The meeting of the White River Township Board was called to order at 7:00 PM by Supervisor Ron Bailey with the pledge of allegiance.

Roll Call: Ronald Bailey Supervisor, Patti Sargent Clerk, Deb Harris Treasurer, Laura Anderson & George Dufresne Trustees. All board members present and accounted for.

1. Approval of Agenda: Sargent moved to approve the agenda. Harris seconded. All in favor, none opposed. The agenda stands approved.
2. Approval of March 12, 2024, and April 1, 2024, Township Board meeting minutes. Anderson noted that item 6a in the March 12, 2024, minutes should read that the cost for Sports and Shorts is $2250.00 for each township and not a combined total amount. Harris moved to approve the minutes as amended. Anderson seconded. All in favor, none opposed. The March 12, 2024, minutes stand approved. Anderson moved to approve the April 1, 2024, meeting minutes as written. Sargent seconded. All in favor, none opposed. The April 1, 2024, minutes stand approved.
3. Public comment: Limited to 3 minutes each.
   1. Paul Schroeder, Chase Road, WRT Resident. He requested something be put down on Eilers Road in the summer to keep the dust down.
4. Special Order of Business: (Comments by Board Members) Sargent presented the board with the MTA subscription renewal options. Bailey moved to renew the MTA subscription at the Plus Package level which is $1,000.00. Sargent seconded. Roll Call: George Dufresne - Yes, Patti Sargent - Yes, Deb Harris - Yes, Laura Anderson – Yes & Ronald Bailey – Yes. All in favor, none opposed. The motion stands to approve the MTA subscription at the Plus Package level.
5. Old (Unfinished) Business:
   1. Hancock Road update; Bailey reported that both the Hancock road end project and the Hancock repaving project are waiting on responses from the Muskegon County Road Commission.
   2. Board of Review; The Board of Review was held on March 13 and 14, 2024. There were 5 written petitions and 10 in person petitions.
   3. Sports and Shorts; Instead of partnering with Montague Township, we will be partnering with the City of Montague. Sports and Shorts will be held July 8 – August 8, on Mondays through Fridays.
   4. Hemlock Tree disease. It is time to check your Hemlock trees for the Wooley Adelgids. If you see little white cotton balls between the needles, you need to treat your trees. More information can be found on treatment with this Michigan.gov link; <https://www.michigan.gov/invasives/news/2022/03/29/plan-now-for-spring-treatment-of-hemlock-woolly-adelgid#:~:text=Products%20containing%20either%20imidacloprid%20or,top%20of%20a%20large%20tree>.
6. New Business:
   1. April 1, 2024 meeting; Bailey stated that this was a closed meeting between the Township Board Members and the attorneys.
   2. LARA (State of Michigan) Solar Siting Teleconfrences available <https://www.michigan.gov/mpsc/commission/workgroups/2023-energy-legislation/renewable-energy-and-energy-storage-facility-siting>

Next teleconfrences are April 26, 2024 and May 17, 2024. There does not appear to have cost and previous meetings are available to be heard. (Thanks to Don Kline and Julie Goericke for this information.)

* 1. Next election is August 6, 2024, there will be early voting available in Muskegon at the old Baker College across from Muskegon Community College. This will be a primary election for state and local officials. In addition to the early voting, absentee ballots will also be available.
  2. The office of the Muskegon County Clerk has moved. It is now located in the Muskegon County Office Building, which is the Old Baker College on Marquette Ave. in Muskegon across from Muskegon Community College. The address is:1903 Marquette Ave. Suite A110, Muskegon, MI 49442
  3. Brine roads OPT IN/OPT OUT. The Muskegon County Road Commission provided the township with the following information: The township has 7.451 miles of gravel roads. The cost to the township to brine the gravel roads is $7,345.75. The township has opted out the last few years due to studies showing that the salt levels in Lake Michigan and inland lakes has been rising. Bailey moved to approve brining the gravel roads. Sargent seconded the motion. Roll Call: George Dufresne - No, Patti Sargent - No, Deb Harris - No, Laura Anderson – No & Ronald Bailey – Yes. The motion fails with 4 votes against. The township will opt out of brining.
  4. Notary Services are available at the Township Hall in on Mondays from 9 to 12 pm with the Clerk. The Clerk can also perform weddings if the service is desired.

1. Reports:
   1. Financial March 2024 and end of the year report: Harris moved to amend the budget and move $200 from Township Board to Township Hall. Sargent seconded. Roll Call: George Dufresne - Yes, Patti Sargent - Yes, Deb Harris - Yes, Laura Anderson – Yes & Ronald Bailey – Yes. All in favor, none opposed. The motion stands to approve the amended budget. Harris noted that the township took in over $5,000,000 in property taxes but only $91,000 stayed in the township.
   2. Zoning: Schmiege reported he had 10 new contacts this last month with some of them needing EGLE approval.
   3. Solid Waste: Harris reported that there was no meeting this month. Reminded residents that Pride Day this year is Saturday May 4, 2024, and Pride Day tickets are available at the township.
   4. CEIC / recent meetings: Anderson reported that CEIC’s attorney, Rebecca Millican, has been working on a letter to send to the Attorney General’s Office. CEIC is currently working on securing a grant for restoring Sadony Bayou. The next meeting is April 17th, 2pm, at WRT Hall.
   5. Recycling: Goericke reported there have been no meetings.
   6. Planning Commission. Lloyd: The planning commission is working on a “Property Owners Guide to Building in White River Township” to place on the website. Lloyd also requested to include a separate letter in the tax bill that would inform residents of dates and topics for upcoming Town Hall Meetings.
   7. Ambulance: Anderson reported that WRT had 5 calls last month. White Lake Ambulance Authority approved a $1.00 per hour wage increase, which stayed within the budget.
   8. Fire Authority: Bailey reported that The Fire Authority burned their mortgage. They also celebrated Mike Cockerill for his 34 years of service.
   9. Accounts Payable: Sargent/ Goericke (net meter [roof top Solar Power] credit for

March was $6.33). Sargent moved to approve the accounts payable. Harris seconded. Roll Call: George Dufresne - Yes, Patti Sargent - Yes, Deb Harris - Yes, Laura Anderson – Yes & Ronald Bailey – Yes. All in favor, none opposed. The motion stands to approve the accounts payable.

1. Other Business or Correspondence: The Code Enforcement Officer, Jon Howell, reported that one resident contacted him about our ordinance regarding political signs.
2. Public comment: Limited to 3 minutes each.
   1. Marisa McGlue, WRT Resident. Speaking on behalf of the planning commission, she spoke to a person at EGLE and there is grant money available. Westin Hilliard from EGLE is willing to sit down with the Township Board and the Muskegon County Road Commission to discuss the Hancock Road End Project.
   2. Craig Harris, WRT Resident. Asked about a sign on Indian Bay Road. The last 100 yards of the public road end has a sign reading, “Authorized Vehicles Only”. Bailey said he would call and ask about the sign.
   3. Shelley Grattafiori, WRT Resident. She would like to thank all the residents that are out collecting signatures for local control with ‘Citizens For Local Choice’.
3. 10. Adjournment: Sargent moved to adjourn. Anderson seconded. All in favor, none opposed. The meeting stands adjourned at 8:02pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Goericke, Deputy Clerk