

WHEATLAND TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING
7:00 P.M. October 20, 2025
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 Kim Thiel X Ethan McNeal X Lee Carte X

Others present: Chief Kevin Thiel, Amy Noggle DDA, Chris Zimmerman, Jeanette Aldrich Library.

SUPERVISOR REPORT: Supervisor VanSyckle reported that we have a community service worker helping our maintenance department. VanSyckle stated that Maintenance has cleaned out the alley between M-20 and Church St., looks great. Also someone dumped some gravel on it. It was discussed that maintenance broke a window in the new tractor, but has since been fixed.

MINUTES: A motion was made by Lee Carte to accept the minutes as written for the September 15, 2025 Board Mtg. Ethan McNeal supported the motion, all in favor, motion carried.

BOARD MINUTES-Sept. 15, 2025

TREASURER REPORT: A motion was made by Lee Carte to accept the Treasurer Report and payments as presented for September 15, 2025 Board Meeting, Tom VanSyckle supported the motion, all in favor, motion carried.

Treasurer's Report-September 15, 2025

MMPA REPORT: No representation. Clerk Thiel requested a copy of the Bio Solids Removal Service Agreement (Land Application of waste) that was signed by Supervisor VanSyckle on May 13, 2025 without Board approval. VanSyckle stated that was discussed with Leprino and MMPA that they would pay for it. This contract is not to be put with the Operational and Lease. There was no signed contract on our files that was passed by the Board as a whole. Lee Carte made motion that the Operational contract and the Lease Agreement signed by Supervisor VanSyckle be approved for proper recording and the May 2025 minutes be amended, supported by Tom VanSyckle, passed.

FIRE REPORT: Chief Thiel reported the fire department has 222 runs to date. Thiel stated they have one new member on the Fire Department. Thiel reported that they have had numerous alarms at the Mosaic School same time each morning, he said there is a lot of work going on inside building. Chief Thiel updated the Board on a millage increase by the county on a proposition to employ a full time Fire Fighter/EMS person to Wheatland, Morton, Barryton, Mecosta, and the City of Big Rapids due to these areas missing medical calls. The Board gave Chief Thiel their full support in pursuing this matter.

LIBRARY REPORT: Jeanette Aldrich was present and stated that Library running fine. We got five kids in story time and are planning taking them trick or treating too. We are still working on card ex going on line. The have been working with their lawyer on Earned Sick Time Policy almost a go.

DDA REPORT: Amy Noggle stated that the Disc Golf is completed. Wheatland Hills is hosting a Disc Golf Tournament October 26. Everything in order for Trunk or Treat Event. Looking to combine Hot Chocolate Bar to the Breakfast with Santa. Really hoping to have the Christmas Parade need help in running. Playground is in progress with Sherman Construction working on foundation and then the equipment placement.

CORRESPONDENCE: Chris Zimmerman: Commissioner Zimmerman present. He asked if Supervisor heard anything more on the MMPA/Brownfield Act. Discussion on MMPA requesting Wheatland Twp. To grant MMPA tax break under the Brownfield Act. VanSyckle stated that it was not in the best interest of MMPA to even request this due to small amount of tax on property only. Ongoing discussion to ensue. Clerk Thiel shared Sheriff's report for September.

PUBLIC COMMENT: N/A

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. **Update on hall restoration and painting:** Extremely Clean has completed the hall painting. Aldrich in line for gutter installation on the FD.
2. **Berger update(Ditch at park):** Supervisor VanSyckle stated that Berger will be out to start the ditch in the park and the White Garage project, as soon as they can find time. Same as last month still waiting truly hoping to see completion by Nov.1.
3. **Earned Sick Time Policy:** Clerk Thiel received the contract back from Steve Lovert approval and he made a few adjustments, the main was if they could carry over the time. They are able to roll over their time, but can only use 40 hrs. a year and if leaving employment the time will not be paid out.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **Assessor Contract Renewal:** The Assessor's contract is ending December 31, 2025. Taylor Elder removed Gail Dolbee as assistant and extended the contract dates January 1, 2026-March 31, 2026. Tom VanSyckle made motion to accept contract renewal with updates, supported by Lee Carte, passed and all members signed contract.
2. **Park closing:** Disc Golf Tournament 26. Port-a-Potty's removal Oct. 28. Board agreed with water shut off, but park gates will stay open for awhile. Maintenance wants to shut water off.
3. **Drain Commissioner's Special Assessment:** Clerk Thiel presented the Board with the Geitzen Drain project 2025. Wheatland Twp's portion is \$2500.00 Lee Carte made motion to pay the bill supported by Julie Sellers, passed.
4. **Road Repair Millage:** Millage is expiring 12/31/2025, if we are putting millage on August Ballot is due by May 2026. Discussion as to increase or no increase and road projects or a plan on expenditures.
5. **Audit overview:** Clerk Thiel stated that the Audit went pretty well with being new Clerk and Treasurer. There were a couple areas found that Leprino's and County owe, hence why we do a annual audit.
6. **Grant Writing:** Clerk Thiel discussed possible Deputy Clerk Kelly Simon as working on grant writing. Board approving this venture and spending, wisely looking into the Sewer area and infrastructure.

Adjourned: Lee Carte motioned to adjourn, supported by Tom VanSyckle, passed.

Adjourned 8:53 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kimberly S. Thiel
Wheatland Township Clerk