

WOODROW TOWNSHIP
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES

April 11, 2024

7:00 P.M.

The meeting was called to order by Chair Gordy Reher at 7:00 p.m. All joined in the Pledge of Allegiance. Present are Supervisor Colter Peterson, Supervisor Scott Wold, Treasurer Tim Mueller and Deputy Clerk Lisa Garbe. To see sign in sheet for citizens present, request from Clerk.

M/S/P Wold/Peterson approve Agenda for Regular Monthly Meeting as amended to add Capital Improvement Plan as #1 for old business.

M/S/P Wold/Peterson approve March 14, 2024, Regular Meeting Minutes as amended with spelling change and removal of duplicate wording.

M/S/P Peterson/Wold approve March 2024 Treasurer Report, subject to audit as presented by Treasurer Tim Mueller.

M/S/P Wold/Peterson approve claims as submitted by Deputy Clerk Lisa Garbe.

M/S/P Wold/Peterson approve payroll as submitted by Deputy Clerk Lisa Garbe.

Clerk's Report –

1. Reminder of the Local Board of Appeal and Equalization meeting on Friday April 19, 2024 at 10AM.
2. Reminder of the Road Inspection meeting Saturday April 27, 2024 at 12PM and meet at Town Hall.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Chris Sonmor from Sonmor Engineering discussed the Capital Improvement Plan. Chris is calculating and created a budgeting tool to include the budget numbers for future project planning on roads, gravel pit, and other projects. Chris would like to review maintenance costs for roads and incorporate it into the spreadsheet. This will help with the funding of any future projects and budget discussions. As the township moves forward, it will be used as a planning tool and not as a commitment to projects. The amounts added will be adjusted as needed for inflation or other changes over the years. It will help plan assessments on projects if that is the route to take. The plan is something that will be needed if there is any project that requires a bond.

Supervisors reiterate that currently there are no projects and no assessments that are planned for any roads in the township. At this time, we are in an initial stage of planning the future which could

be 5-10 years or more down the road. We need to be able to openly discuss things in the open monthly meeting and move forward with planning. Citizens will be provided with numbers when we have them. And the number shown here is slated for 2027 on our planning document but we don't know if that's going to happen in 2026 or 2032. There will be a process, and we need to budget for that just the same as citizens will need to and no one is trying to slap anybody with five grand out of the blue. We cannot have assessment conversations right now because there are no numbers and too many variables. Once we have the plan and some numbers it will be discussed but it won't happen overnight. There are state statutes in place that need to be followed.

2. Supervisor Peterson talked to Larry Sanders and received \$5.85 per yard crushed which is \$1.15 more than when it was done a few years ago. We can work on having 10,000 yards crushed. The area is marked already. The gravel in the pit will need to be moved before work starts and planning is for mid-July.
3. Zoom meeting discussion to be postponed to May monthly meeting. Supervisor Wold will draft a potential policy for the board to look at as far as remote meetings and how they would be used and when they could be used within the township.
4. The township is looking at vacating two existing town roads, Schmidt Road and Lost Lake Road. Lost Lake Road is a tenth of a mile. Schmidt Road is two-tenths of a mile. A public hearing will be held May 9th at 7 pm at the Woodrow Township Hall.

NEW BUSINESS

1. TDS cable needs to be moved from a property on McKeown Drive Northwest. TDS will have to create a road where the right-of-way is and then bring the cable over to that. It's all on private property with part of it on tax forfeit land which is managed by the County and none of it has a private road. It is not within a plat, and the township has nothing to do with it. The township will not make any decisions regarding this.
2. 2024 Calcium Chloride application is slated for the same 3 roads, Timber, Buxton, and Interlachen/Evergreen. Costs have increased about 30% and the township is looking at approximately \$26K for this year's Chloride application.
3. Treasurer and Clerk created a project tracking spreadsheet, it isn't the planning document discussed earlier, but this is for us to track what is budgeted and when the payments go out. It will help us to show where we are over or under. Cathy will train the board on how to use the spreadsheet on Monday April 22, 7PM via Zoom. Note this is a training session, not an open meeting.

SUPERVISOR REPORT

Supervisor Reher –

- Looking into the noxious weed spraying on township roads for 2024. This is something that needs to be done and the cost is approximately \$3,500.

Supervisor Peterson –

- Nothing to report.

Supervisor Wold –

- Received a call from Neal Scharmer the Chair of the Child, Girl, Woman Lake Association regarding the stated public beach on County 5. One was a concern that the vegetation that exists there, native vegetation, might get cut down, poisoned, somehow damaged. I know there's been discussion on somebody providing funding for that native restoration at some point 10, 15 years ago. And there's some unknown on it whether, the Lake Association chipped in, the Soil and Water Conservation District chipped in, and the township chipped in, and who paid for what. And so, in discussion with him, I just said, well, as one board member, not speaking for anybody else, I said, my view would be that I know they're trying to find if they have some vested ownership through some agreement or something in the past. And I said, I don't really think that matters. And from my perspective, if it was water dollars or township dollars or lake association dollars, which isn't technically taxpayer, but it is residents, right? I think we have, from my perspective, a duty to protect that investment that was made and make sure that we're not just mowing it down or eliminating that native vegetation. So, I said, you can find out if you have interest or not, I don't care. My view on it is the same, that we should try to protect that investment.

Then the other thing I got out of it was the Lake Association was really interested in getting a sign put up stating that something to the effect that this is a native restoration done in conjunction with possibly the Lake Association and the township or something, or whatever the verbiage was, but something to have a demonstration plot on that spot. And so, I referred him to a resource specialist with the county, but knowing the setbacks, there isn't a spot legally to place a sign on that property. A, it's within the road right of way. When I expressed that, he said, nope, we'd like to have it on the lake. So, boats can drive up and kind of see this is what a native beach restoration looks like, right? Kind of a larger sign, but that's a structure and you can't have, we're not looking for billboards on the lake either, so that was not being allowed use either, and that seemed to satisfy him that okay, understand that that's not an option, and that was the extent of our conversation. And so, we talked for half an hour, but I know it's been a touchy subject, I just want to make clear that I did not speak on behalf of the board, I just gave him my views as I see it, and we kind of ran through some stuff.

Supervisor Reher stated that when he and Dave Tanner met with Jeff Woodford at the property last year, Jeff came out and we walked, and he signed off on it. So, we've well defined where we're going to work, what's going to be done, and it is well within the desires of the Lake Association. And if it satisfies the Lake Association and satisfies County Environmental, then we're good with it. Jeff was concerned about the noxious weeds there and the Township does need to spray for noxious weeds.

Supervisor Wold stated he expressed a viewpoint because Neal expressed to him that the Lake Association was still trying to find some documentation that they had vested ownership or agreement of interest in it. And Wold told him that with everything he's seen that is absolutely not true. The Lake Association has no ownership. But our interests continue to be aligned.

PUBLIC INPUT

OTHER BUSINESS

MEETING ADJOURNED M/S/P Wold/Peterson @ 9:10 p.m.



Chair, Gordy Reher



Clerk, Cathy Dietrich

