CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF WHITE LAKE
Approved Minutes of the Regular Board of Trustees Meeting
August 18, 2020

Supervisor Kowall called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The meeting was held via Zoom video conferencing. He then led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Clerk Lilley called the roll:

Present: Rik Kowall, Supervisor
Terry Lilley, Clerk
Mike Roman, Treasurer
Michael Powell, Trustee
Andrea C. Voorheis, Trustee
Liz Smith, Trustee

Absent: Scott Ruggles, Trustee

Also Present: Lisa Hamameh, Attorney
Jennifer Edens, Recording Secretary

AGENDA

Clerk Lilley modified the Agenda as follows:

- Move the Item of Public Comment until after Item 8, Presentations.

It was MOVED by Clerk Lilley, SUPPORTED by Treasurer Roman to approve the Agenda, as amended. The motion PASSED by roll call vote (Smith/yes, Voorheis/yes, Powell/yes, Roman/yes, Lilley/yes, Kowall/yes).

CONSENT AGENDA

It was MOVED by Clerk Lilley, SUPPORTED by Trustee Voorheis to approve the Agenda. The motion PASSED by roll call vote (Smith/yes, Voorheis/yes, Powell/yes, Roman/yes, Lilley/yes, Kowall/yes).

MINUTES

A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – REGULAR BOARD MEETING, JULY 21, 2020

Trustee Powell noted the following corrections:

- Page 7, Paragraph 3, last sentence - the word seen should read saw.
- Page 11, Paragraph 1, 6th line down – the word since should read sense.
- Page 13, Paragraph 3, 4th line – the word sone should read one.
- Page 17, Paragraph 8, 1st line – the word skeptics should read septic's

B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – SPECIAL BOARD MEETING, AUGUST 6, 2020

Trustee Powell made the following correction:

- Page 4, Section C, Paragraph 2, first line – Should read owner, not Board.

It was MOVED by Supervisor Kowall, SUPPORTED by Trustee Powell to approve the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting, July 21, 2020, as amended and the Special Board Meeting of August 6, 2020, as amended. The motion PASSED by roll call vote (Powell/yes, Voorheis/yes, Smith/yes, Lilley/yes, Roman/yes, Kowall/yes).

PRESENTATION

A. EXEMPLARY CITIZEN RECOGNITION MADONNA LADOUCEUR, RECIPIENT OF THE OAKLAND UNIVERSITY NIGHTINGALE AWARD FOR NURSING EXCELLENCE

Supervisor Kowall presented Dr. Madonna Ladouceur who was named the winner of the Nightingale Award in the advanced practice nursing category. She is employed at Sinai Grace Hospital. She was awarded a check, statute of Florence Nightingale and a ceremonial pin. She was nominated by her peers, supervisors, and patients in recognition of her superior nursing skills and for going above and beyond in caring for patients and their families.

Supervisor Kowall proclaimed an exemplary citizen recognition, which included Dr. Madonna Ladouceur's background and professional accolades.

B. CONGRESSWOMAN HALEY STEVENS – FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Congresswoman Haley Stevens noted her pride in this Board and their leadership shown within Oakland County and Michigan's 11th District. She noted that early in her term she invited the Secretary of Transportation to Michigan to show some of the infrastructure needs and how White Lake is leading the way in best practices of public/private partnership, in hopes of getting some federal resource funds into the community after conducting an analysis. She continued that the District tends to get overlooked because it runs good balance sheets and is good at what it does. She individually recognized several Board members for their dedication, talents, and work for White Lake Township.

She presented to Supervisor Kowall (virtually) a Congressional Flag that she had flown over the United States Capital in honor of White Lake.

As for legislative updates, she noted USMCA trade deal was completed in the final weeks of 2019 and that now there is framework and a pathway to compete globally and to sell American products and Michigan products. She is working diligently and across the aisle on a resilience supply chain recovery effort. This Bill will charge the Department of Commerce to create a manufacturing guard to be led with small business and private sector enterprises. It will make sure that the supply chain, in any type of disruption, has the ability to meet the needs so there are no shortages. She further noted that a lot of this is so that we are not

overly relying on China. The Bill will also support open source platforms. She furthered that she is laser focused in her capacity on the science base and technology committee.

