

## **Waterloo Township Board Meeting Minutes**

**28 November 2023 7:00 P.M.**

**9773 Mt. Hope Road**

**Munith, MI 49259**

Call to Order and Pledge: 7:00 p.m.

Present: Lance, Walz, Kitley, McAlister, Beck. Also present: 6 residents, Margie Walz (Jackson Planning Commission), Deputy Desnoyer.

Public Comment: B.Richardson provided an update on wind & solar legislation recently passed in Lansing.

Consent Agenda: Kitley motioned with support from Walz to accept the consent agenda as amended. Aye/all; no/none. Motion carried. Kitley motioned with support from Walz to pay the Post Audit checks is the amount of \$1,512.49. Roll call vote: Yes/Walz, Kitley, Lance, Beck, McAlister. No/none. Motion carried.

Zoning – complaint on Gorton Road is being addressed.

Police Report: Deputy Desnoyer's report for October 2023 was as follows: Deputies put in 160 hours, drove 2124 miles, answered 28 calls for service, made 38 traffic stops and issued 9 citations. Sheriff's office responded to 25 calls.

Correspondence: Supervisor read correspondence regarding the anti-blight ordinance and clean-up opportunities within the township. Discussion ensued about where some issues exist and how to address those issues.

Old Business: None

New Business:

Parks & Recreation: Walz spoke of the Munith Halloween Parade, and discussed the removal of the chimney and fireplace in Munith Park. Also discussed concerns about the cost of repairs necessary to get the park up to date. Plan is to hold the December Parks and Rec meeting at the park to better address what is needed. Funds may be available from other benefactors to help with the cleanup. A \$10,000.00 grant has been approved from the wellness coalition to apply to the Munith Park effort. New playground structure is in place at Clear Lake Park. Flags are down in Munith and the Christmas decorations are up. Also plan to put up some Christmas decorations in Waterloo after the brackets are finished.

Planning Commission: The Planning Commission has been reviewing the by-laws. Also started work on the outdoor gathering ordinance, which will be a police power ordinance. The Planning Commission will expect the Board to define the fee structure. Also reviewed input from the attorney on the solar ordinance and discussed the best approach to update that ordinance.

Land Division request: Request for a land division at 11681 Waterloo Munith Road. A 3.01 acre parcel will be split off of the parent parcel. Motion by Lance, support by Beck to approve the land division of the original parent parcel #000-05-17-451-001-00 into new parent parcel #000-05-17-451-001-01 and new split parcel #000-05-17-451-001-02. Aye/all; no/none. Motion carried.

Metro Permit Application: A Metro Act Permit application from Midwest Energy and Communications was reviewed. They will be expanding fiber to broadband home services in Waterloo Township.

Application was complete and maps were provided. Also provided was a website that gives information on what they will be doing and where they will be doing it. They also provide information on where the funding came from for this project. ([www.teammidwest.com/internet/fiber-construction-explained/](http://www.teammidwest.com/internet/fiber-construction-explained/)). Motion made by Lance with support from Walz to approve resolution 23-11-28-1, the permit for Midwest Energy and Communications Company to extend fiber to home broadband services within the rights-of-way of Waterloo Township, pursuant to the metropolitan extension telecommunications rights-of-way oversight act #48 of the public acts of 2002 as amended. Yes/Walz, Kitley, Lance, Beck, McAlister. No/none. Motion carried.

December meeting change: December's Township Board meeting date is a holiday, so the meeting date will be moved to Thursday December 21<sup>st</sup>, 7:00 pm. Motion made by Lance, supported by Walz. Aye/all; no/none. Motion carried.

Fee Schedule Change: Fee schedule has been updated to reflect the new hourly wage for office workers. Motion by Walz to adopt the new fee schedule under resolution #23-11-28-2, supported by Lance. Aye/all; no/none. Motion carried.

Employee Handbook: Discussed the proposed employee handbook and reporting structure within the township. Handbook was modeled after SAESA's handbook. Motion by Lance, support by McAlister to accept the November 2023 Waterloo Township Employee Handbook as presented. Aye/all; no/none. Motion carried. After minor grammatical changes are made, all employees of Waterloo Township will be provided a copy and will be asked to sign the back of it agreeing to follow the guidelines in the handbook.

Any Other Business That Comes to the Board:

Electrical Inspector: Electrical Inspector is retiring. The township advertised for the position and received several applications. Matt Wood works in Stockbridge and Bunker Hill, seems to be a good candidate and will be the likely choice.

Text Message System: No luck in this area so far, but discussions are ongoing. Options were also discussed during the meeting.

Road updates: Discussion about what roads may be updated within the township. Preference is to allow the county to decide what roads to repair first in order to allow them to be as efficient as possible.

Public Comment: Commissioner Walz spoke of Clear Lake Park. The building by the water may be removed or have some safety features added to it. She also spoke to the county parks department about more clean-up at the park and they plan to send someone out to take a look at it. The jail ad-hoc committee may be reconvened to take another look at the jail situation. This will also be discussed in the December 11<sup>th</sup> safety committee meeting, and then go to the full county commissioner board meeting on December 19<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 pm. Lastly there are many open board positions available at the county level. Visit the Jackson County website to apply. C.Upton recognized treasurer Walz for her efforts regarding Clear Lake Park. B.Richardson inquired about the fiber installation for broadband, how above versus below ground was selected, and what the timing was for the project. Also asked about Christmas ornaments in Waterloo and offered help.

Adjournment: Walz motioned with support from McAlister to adjourn at 8:05p.m. Aye/all; no/none. Motion carried.

The next Planning Commission meeting will be Tuesday, December 19, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. The next regular board meeting will be on December 21, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. Date change due to holidays. Minutes

will be published in the Stockbridge Community News at the end of each month, on our website [waterlootwpmi.gov](http://waterlootwpmi.gov), on our Facebook page at: [waterlootownshipmichigan](https://www.facebook.com/waterlootownshipmichigan), and The Grass Lake Exponent.

Submitted by: Janice Kitley, Clerk