

**WHEATLAND TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING**  
**7:00 P.M. DECEMBER 21, 2020**  
**MINUTES (Zoom Meeting)**

**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 x    Mary Karcher x    Ethan McNeal x    Lee Carte x  
Other's present: Linda Howard, Dee Powell, Cindy Diehm-Ray, & Kim Thiel

**SUPERVISOR REPORT:** Supervisor Tom VanSyckle started his first meeting out with a hello to the board and led in with he's been busy learning about his new supervisor position. A complaint was made by a resident that Fate's Mini Mart is piling their snow on the sidewalk and people have to walk around onto the busy roadway making it very dangerous. Supervisor stated that he has made contact with Fate's on this and Fate's stated they would be addressing this matter within the next couple of days. The other matters are listed below and will be addressed at that time.

**MINUTES:** Amy Snider made a motion to accept the November Board Minutes as written, supported by Ethan McNeal, all in favor motion carried.  
BOARD MINUTES- November 16, 2020

**TREASURER REPORT:** Lee Carte made a motion to accept the November Treasurer's Report and Payments, supported by Mary Karcher, all in favor, motion carried.  
TREASURER REPORT - November 2020

**LEPRINO REPORT:** Kevin Thiel absent. Supervisor VanSyckle stated that Kevin Thiel was not present tonight, but has gotten report from him. Supervisor VanSyckle reported that the Waste Water Plant is ending its discharge for the year and everything is running good at the plant.

**FIRE REPORT:** Chief Thiel was absent Supervisor Vansyckle gave report. Supervisor Vansyckle (Captain Wheatland Twp. Fire Dept.) Reported they have 245 runs so far this year. The Fire Dept. has the option to get the Covid 19 Vaccine, but only five have volunteered to get it and there is one member taking the Fire Rescue Class.

**LIBRARY REPORT:** Cindy Diehm was present for the Library report. Cindy stated the Library Board met last Saturday, they presently have four members, but are requesting six members. Cindy stated that she has since resigned her position on the board as she has moved out of the Township. Cindy stated that Barb Diehm has been appointed to finish her term and then will run for the

position on the next election. Cindy stated that John Mayer is President, Gail McKay is Vice President and Barb Diehm (appointed by Board) Secretary/Treasurer. Cindy asked if they needed to come down to or if the Clerk could sign oath at next meeting? Cindy thanked Supervisor VanSyckle for attending the Libraries' December Board Meeting and introducing himself to their board.

**DDA REPORT:** Dee Powell was present. Dee asked if the DDA could get access to online banking account. Amy Snyder stated that Mike (Auditor) with Baird, Cotter & Bishop really did not comment on that, but she didn't feel they should have access to the online banking account. Amy Snyder stated that DDA gets a copy of the bills that we pay and how much is in there, just like the library & fire dept. gets.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** Linda Howard member of the Mecosta County board of Commissioners for our district. Linda reported that Mecosta County approved the 2021 Budget and they are on task for following the Covid 19 protocols.

(3 MIN NOT ON AGENDA 5 MIN ON AGENDA)

**CORRESPONDENCE:** None

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

- 1. Sewer Rate Study:** We received the proposal from Gosling Czubak for the Wheatland Township Sewer Ordinance with Residential Equivalent Unit (REU) Factors that will determine a base rate. Lee Carte made a motion to have Gosling Czubak continue with their professional services providing us with an Ordinance with a Residential Equivalent Unit (REU) Factors that will determine our base rates, and not to exceed \$5000.00 for the project, supported by Amy Snyder. Roll Call Vote which was unanimously passed.
- 2. DDA (HUD Monies):** Supervisor Vansyckle stated he had made contact with Tanya Young at on the HUD Money for the Park Pavilion expansion and she stated that it has all been approved. She will be sending an email confirmation/contract needing to be signed and returned by the Supervisor.
- 3. BLANTECH Quote for Ubiquiti Wireless Radios (Revisit in spring of 2021)**

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

- 1. Wambold Cemetery Large Branch Removal:** Discussion was that Fate's Tree Removal was hired to remove a large fallen branch in the cemetery and it was taken care of by our Maintenance Man. The concern from Clerk Mary Karcher was that it was not safe for the maintenance person to take down the tree alone and that Fate's had not been notified. Supervisor Vansyckle stated that he contacted Fates and let them know their services would not be needed.
- 2. Sprinkle Garden:** Clerk Karcher received email from Nila Simon mentioning that a "Sprinkle Garden" may be nice for our cemeteries. Short discussion on what a "Sprinkle Garden" actually involves and it was determined that there needed to be more investigation into this matter and it would be tabled until then. Mary would contact Nila Simon and see if she wanted to work on this project with a few members of the board.

3. **John McKenzie's work phone request:** Supervisor VanSyckle stated that Maintenance Man John McKenzie requested that we get a Maintenance cellphone for him, he has been using his personal cellphone and it is getting damaged. After discussion, Supervisor VanSyckle will be checking into further and is tabled until next meeting.
4. **John's Pay:** It was determined that John McKenzie has not had increase for 2-1/2 years making \$15.50/hr. Lee Carte made a motion to make John McKenzie's pay increase to \$16.50 on January 1, 2021, Amy Snyder supported all in favor motion carried.
5. **Library Debt Payoff:** It was brought to Township's attention that the Library Debt can be paid off in full on April 1, 2021 after the winter 2020 taxes have been collected. Wheatland Township will pay \$65,000.00 on the principle of the loan now and payoff the debt after the taxes have been collected this spring (2021).
6. **Office Storage Space (Revisit):** Supervisor will be speaking to Maintenance Man John McKenzie to possibly build shelving units in both offices for storage.
7. **Spring Clean-Up:** Supervisor VanSyckle discussed Spring Clean-up options....Pricing 40 yard dumpster \$660.00, 30 yard dumpster \$510.00 and \$10.00 Truck Load, there is no weight limit for these prices. Amy Snyder will be looking into the Budget aspect of this and we will table until next meeting.
8. **Audit:** Everyone was given an Audit booklet. Lee Carte and Cindy Diehm requested an email copy. Amy Snyder received a letter stating the actual expenditures exceeded the budgeted amounts and she will be writing the state a letter on this matter. Fates Laundry Mats overpayment of Sewer bill was discussed. The Township will be issuing a check to them by the end of this year.
9. **Mary Out of Office (Dec. 30- Jan 8, 2021)**

**Public Comment: None**

(3 MIN NOT ON AGENDA 5 MIN ON AGENDA)

**Adjourn:** Ethan McNeal made a motion to adjourn meeting,  
Amy Snyder supported, all in favor, meeting was adjourned at 8:56 pm.