

WHEATLAND TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING
7:00 P.M. August 19, 2024
MINUTES

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER 7:00 P.M. with the Pledge of Allegiance being recited by all present.

ROLL CALL:

Tom VanSyckle x Amy Snyder ABS Mary Karcher x Ethan McNeal x Lee Carte x
Others present: Joel & Pam Ball, Kelly Simon, Nettie Sellers, Chris Zimmerman, Julie Sellers, Becky Kurtz, Diane Eichenburg, Deanna Potts, MaryAnn Wernette, Jeanette Aldrich, Kathy Smith. Amy Noggle, Linda Howard, Kevin & Kim Thiel, Ken Lind

SUPERVISOR REPORT: Supervisor VanSyckle reported that the township is running well. There are 6-8 street lights out and we need to contact Edmore Electric to get a date to get them repaired. Mary Karcher will contact Edmore Electric tomorrow morning. Our maintenance workers, John & Kevin, have done a great deal of clean-up work at the WWTP.

MINUTES: A motion was made by Lee Carte to accept the minutes as written for the July 15, 2024 Board Meeting, Ethan McNeal supported the motion, all in favor, motion carried.
BOARD MINUTES- July 15, 2024

TREASURER REPORT: A motion was made to accept the Treasurer Report and payments as presented for July 2024 by Lee Carte and Ethan McNeal supported the motion, all in favor, motion carried.
TREASURER REPORT - July 2024

LEPRINO REPORT: Supervisor VanSyckle reported that the WWTP is running well. There is a man door that needs replaced. Our maintenance crew, John & Kevin, have spent a great deal of time cleaning up the building and grounds at the WWTP. Mary Karcher commented that John McKenzie, maintenance, suggested that a dumpster get put out at the WWTP. Tom said that Leprino's has a dumpster and with further discussion it's usually only a bag of garbage a week unless there is a project going on. Our maintenance people can put this in there weekly pickup of garbage around the township.

FIRE REPORT: Fire Chief Kevin Thiel reported there have been 154 runs to date. He had 1 person signed up for EMT school but was deployed for the National Guards and had to back out of the course at this time. The Wheatland Fire Dept. has a \$3500 balance from ARPA monies and will be spending it on Traffic Safety items.

LIBRARY REPORT: Becky Kurtz, library director, reported that Story hour will begin on Tuesday, September 10, 2024 and Deanna Potts will be the facilitator. There are 5 families signed up. The Library will also be having an Art Appreciation for our area artist on Sat. Sept. 14, 2024 starting at 11. Mary Ann Wernette, president of the library board, spoke and informed the Wheatland Township Board that the library board will be in attendance more at our monthly meetings and more activities are being planned for our library.

DDA REPORT: Amy Noggle asked the board if the pavilion job was complete as Supervisor VanSyckle had said he was looking into countertop. The agreement was that the pavilion job was completed on the DDA's part. Amy had pictures and explained the 18 whole Disc Golf Course. There will be 9 holes in the woods and 9 holes out of the woods. The 18 holes will require 162 bags of cement and each pad will be 4 ft. by 8 ft. Each hole will take 9 bags of cement, 8 for the pad and 1 for the bucket. The Hole Layout sign will be produced this year by Mr. Hatfield's 24/25 Wood Shop Class. Amy also had pictures of the new Park Signs that the DDA will be purchasing. The board gave her the approval to move forward with purchasing and installing the signs. There was a brief discussion about the "Fires to be built in designated areas only". With comments from the board's insurance person in attendance the agreement was to put "No Open Fires Allowed". Amy also asked about the Memorial Wall Check #1156. Mary Karcher will look into this in the morning and email the DDA with the information of date check was sent out and if it's been cashed by the company as of today. Amy did have a flyer with the new Wheatland Banners that were made and the township maintenance will have them up by the first week in September. They will add a great deal of color to our community.