She is optimistic on what this new environment means for Michigan, in part because Michigan stood-up to the industrial call to action. When the supply chain was disrupted it was the auto makers and Michigan workforce that stepped up (i.e. making masks, face shields, respirators).

She concluded with her continued support of the schools, students, and parents. She has been supporting and working on a bill for childcare to make sure that the 40% of daycares in Michigan that are in threat of imminent closure do not close.

She thanked the Board for their time today.

Several Board members thanked Congresswoman Stevens for joining the Board tonight, for representing White Lake in Washington D.C., for respecting and honoring the American Flag, and for representing that she reaches across the aisle to work with everyone.

Supervisor Kowall indicated that the Flag will find itself adorned in the new Township meeting area.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

PUBLIC HEARING WITH RESOLUTION

A. **HEARING TO ESTABLISH AND MAINTAIN A SPECIAL ASSESSMENT DISTRICT FOR EMERGENCY SEWER CONNECTIONS 2020-01**
    1. **RESOLUTION #20-027; TO ESTABLISH AND MAINTAIN A SPECIAL ASSESSMENT DISTRICT TO PAY COSTS ASSOCIATED THEREWITH AND TO APPROVE THE PLANS AND ESTIMATES OF COSTS THEREFOR TO BE KNOWN AS EMERGENCY SEWER CONNECTIONS 2020-01**

It was noted that at this time the S.A.D. includes three residents.

It was MOVED by Supervisor Kowall, SUPPORTED by Trustee Smith to Open the Public Hearing to Establish and Maintain a Special Assessment District for Emergency Sewer Connections 2020-01. The motion PASSED by roll call vote (Smith/yes, Voorheis/yes, Powell/yes, Roman/yes, Lilley/yes, Kowall/yes).

No public comment.

It was MOVED by Supervisor Kowall, SUPPORTED by Trustee Powell to Close the Public Hearing to Establish and Maintain a Special Assessment District for Emergency Sewer Connections 2020-01.

The motion PASSED by roll call vote (Smith/yes, Voorheis/yes, Powell/yes, Roman/yes, Lilley/yes, Kowall/yes).

It was MOVED by Supervisor Kowall, SUPPORTED by Clerk Lilley to Pass Resolution #20-027, To Establish and Maintain a Special Assessment District to Pay the Costs Associated Therewith and to Approve the Plans and Estimates of Costs Therefor to be known as: Emergency Sewer Connections 2020-01. The motion PASSED by roll call vote (Smith/yes, Powell/yes, Voorheis/yes, Roman/yes, Lilley/yes, Kowall/yes).

B. HEARING TO CONFIRM SPECIAL ASSESSMENT ROLL FOR THE SPECIAL ASSESSMENT DISTRICT FOR RESIDENTIAL REFUSE COLLECTION PROJECT 2021-2025

1. RESOLUTION #20-030; CONFIRMING SPECIAL ASSESSMENT ROLL FOR THE SPECIAL ASSESSMENT DISTRICT DESIGNATED 2021-2025 RESIDENTIAL REFUSE COLLECTION PROJECT

Supervisor Kowall noted that a letter was distributed that stated this is a five-year project. It is the annual costs for the garbage collection for the Township. It was previously decided to move forward with the existing vendor.

Trustee Smith commented that it was discussed back in July, that a cover letter be included when such a notice is sent to the residents. She indicated the notice was confusing to the residents and she asked that this practice be followed in the future.

Supervisor Kowall noted that it was a timing issue, and that he typically likes to include some sort of explanation in laymen's terms.

It was MOVED by Supervisor Kowall, SUPPORTED by Trustee Smith to Open the Public Hearing. The motion PASSED by roll call vote (Voorheis/yes, Smith/yes, Powell/yes, Roman/yes, Lilley/yes, Kowall/yes).

Clerk Lilley indicated he received a letter from Dana Skaggs that read she feels comfortable with the Assessment and that she was willing to give this Board approval to move forward.

No additional public comment was made.

It was MOVED by Supervisor Kowall, SUPPORTED by Trustee Smith to Close the Public Hearing. The motion PASSED by roll call vote (Voorheis/yes, Smith/yes, Powell/yes, Roman/yes, Lilley/yes, Kowall/yes).

