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**WHITEHALL TOWNSHIP  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2022**

Location: 7644 Durham Road, Whitehall, MI 49461

- I. Arnold Erb, Township Supervisor, called the meeting to order at 4:32 p.m.
- II. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
- III. Roll Call:
  - Arnold Erb, Supervisor   ■ Sarah Sylvester, Clerk   ■ Madge Kraai, Treasurer
  - Chuck Schmitigal, Trustee   ■ Dennis Kroll, Trustee
- IV. Chuck made a MOTION to approve the Agenda. Dennis supported the MOTION. The MOTION was passed with 5 ayes and 0 nays.
- V. Dennis made a MOTION to approve the Regular Board Meeting Minutes for January 24. Chuck supported the MOTION. The MOTION was passed with 5 ayes and 0 nays.
- VI. Public Hearing for Creation of IDD for Fusion Fluid – The meeting was called to order at 4:34pm. The floor was opened for public comments. There were no public comments. Dennis made a MOTION to close the public hearing. Chuck supported the MOTION. The MOTION was passed with 5 ayes and 0 nays. The public hearing was closed at 4:35pm.
- VII. Public Comment – There were comments on the salary resolutions, Federal/State ARPA money and the minutes not being on the website.
- VIII. Correspondence
  - A. Informational letter from Jon Bumstead about First Responder Training **(Attachment A)**
  - B. Informational letter from Debbie Stabenow. **(Attachment B)**
  - C. Nationwide Fees **(Attachment C)**

- D. Report from VAC on senior usage from our township. **(Attachment D)**
- E. Hazard Mitigation Participation letter **(Attachment E)**

IX. Financial Reports

- A. General Fund, Sewer Fund, Water Fund and Special Assessment Profit & Loss Reports presented by Sarah. **(Attachment F)**

- B. Sarah made a MOTION to approve paying the following checks:
  - General Fund checks #19057-19099 in the amount of \$22,830.92
  - Sewer Fund checks #4228-4239 in the amount of \$23,582.83
  - Water Fund checks #920-927 in the amount of \$1,580.73
  - Special Assessment – No checks **(Attachment G)**

Dennis supported the MOTION. The MOTION carried with a ROLL CALL vote:

- Arnold Erb, Supervisor   ■ Sarah Sylvester, Clerk   ■ Madge Kraai, Treasurer
- Chuck Schmitigal, Trustee   ■ Dennis Kroll, Trustee

- C. Month End Balance Sheets & Equity **(Attachment H)** were placed on file.

X. New Business (There was no Old Business this month)

- A. Dennis made a MOTION to pass Resolution 2022-3 Resolution to Establish Industrial Development District for Fusion Fluid. **(Attachment I)** Chuck supported the MOTION. The MOTION carried with a ROLL CALL vote:

- Arnold Erb, Supervisor   ■ Sarah Sylvester, Clerk   ■ Madge Kraai, Treasurer
- Chuck Schmitigal, Trustee   ■ Dennis Kroll, Trustee

- B. Pete McCarthy, Fire Chief spoke about the potential for the fire station to also do ambulance service. Discussed whether it would be duplicating services or supplementing what is already there and over worked. They did a month long study and found that the average response time for Fruitland and the City of Whitehall right now with ProMed is 19 minutes. They want better. He will keep us in the conversation as it progresses.

- C. Chris Burnaw from Agewell Services spoke about Elder abuse and exploitation. They do lunch presentations for seniors to educate them, as well as post card mailings or ads in newsletters/newspapers. **(Attachment J)**

- D. Representatives from the Planning Commission, Kathy and Bobby, spoke about upgrading Johnson Park. They would like to remove the stumps and put in a fence or trees. They gave a sketch of what it could look like. **(Attachment K)** They would like to know what we can put in the budget for them. They also invited all board members to their April 6 meeting at 6pm to tour the park areas. Bobby also spoke about an Air BNB, Serenity Now Treehouse, that was shut down by Val and the ZBA awhile back and he is still operating.

