

**WHEATLAND TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING**  
**7:00 P.M. November 18, 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 Julie Sellers X Mary Karcher X Ethan McNeal X Lee Carte X**  
Others present: Amy Noggle, Linda Howard, Chris Zimmerman, Becky Kurtz, Bob & Deanna Cook, Jeanette Aldrich, Megan Stevens, Kevin & Kim Thiel, Myra VanSyckle, Beth Leiter,

**SUPERVISOR REPORT:** Supervisor VanSyckle reported that fall was winding down, winter/holiday banners and lights have been put up and the fencing project at the park should be completed by the end of November.

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

**TREASURER REPORT:** A motion was made to accept the Treasurer Report and payments as presented for September 2024 by Tom VanSyckle and Lee Carte supported the motion, all in favor, motion carried.  
TREASURER REPORT - Oct. 2024

**LEPRINO REPORT:** Supervisor VanSyckle reported that the WWTP is running well and they will be discharging again soon. The muskrat problem is back and Supervisor VanSyckle will get a hold of Vern Young to see if he still traps. A correction needs to be made from October's Minutes, as Mary Karcher stated that discharging happened twice a year, in October & April. It should have read discharging happens twice a year, in the fall and spring.

**FIRE REPORT:** Fire Chief Kevin Thiel reported there have been 223 runs to date. 1 person is in Fire School which is a 5-6 month process. There was 1 fire structure this past weekend in town and it was a complete loss. Chief Thiel complemented his firefighters on a good knock-down and a job well done.

**LIBRARY REPORT:** Becky Kurtz was present along with four newly elected board members, Megan Stevens, Deanna Cook, Jeanette Aldrich and Beth Leiter. Becky reported that the Library Board had a Special Meeting and she contacted the County Clerk Marcee Purcell and requested a recount from the November 5, 2024 Election as the Library Proposal requesting the .8 millage renewal failed by 1. Becky also reported that they will be having pictures with Santa from 11-3 on Saturday December 21, 2025 and there will be refreshments and drawings during the event.

**DDA REPORT:** Amy Noggle reported that the park signs have been installed. There are brand new signs at 66 and Charles St and at Hewlett and M-20. The sign going into the park has been refurbished. The DDA will be hosting a Hometown Christmas Event on Saturday December 7, 2024. Most of the activities will be taking place inside the Farmers Table with a Parade of Lights to end the evening. The Library will be participating having story time with an Elf activity. The DDA along with the Remus Lions club, The

Knights of Columbus and The Wheatland Fire Department will be hosting Breakfast with Santa on Saturday December 14th from 9-11:00 a.m.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Linda Howard, County Commissioner, reported that she and Supervisor VanSyckle attended a Zoom Meeting with Leprinos on October 28, 2024 that was very informative. Linda also reported that MDARD is working on funding possibilities to help with the Waste Water Treatment Plant Work Study Project. Linda also questioned the amount of money that was in the township's sewer fund.

Beth Leiter asked the board what could be done about a certain resident that putting his waste across the road from his house in the ditch and on other people's property. Supervisor VanSyckle said he would be contacting Building and Zoning about this issue.

(3 MIN NOT ON AGENDA 5 MIN ON AGENDA)

**CORRESPONDENCE: N/A**

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

- 1. Leprinos:** Supervisor VanSyckle reported that a decision needs to be made as to what can be done with the building that Leprino owns at this time.
- 2. Waste Water Treatment Plant Study:** Supervisor VanSyckle reported that until the township board knows what will be going on with the Leprino building there are too many variables to know which way to go with the study.
- 3. Bleachers (Ken Lind Suggestions):** Supervisor VanSyckle contacted Ken Lind and asked about the back ballfield bleachers and Ken would like to see the back and sides put on that set of bleachers also. This will be taken care of next spring.
- 4. Cemetery Policy: Needs Looked at in the next couple of months** Tabled until next month
- 5. Fencing:** Supervisor VanSyckle reported that the fencing project should be completed by the end of November.
- 6. Credit Cards:** Lee Carte made a motion to remove Amy Snyder from the Wheatland Township credit card and to put newly elected Clerk Kim Thiel on the credit card and Julie Sellers as the second signature on the card, removing Mary Karcher and Amy Snyder. And to add newly elected Clerk Kim Thiel and Treasurer Julie Sellers to any and all accounts at both Isabella Bank and Mercantile Bank. Ethan McNeal supported the motion, all in favor, motion carried.
- 7. Election Nov. 5, 2024 Wrap-Up:** Clerk Mary Karcher reported that the November 5, 2024 Election didn't run as smooth as other Elections. She explained that the USB Stick crashed (corrupted) and had to be replaced thus starting out the Election Day at 7:20 a.m. with a paper poll book directed by the Count Clerk. The EPB (Election Laptop) was up and running by 2:30 p.m. Then at 3 in the afternoon the tabulator started jamming and it was realized at 5-ish that this was due to the write-in bin being so full. Due to numerous jams the tabulator total was off by 3 at closing of polls. After contacting our County Clerk with this information she suggested I write a letter to the canvassers explaining our Election Day at the township. She then said that the canvassers would decide if there is to be a re-tabulation of

ballots. The Mecosta County Board of Canvassers did request a re-tabulation which was done on November 10, 2024. Wheatland Township had 66% turnout of their voters on Election Day with 738 voting in the Polls and 27 voting during Early Voting at Big Rapids Township. I just want to add, that with all the problems that occurred during the day our voters were respectful and understanding.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**1. Oaths for Library and Township Board Members: General Election 11/5/24**

Clerk, Mary Karcher gave the Oath to 4 elected members of the Library Board present:

1. Jeanette Aldrich
2. Elizabeth Leiter
3. Deanna cook
4. Megan Stevens

**\*\*The other members will need to meet with the new Clerk Kim Thiel to be sworn in on different day.**

**5 elected members of the Wheatland Township Board: Supervisor: Tom VanSyckle**

**Clerk: Kim Thiel**

**Treasurer: Julie Sellers**

**Trustees: Lee Carte**

**Ethan McNeal**

**2. Mark Bauman: Original Michigan Fiddler's**

**Association hall rental fee.** After a discussion the board agreed that no rental fee would be charged however a cleaning deposit of \$100 will be charged to the MI Fiddler's Association that will be returned after the event as long as the building is found as it was when the group arrived for the event.

**PUBLIC COMMENT: N/A**

(3 MIN NOT ON AGENDA 5 MIN ON AGENDA)

**ADJOURN:** Tom VanSyckle made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Lee Carte supported the motion all in favor the meeting was adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Kimberly S. Thiel  
Township Clerk