

Waterloo Township Unapproved Board Meeting Minutes

26 March 2024 7:00 P.M.

9773 Mt. Hope Road

Munith, MI 49259

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

Present: Lance, Walz, Beck, McAlister, Richardson. Also present: several residents.

Public Comment:

- S.Houck provided a prayer.
- Commissioner Walz
 - A grant has been acquired to clean up the burned-out factory on North Street.
 - The broadband ad-hoc committee continues to work and has helped curtail efforts of a large company that claims to be able to fill broadband needs when they cannot. The committee plans to accept bids to see what other options are available for rural communities.
 - The airport is working on their advanced mobility structure which is a development that will help the county be active with drones and potentially help with deliveries in the future.
 - JDOT is working on materials testing and they are working with Township Supervisors to see what roads have the greatest need.
 - We are 5 years into a 10-year milage for parks. Working on the next 5-year plan. Portage Lake is working on a pickle ball court.
 - Dept of aging has seen a large increase in cost for meal trays for shut-ins, so has requested a little bit more financial backing to support this effort.

Consent Agenda:

- Walz motioned with support from McAlister to accept the consent agenda as presented. Aye/all; no/none. Motion carried.
- SAESA – met two weeks ago. March 31st is the end of the 23/24 fiscal year, so the SAESA board approved the amended budget for 23/24 as well as the 24/25 fiscal year budget.
- Police Report: Deputy Desnoyer’s report for January 2024 was as follows: Deputies put in 161 hours, patrolled 2044 miles, answered 34 calls for service, made 19 traffic stops, and issued 9 citations. The Sheriff’s office responded to an additional 28 calls.

Correspondence:

- Comcast has submitted a “Uniform Video Service local franchise agreement” to provide television and internet service in areas of Waterloo Township. The board has until after the April board meeting to make a decision on the agreement. The board must also determine what franchise fee would be appropriate. The township has requested a map from Comcast indicating what areas they intend to serve as well as proof of liability insurance.
- Waterloo Trash Day – The board decided to hold this event on Saturday, September 21st since there is a conflict on September 14th. The board still needs to make a decision on the tire bin and whether or not to make one available.
- Jackson County Farm Bureau – they are holding a “Rural Education Day” for community leaders on Tuesday April 23rd. The RSVP date is April 8th.
- DTE Energy – DTE is asking local officials to “establish rules and procedures regarding development and construction near natural gas pipelines” and provided a list of things those guidelines should include.

Waterloo currently does not have any guidelines in place. The board will ask the Planning Commission to review this topic.

- Email correspondence concerning dogs loose on Waterloo-Munith Road.
- Email correspondence - A township property owner is appealing a property assessment decision to the supreme court. The property assessment has been upheld by the tax tribunal.

Special Order – Aggregate Resources Closure

- Don Beagle presented an updated reclamation plan and communicated Aggregate Resources desire to close the plant and have the township release the special use permit for that property. Discussion ensued about the condition of the property. The current land owners are satisfied with the condition of the property and are signing a letter of acceptance to present to the township. Resolution #R-24-03-26-01 was made in the form of a motion with the condition that the township receive the signed acceptance letter from the land owners. The resolution allows the release of the Special Use Permit for that property. Motion by Lance, support by Richardson: Roll call vote: Beck-yes, McAlister-yes, Walz-yes, Richardson-yes, Lance-yes. Motion carried.

Old Business: None

New Business:

- Parks & Recreation: see attached Parks & Recs mtg minutes
- Planning Commission:
 - Esri s/w will not be renewed.
 - The following planning commission members were appointed to new two-year terms
 - C.Richardson – Motion by Lance, support by McAlister, Aye-4, Nay-0, Abstain-1
 - M.Zweifler – Motion by Lance, support by Walz, Aye-5, Nay-0, Abstain-0
 - G.Siegrist – Motion by Lance, support by Beck, Aye-5, Nay-0, Abstain-0
 - Motion carried for all 3 members.
- Solar Ordinance – draft updates were reviewed by the board with no concerns raised or edits proposed. Public Hearing is scheduled for April 16th and notices have been posted.
- PA116 for Ford property – motion made by Richardson, supported by Walz to approve the PA116 application for the Ford property, parcel ID #'s 000-05-17-351-002-00 & 000-05-20-100-005-00, totaling roughly 56 acres. Aye-all / Nay-none. Motion carried.
- Confirmation of Election Worker Pay – Clerk will check with local townships to see if our \$15/hour pay is competitive and how other townships manage the documentation for these positions. After information is collected a resolution can be made at a future meeting.
- Training opportunities – training opportunities were discussed. Budget should be available for attendance at these events.
 - Training occurs during the week of the April Board meeting, so the April board meeting date will be moved to Tuesday April 30th.
- Also, the May board meeting date will be moved from May 28th to Thursday May 30th.
- Lawn Mowing bids – 5 bids were discussed.
 - Motion made by Beck, support by Richardson to accept Rusty Walz bid.
 - Aye – Beck/Richardson, Nay – Lance/McAlister, Abstain – Walz; motion failed.
 - Motion made by McAlister, support by Beck to accept the Green Shades bid.
 - Aye – Beck/Richardson/McAlister, Nay-none, Abstain-Lance/Walz; motion carried
- Trash Day – already discussed in correspondence