- E. Resolution 2022-4 to Allocate Senior Millage – Arnie noted he hasn't been able to visit the Senior Center yet, but did find out their hours are Monday-Thursday,

8am until 2pm. Discussion on if the VAC would get used enough in the summer. We could try it for one year, and then use the data to see for other years. Tabled until next meeting.

F. Arnie would like to mail out a spring newsletter. Dennis made a MOTION to approve a newsletter mailing. Chuck supported the MOTION. The MOTION carried with a ROLL CALL vote:

- Arnold Erb, Supervisor    ■ Sarah Sylvester, Clerk    ■ Madge Kraai, Treasurer
- Chuck Schmitgal, Trustee    ■ Dennis Kroll, Trustee

G. National Flood Insurance Program – Dennis made a MOTION to participate. Madge supported the MOTION. The MOTION was passed with 5 ayes and 0 nays.

H. Salary Resolutions – Dennis commented that he would still like to see all 3 administrative positions paid equally. He has talked with other municipalities and they are all paid equally, with one exception, and that place is freezing a salary to become equal. **(Attachment L)** Dennis made a MOTION to freeze the treasurer salary at \$28,812, and to change the supervisor and clerk salary to the same amount of treasurer. We would also strike the “includes 2<sup>nd</sup> tax collection” phrase as this goes without saying. Madge supported the MOTION. The MOTION carried with a ROLL CALL vote:

- **Arnold Erb, Supervisor (NO)**    ■ Sarah Sylvester, Clerk
- Madge Kraai, Treasurer    ■ Chuck Schmitgal, Trustee    ■ Dennis Kroll, Trustee

#### XI. Committee Reports

A. White Lake Ambulance – Everything is going well. The city won’t discuss rejoining with them. We have a contract to help other municipalities, whereas the proposed fire authority ambulance would not. Meeting materials were distributed. **(Attachment M)** and annual report placed on file.

B. Solid Waste Authority – No Update

C. White Lake Fire Authority – No Update other than Chief McCarthy’s presentation.

D. Planning Commission – No Update other than the previous presentation on Johnson Park and the Air BNB.


#### XII. Officer’s Reports

A. Public Official – Terry Sabo, they are working on the budget. There are discussions on reducing income tax, he is against it as it would take away from revenue sharing for municipalities.

B. Supervisor- Update on water extension on Mill Pond Road, the soil boring and water testing has been completed and they found traces of PFAS. The state is now getting

involved and they are keeping the purge wells for now.

- C. Zoning Administrator – Report on file. **(Attachment N)**
  - D. Water/Sewer Administrator – No Update
  - E. Clerk – There will be a May Election – the MAISD has a millage for special education they are putting on the ballot. May 3 is the election date.
  - F. Treasurer – Unpaid real property taxes will be sent to the county tomorrow for collection. There are two being sent.
  - G. Office Worker – Wants to know if she can work 9am-2pm instead of 4pm. Arnie will talk with her, he might be able to cover on days she needs to leave.
- XIII. Public Comment – Questions on planning commission rules as far as sending minute drafts out to boards members, and the line on funds going through the secretary should be removed.
- XIV. Announcements-  
Budget Meeting – March 7<sup>th</sup> at 4:30pm.  
BOR Organizational Meeting – March 8 at 9:30am.  
BOR Protest Meeting – March 14 at 2pm-5pm and 6pm-9pm.  
BOR Protest Meeting – March 15 at 9am-12pm and 1pm-4pm.  
Township Board Meeting – March 28 at 4:30pm.
- XV. Adjournment –Dennis made a MOTION to adjourn at 6:45p.m. The MOTION was supported by Chuck. The MOTION was passed with 5 ayes, 0 nays.

  
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Arnold Erb, Supervisor

3-28-22  
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Date

  
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Sarah Sylvester, Clerk

3-28-22  
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Date