

Winterfield Township Board Meeting
May 9, 2023
Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Supervisor Hammar at Winterfield Township Hall. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and roll call was taken by Blackledge.

Members Present: Mark Hammar, Supervisor; Bonnie Blackledge, Clerk; Linda Peterson, Treasurer; and Fred Prielipp and Shelly Laughlin, Trustees

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Lori Mott, Clare County Clerk; Dave Hoefling, County Commissioner; Dave Bondie, Deputy Supervisor; Todd Flint, Zoning Administrator; and Bill Hoefling

Review of Agenda: Motion by Prielipp, second by Hammar, to accept the agenda as presented. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.

Review Minutes March 14, 2023: Motion by Peterson, second by Prielipp, to approve the March 14 Meeting Minutes as written. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Financial Report: Peterson said she received the settlement check. This affected general fund and transfer statement accounts. **Motion by Hammar, second by Laughlin to approve the Treasurer's Report for May 9, 2023. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.**

Public Comment: None

County Clerk's Report – Lori Mott, County Clerk: Mott warned the Board to be aware of MV Realty. It is a legitimate group approaching property owners in the townships regarding signing a lease to use them as a realtor. If signed, it puts a 40-year lien on the property. Questionnaires were mailed to 5,000 potential jurors.

Mott explained the Intergovernmental Agreement that was recently approved by the County Commissioners. The agreement covers the period from July 1, 2023 and continues through December 31, 2024. The County has agreed to cover the costs of election consolidation for the nine days of early voting.

County Commissioner's Report, Dave Hoefling: Hoefling summarized recent activity at the Commissioner meeting. He mentioned the National Crime Victims' Rights week, the unveiling of the Veteran's Memorial at the County building, Hazardous Spill agreement where the spiller pays to recoup the cost, and the amount budgeted for Gypsy Moth spraying.

Zoning Officer's Report: Todd Flint issued permits for garages on House Trail and at Long Lake/Old 61. Hammar commented that Community Solar and Commercial Solar companies have approached Winterfield residents.

Treasurer's Report: There is still one outstanding personal property payment.

Planning Commission Report: Laughlin said the Zoning Ordinance revision is coming together. It is still a working document. There will be a public hearing at the Planning Commission meeting on June 13th. After that, it will be coming to the Board and should be added to the July agenda. The Master Plan and Zoning Ordinance will be printed at the same time.

Clerk's Report: Blackledge asked for approval of two credit card vouchers – both for Staples. One was \$54.47 for office supplies and the other \$78.99 for toner. She distributed copies of Resolution 2023-2 and gave out copies of Par Plan News.

She asked whether there was an update on the cemetery projects that had been previously discussed. Hammar said there needs to be plots marked in the new section, probably 600 to 700 spaces. A fence will also be constructed.

Trustees' Report: No comments.

Supervisor's Report:
Old Business

1. Marion District Library – Resolution 2023-3

Blackledge and Hammar updated the Board on recent developments with the formation of a District Library. After some discussion, **Hammar moved to approve Resolution 2023-3, to give tentative approval to the Draft Agreement for the formation of the Marion Area District Library. Peterson seconded. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.**

2. Township Attorney Search Update – Blackledge compiled a list of attorneys that have been recommended. She included information from the MTA website to send to request qualifications. The Board suggested to formulate a letter that can be sent to local attorneys. It was proposed that we contact MTA for additional advice.

3. Revised Hall Rental Agreement – Blackledge added “Maximum Occupancy 65” to the draft agreement and changed the form to combine all the information on one double-sided document. Rebekah Preston, Hall Attendant, had asked whether we might consider renting to residents outside Winterfield Township at a higher rate and charge our residents \$25 to rent it. The Board is not in favor of charging a rental fee to our taxpayers and prefers not to rent to those outside the Township. Preston asked if she could clean the tables and chairs as part of her

spring cleaning this year. The Board agreed and asked that the floor also be cleaned with a product like “Rejuvenate.”

4. Agreement to Participate with Clare County for Early Voting – additional discussion

Lori Mott presented the concepts in the agreement to the Board during her report earlier in the meeting. The County has agreed to host the 9 days of required early voting for every State Election beginning in 2024. For this first year, there will be no charge to the townships and cities. When the details are worked out, there may be a charge in the future. **Blackledge moved to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement between Winterfield Township and Clare County. Laughlin supported. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.**

New Business

5. MML Property Liability Insurance Proposal

Connie Monson, MML Liability and Property Pool, sent a proposal for Winterfield Township in the amount of \$3,177. This compares with the previous fee payment in 2022 of \$3,507 to MTPP. The proposal includes an increase in value of the Township Hall building to \$389,570. **Blackledge moved to accept the proposal for property and liability insurance for 2023-24 from Michigan Municipal League in the amount of \$3,177. Laughlin seconded. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.**

6. Clare County Equalization Contract

Peterson said she spoke with several treasurers and Equalization regarding the contract. Nine townships are choosing to print their own tax bills or go through KCI. She also spoke to Tina, our Assessor, who said she would do everything at no cost. We will send the bills to KCI and pay for printing. The taxes have to be to the printer by June 14. She recommends choosing Option 2 for \$500 for the summer and winter tax bills. **Peterson moved to choose Option 2 on the Equalization Contract. Hammar seconded. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.**

7. Budget – Set special meetings

The Board set the preliminary budget meeting for 2:00 pm on Wednesday, June 7, 2023. The Public Hearing and adoption will take place at 2:00 pm on Wednesday, June 28th.

8. Clare County Road Commission Agreements

1. Long Lake, Cook, Pierce, Strawberry - \$90,000

This is Phase 1 of the Super Six project. **Hammar moved to replace the agreement approved on 9/13/22 with Agreement #1 5/3/2023 for \$90,000. Seconded by Laughlin. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.** This will involve the widening and paving of Long Lake, Cook, Pierce, and Strawberry.

2. Keehn - \$60,000

The proposed agreement called for the preparation of the roadbed with double chip and fog for \$60,000. At the meeting, Dave Bondie suggested changing this to 2.5" of hot mix and 2-foot shoulders. He said the cost should be about the same. **Hammar moved and Laughlin seconded that the Board accepts Agreement #2 with the change to asphalt. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.**

Comments from the Supervisor –

- Dust Control (brining) was recently completed. It will take place again on June 30 and August 29. Joe Klein sent maps to show where the roads were brined.
- A notice was received from EGLE that the Transfer Station inspection showed that it is in compliance.
- Representative Kune will attend the September 11, 2023 Board Meeting.
- Point Blank Services is installing fiber in the area. The fiber is AT&T. The tower is Verizon.

Public Comment: Peterson said that she received \$1564 from Fish & Wildlife. This should be used for budget purposes.

Budget Report: Blackledge distributed a budget report for the fiscal year 2022-2023, 7/1/22 through 5/9/2023 for the General Fund, Transfer Station Fund and Road Fund. No categories were overspent.

Review Township Expenditures:

Hammar moved to approve General Fund checks 5866 through 5903, and Transfer Station checks 2197 through 2203 as shown on the reports. Second by Prielipp. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.

Adjournment: Blackledge moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:39 pm. Hammar seconded. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Bonnie Blackledge, Winterfield Township Clerk