It was MOVED by Supervisor Kowall, SUPPORTED by Clerk Lilley to Approve Resolution #20-030; Confirming Special Assessment Roll for the Special Assessment District Designated 2021-2025

Residential Refuse Collection Project. The motion PASSED by roll call vote (Powell/yes, Smith/yes, Voorheis/yes, Roman/yes, Lilley/yes, Kowall/yes).

Trustee Powell noted that Supervisor Kowall moves right from the introduction to making a motion without giving the Board members an opportunity to make a motion. He indicated that he would appreciate an opportunity to participate.

Treasurer Roman thanked everyone for supporting this Resolution as it is a good rate for the Township.

Trustee Voorheis thanked previous Boards for having the foresight to get a single hauler.

C. **HEARING TO CONFIRM SPECIAL ASSESSMENT ROLL FOR MANDON LAKE IMPROVEMENT SPECIAL ASSESSMENT DISTRICT 2021-2025**
   1. **RESOLUTION #20-028; CONFIRMING SPECIAL ASSESSMENT ROLL FOR THE SPECIAL ASSESSMENT DISTRICT DESIGNATED MANDON LAKE IMPROVEMENT 2021-2025**

It was MOVED by Trustee Powell, SUPPORTED by Treasurer Roman to Open the Public Hearing for the Resolution for the Special Assessment District for Confirming the Assessment Roll for Mandon Lake. The motion PASSED by roll call vote (Voorheis/yes, Powell/yes, Smith/yes, Roman/yes, Lilley/yes, Kowall/yes).

No public comment.

It was MOVED by Supervisor Kowall, SUPPORTED by Trustee Voorheis to Close the Public Hearing. The motion PASSED by roll call vote (Lilley/yes, Roman/yes, Smith/yes, Voorheis/yes, Powell/yes, Kowall/yes).

It was MOVED by Trustee Powell, SUPPORTED by Clerk Lilley to Approve Resolution #20-028; Confirming the Special Assessment Roll for the Mandon Lake Improvement. The motion PASSED by roll call vote (Kowall/yes, Lilley/yes, Roman/yes, Smith/yes, Voorheis/yes, Powell/yes).

D. **HEARING TO CONFIRM SPECIAL ASSESSMENT ROLL FOR THE SPECIAL ASSESSMENT DISTRICT SUNSET/TAYLOR ROAD MAINTENANCE 2021-2025**
   1. **RESOLUTION #20-029; CONFIRMING SPECIAL ASSESSMENT ROLL FOR THE SPECIAL ASSESSMENT DISTRICT DESIGNATED SUNSET/TAYLOR ROAD MAINTENANCE 2021-2025**

It was MOVED by Clerk Lilley, SUPPORTED by Trustee Smith to Open the Public Hearing. The motion PASSED by roll call vote (Lilley/yes, Roman/yes, Smith/yes, Voorheis/yes, Powell/yes, Kowall/yes).

No public comment.

It was MOVED by Supervisor Kowall, SUPPORTED by Clerk Lilley to Close the Public Hearing. The motion PASSED by roll call vote (Smith/yes, Powell/yes, Lilley/yes, Roman/yes, Voorheis/yes, Kowall/yes).

It was MOVED by Trustee Powell, SUPPORTED by Trustee Voorheis to Approve the Resolution #20-029; Confirming the Special Assessment Roll for the Special Assessment District Designated Sunset/Taylor Road Maintenance 2021-02025. The motion PASSED by roll call vote (Kowall/yes, Lilley/yes, Roman/yes, Smith/yes, Voorheis/yes, Powell/yes).

NEW BUSINESS

A. DISCUSSION REGARDING NEW WEBSITE LOGO – NEW VS. OLD

Patricia Pergament thanked the website design team and indicated that they have enjoyed working on this. They are at a point where they are ready to approve the design of the homepage. Upon that they will receive more information regarding timing. She will keep the Board apprised of information as it develops. She wanted to discuss tonight an issue with the logo that is being used currently. She indicated that the red around the logo gets lost and it cannot be enlarged with a quality resolution. It has brought up the issue as to whether the logo should be redesigned at this time or go with the old logo. She furthered that the logo can be swapped out at any time at no extra cost if it is of similar size.