PUBLIC COMMENT: 1. Linda Howard, County Commissioner, talked about the MET monies (Marijuana Excise Tax) that Mecosta County Commissioners will be granting out. She also discussed the Nichol's house 30 day extension from the judge and that she will be our County Commissioner until December 31, 2024 and has enjoyed her 12 years of service for the county. 2. Fire Chief Thiel wanted to add to his Fire Report and explained that the Fire Dept. had an opportunity to purchase AED kits through the County for a very reasonable price. Tom VanSyckle made a motion to purchase an AED Kit through the County for under \$2000, Lee Carte supported the motion, all in favor, motion carried.
(3 MIN NOT ON AGENDA 5 MIN ON AGENDA)

CORRESPONDENCE: Clerk Mary Karcher read 3 letters

1. July 15, 2024 a formal complaint against Amy Snyder for running for Township Treasurer and not residing in the township.
2. July 24, 2024 a letter from Pam Ball explaining her being selected for the Mecosta Mayhem First Responders Grand Marshall for 2024, and not receiving recognition or support from W.T.F.D. and a decision made by Supervisor VanSyckle.
3. August 15, 2024 a resignation letter from Treasurer Amy Snyder

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. **Leprinos:** Supervisor VanSyckle will be meeting with Leprinos this Thursday and has a quote from Gosling Czubak for the WWTP study which will be discussed at that time.
2. **Scattered Garden Memorial Wall (Putting names on the wall discussion):** This was discussed during DDA Portion of meeting.
3. **50TH Ave Road Project:** This project has been postponed 3 times due to rain. It should be completed within the next couple of weeks.
4. **Waste Water Treatment Plant Study:** Meeting this Thursday for further discussion between Supervisor VanSyckle and Leprinos.
5. **Wheatland Township/Sheridan Township Clean-Up Day 15 signs ordered and delivered**

NEW BUSINESS:

1. EMC Insurance for 2024-2025: Ken Lind was present to discuss changes he would like the township to make. These changes included: Putting a back and sides on the 2 sets of bleachers at both ball fields for safety. Would like Mary Karcher to contact him once the Disc Golf Course is up and running. Discussed the fire trucks and requesting that we increase the Designated Value of the pumper trucks to \$800,000 each and the Rescue Truck to \$350,000 as well as changing the Open Area at the park from \$19,000 to \$40,000 coverage. Lee Carte made a motion to pay EMC \$33,919 for the townships insurance premium 2024-2025 including all the extra's discussed with Ken including the Fire Trucks and the Open Area at the Township Park, Tom VanSyckle supported the motion, all in favor, motion carried.

2. August 6, 2024 Election: Clerk Mary Karcher reported that we had 363 voters out of our 1150 registered voters during the Aug. 6, 2024 Primary Election and the day ran smoothly.

3. Wheatland Township's Treasurer's Resignation: Clerk Mary Karcher reported that after Joel Ball filed the written complaint against Wheatland Township Treasurer Amy Snyder, Michigan Election Law stated that the township clerk had to send her a certified letter stating she had 30 days to challenge the complaint. Amy did not challenge the complaint and her name was removed from the Wheatland Township resident list on July 16, 2024, which was 30 days after the letter was sent. Amy sent a letter of resignation to the Wheatland Township board on Thursday, August 15, 2024 effective immediately. Those two actions removed Amy from the Republican nominee for the November Election. After talking to Mecosta County Clerk, Clerk Mary Karcher explained that Julie Sellers will have to be a write in for the November Ballot and will need her paper work filled out by the 2nd Friday before the Election.

4. Appoint a new Wheatland Township Treasurer: Supervisor VanSyckle asked Julie Sellers if she was interested in being appointed as the Wheatland Township Treasurer and she agreed. Mary Karcher made a motion to appoint Julie Sellers as the Wheatland Township Treasurer, Lee Carte supported the motion, all in favor the motion carried. Clerk Mary Karcher gave the Oath to Julie Sellers to complete the process of appointing her the new township treasurer.

PUBLIC COMMENT: 1. Clerk Mary Karcher commented on the letter from Pam Ball to the Township Board.

2. Kevin Thiel commented on Mary Karcher's comments.

3. Nettie Sellers asked Supervisor VanSyckle a question about the Letter from Pam Ball.

3. Lee Carte commented on the Letter from Pam Ball to the township board.

(3 MIN NOT ON AGENDA 5 MIN ON AGENDA)

ADJOURN: Lee Carte made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Julie Sellers supported the motion, and all in favor meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary Karcher

Township Clerk

