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 in attendance.

1. Approval of Agenda: Dufresne moved to approve the agenda. Anderson seconded. All in favor, none opposed. The agenda stands approved.
2. Approval of April 1, 2024, closed meeting minutes and April 9, 2024, Township Board meeting minutes. Sargent moved to approve the April 1, 2024, closed meeting minutes. Harris seconded. All in favor, none opposed. The April 1, 2024, closed meeting minutes stand approved. Sargent moved to approve the April 9, 2024, meeting minutes. Harris seconded. All in favor, none opposed. The April 9, 2024, meeting minutes stand approved.
3. Public comment: Limited to 3 minutes each.
   1. Kendra Robinson, Fruitport resident. Ms. Robinson introduced herself. She is running for Probate Judge in Muskegon County.
4. Special Order of Business: (Comments by Board Members) Bailey reported that the lawsuit between White River Township and Lakeside Solar has been dismissed without prejudice by the judge.
5. Old (Unfinished) Business:
   1. Hancock Road update. Repaving of Hancock road will be taking place this week from Lamos to Indian Bay. The cost to the township is $106,000.
   2. Hemlock Tree disease. Check your Hemlock trees for infestation of Wooley Adelgids, which look like small cotton balls along the needles. Please treat your trees if you find evidence of infestation.
   3. 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>. The next teleconfrence is May 17, 2024.
   4. The Muskegon County Clerks office is now located in the Muskegon County Building, 1903 Marquette Ave. in Muskegon, across from the Community College.
   5. The next election in White River Township is the Primary which will be held on August 6. The Clerk will be in the office from 9 am to 5 pm on Saturday August 3 to register new voters and for those who would like to vote absentee. Check the White River Township Website for the dates and times of early voting at 1903 Marquette Ave. in Muskgeon. whiterivertwp.com
6. New Business:
   1. Cemetery information and Veteran Flags for Memorial Day. Flag holders are $32.00 to $35.00 base price for the cast aluminum and for up to 100 of a thermo plastic US VETERAN flag holder or $8.00 a piece. There is a Muskegon County GIS for Cemeteries. White River Township will be updating this information after July 2024. If you have a loved one or family member buried at Hubbard or Mouth Cemeteries that is a Veteran, please contact the Clerk with that information. Currently there is not a cost assigned to the township for this GIS service, however, there will be a license fee going forward. The city of Montague has been taking care of all local cemetery Veteran flags for a long time. They are asking that we pay for our own flags and holders. The local VFW places the flags.
   2. ORV ordinance. Bailey provided copies of the Montague Township ORV Ordinance. Board members are asked to read it over for discussion at next month’s meeting.
   3. ZBA meeting May 16th Kyle and Anje Crow of 8421 Lamos Road, Montague (Permanent Parcel No. 61-01-125-200-0014-00) are requesting ZBA approval to enlarge a non-conforming accessory building on that property. Public notice of the meeting was published in the White Lake Beacon and posted on the website.
   4. Mouth Cemetery paranormal investagators requesting a overnight visit to the Mouth Cemetery June 8, 2024. Sargent moved to allow the team to investigate overnight. Harris seconded. All in favor, none opposed. The request stands approved.
7. Reports:
   1. Financial April 2024 report: Harris. Noted.
   2. Zoning: Howell/Schmiege. Schmiege reported that there are many new building projects in the township. A few EGLE permits have come in and one code enforcement letter has been sent.
   3. Solid Waste: Harris. The next meeting is in June. The number of WRT participants in Pride Day will be shared.
   4. CEIC / recent meetings: Anderson. There has been no response from EGLE regarding the petition to intervene. The first visioning session will be held July 1st, 2024. The next CEIC meeting is tomorrow, May 15, 2024, at the township hall, 2pm.
   5. Recycling: Goericke. The next meeting is in June.
   6. Planning Commission. Lloyd distributed a draft of a letter. The letter contains dates and topics for upcoming town hall meetings. The planning commission would like to include the letter in the summer tax bill mailing, along with purchasing a stamp that would mark each envelope, “Town Hall Meeting Schedule Enclosed.” Harris discussed the legality of including this with the tax bill and suggested it be placed on the township’s website. Lloyd also distributed the document titled, “Property Owners Guide to Building Within the Township”. The planning commission is seeking approval to place this on the website. The board will examine the document and decide at the next meeting.
   7. Ambulance: Anderson. The community should be aware they may stop at the station to be assessed when/if they are not feeling well. (This would not be for emergencies.) Response times are under 9 minutes.
   8. Fire Authority: Bailey. The 24-25 budget is being worked on. There will be a public hearing on May 23, 2024, at the firehouse to discuss the millage renewal.
   9. Accounts Payable: Sargent/ Goericke (net meter (roof top Solar Power) credit for April was $14). Harris moved to approve the accounts payable. Anderson seconded. Roll Call: Patti Sargent – Yes, Deb Harris - Yes, Laura Anderson - Yes, George Dufresne - Yes, and Ronald Bailey – Yes. The motion passes and accounts payable have been approved.
8. Other Business or Correspondence: Sargent reported that 3 residents have contacted the township to complain that the dirt roads are not going to be brined. A question was asked about the possibility of brining only a portion of the roads located in front of homes.
9. Public comment: Limited to 3 minutes each.
   1. Dave Pickard, WRT Resident. Mr. Pickard asked if we knew how many hits our website was getting? Harris will check and find out.
   2. Shelley Grattifiori, WRT Resident. Inquired about meeting minutes not being on the website. Harris will check the website and make sure all approved minutes are posted.
   3. Lauren Wackernagel, WRT Resident. Asked if the township still has the Lakeside Solar project package. Schmiege replied that since the current lawsuit with them was dismissed without prejudice, we do not know what Lakeside Solar will do next.
   4. Arvid Nelson, WRT Resident. Stated that the landowners signed a 6-year lease in 2019, which will be up in 2025. The landowners will need to resign leases by then.
   5. Bill Schmiege, WRT Resident. Informed the attendees that if they have not signed the petition yet, he will be outside after the meeting and will have petitions available.
10. Adjournment: Sargent moved to adjourn the meeting. Anderson seconded. All in favor, none opposed. The meeting was adjourned at 7:55pm.