She announced that there will be a photo contest to obtain images from around the Township to use on the website and that photo credit will be given.

Trustee Smith indicated that she does not have the history as to why the red was changed within in the logo but noted an optimal time for modification would be November since the letterhead has to be changed at that time. She believes the logo should be consistent.

Ms. Pergament indicated they found another version of the logo in Supervisor Kowall's office that incorporates everything (i.e. four seasons playground, founding and charter). She noted that Eagle Graphics is trying to locate this version.

Trustee Voorheis and Treasurer Roman both indicated they like the old logo better.

Supervisor Kowall and Trustee Powell thanked Ms. Pergament and the committee for the time they are putting into the website.

B. FIRE DEPARTMENT REQUEST TO APPROVE A PLAN TO RIGHT-SIZE THE APPARATUS FLEET AND TO APPROVE THE SALE OF RESCUE 1 VEHICLE AS PART OF THIS PLAN

Chief Marinucci noted the plan being recommended by the Department is to sell 3 tankers and 1 heavy rescue vehicle. The need for one tanker remains and, due to the age of the 3 existing tankers, the Department recommends taking the proceeds from the sale of the vehicles to purchase a new tanker. He believes this is the right thing to do based on the type of service they are providing today.

Supervisor Kowall noted that these vehicles range from 14 to 23 years old and therefore likely at the end of an ultimately reliable lifecycle and will now start to become more of a maintenance force. He appreciates what Chief is trying to do and indicated that it makes sense to him.

Chief Marinucci confirmed that the three tankers would be converted down to one and complete elimination of the rescue truck.

Trustee Voorheis questioned how this will affect getting new staff. To which Chief responded not at all as there are still more vehicles than personnel.

Trustee Powell has a problem with rightsizing. He noted that other Chiefs have asked to purchase these vehicles in the past, and he questions the way the tankers work. If one is delivering water, while the other is refiling, there be a time lag to call for help from another company. He questioned will that not be a problem. He asked how many tankers adjacent departments have. He also asked Chief to detail the tanker sizes of the current versus what he would be looking at to replace them with.

Chief indicated that all engines carry a certain amount of water and that the mutual aid system can be activated. He furthered that in 18 months they have not had enough personnel to get those vehicles on the road. He furthered that they respond to a call much faster through mutual aid and it is guaranteed it will show up. In answering Mr. Powell, he indicated that adjacent departments have one tanker. He would like to upgrade the amount of water to approximately 3,000 gallons, but there are limitations due to station space. He also answered that currently each tanker currently holds 2,000 gallons.

Trustee Powell questioned that in past years were there more people to man the stations or did those Chief's make mistakes. To which Chief responded that at one point in time the Township had more paid on call members and that those number have shrunk significantly.

Supervisor Kowall noted that it seems that personnel is an ongoing problem. He believes that having the equipment is fine, but if you do not have the ability to deliver the equipment it becomes more reliable to depend on mutual aid. He noted that they had an audit committee look at this need and this was the recommendation of the people who operate the equipment. He also noted that often there is a call for mutual aid. With regards to staffing, he indicated that the intention is to bring more people on, but it has proven to be a challenge.

Treasurer Roman is curious if Chief Marinucci has a ballpark expectation as to what each tanker would bring in the marketplace and how much the new tanker is. To which Chief indicated the original assessment for the rescue was approximately $125,000, and depending on the year, the tankers could go for $50,000 to $100,000. So for the new tanker, it could be between $350,000 to $500,000.

Trustee Smith indicated that she trusts Chief Marinucci and his leadership. She is thankful for the employees input as they are the boots on the ground. She questioned the normal life expectancy of a tanker/equipment and what would be the expectancy of what may be needed in the future for a new station. Chief indicated the station we are looking at now will have adequate space. He would like to broker all four vehicles.

Treasurer Roman confirmed that bids would be brought back before the Board.

Attorney Hamameh indicated the Board would need a resolution explaining why they are selling the property.