Any Other Business That Comes to the Board:

- Clerk signed a lease for the fire barn LP tank. Beck is working on a sublease for SAESA to sub-lease the tank from the township. Also, SAESA will be responsible for gas and electric bills for the fire barn. Goal will be to have the electric and gas bills eventually go directly to SAESA.
- Fire barn dedication ceremony – tentatively scheduled for April 30th at 5:00, 2 hours before the township board meeting.
- Early voting discussion – the township has a limited time to opt out of the current county agreement, and discussed the pros and cons of the county agreement versus a more local municipal agreement or going it alone.
- May election – there will be a May election in Waterloo Township, but only for East Jackson school district residents.

Public Comment:

- S.Houck – has petitions for a ballot initiative to restore local zoning control for commercial wind and solar facilities.
- Commissioner Walz – the jail millage will be on the August ballot. It will be a 0.9 mil proposal.

Adjournment:

- W.Walz motioned with support from Richardson to adjourn at 8: 31 p.m. Aye/all; no/none. Motion carried.

The next Planning Commission meeting will be Tuesday, April 16, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. The next regular board meeting will be on April 30, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. (this is a new date). Minutes will be published in the Stockbridge Community News at the end of each month, on our website waterlootwpmi.gov, on our Facebook page at: waterlootownshipmichigan, and The Exponent.

Submitted by: Bill Richardson, Clerk

Waterloo Township Parks & Recreation Committee

March 12, 2024 Minutes (Unapproved)

Present: Steve Owsinski, Wendy Walz, Randy Heatley, Carmen Burgess, Jeff Melvin.

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m.

Minutes from February 13, 2024, were reviewed and approved.

Public Comment: Carrie Schotte introduced herself and spoke about The Crucible, a 20-mile hike that will start and finish at the Portage Lake Park in June. Over 300 hikers are expected to complete the hike within a 12-hour time limit. Proceeds will be earmarked for the Jackson County Animal Shelter. Carrie will also be teaching a strength/conditioning class on Monday nights from 6:30 – 7:30 at the hall. Classes will be held through May and then start again in September.

Munith Community Park:

The discussion continued about the park. Items covered included still waiting to hear about the survey/ boundaries from the county, bids still being sought for truss/roof repairs, concrete coming soon, ground sloping needed around current cement pad. There is money (\$5,000) available from our insurance company for safety improvements in a fall grant cycle.

Christmas Decorations: Most decorations have been fluffed and stored in the basement. Steve will paint the frames that need it. Continued the discussion about asking the property owners to sponsor the decoration in front of their homes. Would like to have decorations up the day that Henrietta Fire trains in November.

Exercise Classes: Yoga on Thursday evening from 6-7 by Olga Kaminsky (by donation), Senior exercise M-W-F from 9:30 – 10:30 by Hillary Muscato (\$2/session) and the new strength/conditioning offering by Carrie Schotte on Monday evening (free through Five Healthy Towns)

Earth Day: Earth Day is April 20. We discussed volunteers who might be available. Also discussed adding wildflowers/pollinators/native grasses to the area disrupted by construction. Steve will share Pheasants Forever seed options with the committee members.

Artisan Market: Set the date for Saturday, August 17 from 10-3. All vendors will be outside with a different layout due to the new fire barn. Discussed a \$20 entry fee to cover costs of advertising.

Other: Trash Collection will be Saturday, September 14. Flags/poles will be inspected and ordered as needed. Randy offered to draft a nature trail plan. Randy will also start reviewing the DNR rec plan for renewal. Started talking about the Halloween Parade and having it be a cooperative plan with Henrietta.

The next meeting will be Tuesday, April 9 at 9:30 a.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:35 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeff Melvin

