River Township only had 5 runs. The average response time is still excellent at 7 minutes.
15. Fire Authority: Cockerill. The Montague Fire District voted to pay off its bond debt. The total paid off was $664,825. The bond was paid off 4 years early which has saved $40,050. For Fire Prevention Week, the parade is tonight at 7pm. There is an open house tomorrow night from 6-8pm.
    1. Accounts Payable: Sargent/ Goericke. Sargent reported that we saved $20 last month on our electric bill, with our solar panels. Harris moved to approve the accounts payable. Sargent seconded the motion. Roll Call: Patti Sargent - Yes, Deb Harris - Yes, Laura Anderson -yes, George Dufresne – Absent, and Mike Cockerill - Yes. Accounts payable has been approved.
16. Other Business or Correspondence: Two invitations arrived this month. The White Lake Chamber of Commerce has their annual dinner at Double JJ Ranch. The cost is $55 per person. The Muskegon County Road Commission has their annual Road Kill Dinner in November. It is $30 per person, but free to board members.
17. Public comment: Limited to 3 minutes each.
    1. Shelley Grattafiori, WRT Resident. Asked about the Hemlock tree treatment. The Consevation District can come out and give a quote. She also asked about the prices at the White Lake Transfer Station. The prices seem higher here for some items. Harris said she will check into that at the next meeting.
    2. Pamela Balcom, WRT Resident. Asked if she could see Resolution 65-2023. Sargent gave her a copy.
18. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 7:45pm

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Goericke, Deputy Clerk

Patti Sargent, Clerk