Trustee Powell has been on the Board a while and he has sat and listened to past chiefs asks for equipment to be purchased with good reasoning. At those times, the Board's position was why should it micromanage and that it must believe the chief before the purchase of equipment/vehicles. He believes it would be short sighted to sell the equipment at this time until they have a better handle on what staffing will be. He is not in favor of this.

Trustee Smith asked if there is particular reason why this needs to be done. To which Chief indicated that the Township will just keep spending money (i.e. fuel, insurance, maintenance) on this equipment. Other than that, there is no sense of urgency.

It was MOVED by Treasurer Roman, SUPPORTED by Trustee Smith to broker the three tanker trucks and one heavy rescue with bids to be brought back to the Board. The motion PASSED by roll call vote (Voorheis/yes, Smith/yes, Powell/no, Roman/yes, Lilley/no with comment, Kowall/yes).

Clerk Lilley commented that he believes this situation needs to be given some thought and as Mr. Powell indicated it wasn't too long ago that we created more chiefs than Indians and he thinks the Board needs to look at the whole makeup of the department before moving a bunch of equipment.

C. FIRST READING; AMENDMENT TO SEWER ORDINANCE – CHAPTER 38, ARTICLE IV, SEC. 38-418

Attorney Hamameh indicated that she did the best she could with what the Township has and that she is open to comment on what has been drafted. She believes she took the intent of the Board from the last meeting and made the changes showing in redline.

It was MOVED by Trustee Powell, SUPPORTED by Clerk Lilley to approve the modifications to the Charter Township of White Lake Chapter 38, Article IV, Sanitary Sewers of White Lake Township, the changes as presented and to move to second reading. The motion PASSED by roll call vote (Smith/yes, Voorheis/yes, Powell/yes, Roman/yes, Lilley/yes, Kowall/yes).

OLD BUSINESS

A. SECOND READING; FEE ORDINANCE AMENDMENT

Lisa Hamameh indicated that previously the Fire Department requested a change in fees, but it was only done in one section. This cleans it up and changes it in all the relevant sections.

It was MOVED by Trustee Powell, SUPPORTED by Trustee Voorheis to approve the fee ordinance amendment as presented. The motion PASSED by roll call vote (Smith/yes, Voorheis/yes, Powell/yes, Roman/yes, Lilley/yes, Kowall/yes).

TRUSTEE COMMENTS

Trustee Voorheis noted that in 1970 the fire department had one station and now there are three. It had three fulltime firemen, twenty-five volunteers and it had 270 calls for the entire year. Volunteers made $36 per call. The chief at the time was Chief Chisholm, the assistant was Walter Osbourne and they had three dispatchers.

She wished her husband of thirteen years a happy anniversary and everyone else to be safe and be healthy.

Trustee Smith noted that today is the 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment and women's right to vote. This gives she and Trustee Voorheis the great honor to be elected and the privilege to vote on this Board.

As for the library there are no changes, they are still at phase three with a grab and go service. The Friends of the Library will be accepting donations on August 22nd from 11am to 1pm.

She mentioned that there are five school districts in White Lake, and they are still offering food services if you are in need. She wished good luck to students and parents as this school year journey begins. She thanked the police, fire, and essential workers and indicated they are all in her prayers for continued safety.

Trustee Powell thanked the Supervisor for opening it up and letting others make motions. He commented that whoever did the minutes of the July 21st Board meeting took on an enormous task and put it together very professionally and he thanked them.

Treasurer Roman questioned as he found it interesting that Mr. Ruggles name was called in the roll call votes even though he was absent. He wonders if it is required. To which, Ms. Hamameh indicated she would have to look at Roberts Rules to answer and Supervisor Kowall noted that due to these interesting times and the possibility that if he were to connect remotely at some point. Treasurer Roman thanked the residents for tuning in today and staying in tough.

Clerk Lilley thanked all the volunteers that participated in the election process and his staff. It is still an ongoing task and he wants everyone to know how much they are appreciated for what they do for White Lake.

Supervisor Kowall noted that we certainly live in a different world than we did just a few years ago. He noted Michigan State's announcement that they will only have virtual classes this year. He thinks it a shame to rob the youth of being in that atmosphere, with the educational experience and connectivity. He hopes and prays that this dilemma will recede and that we can go forward. He thanked all for being here tonight and he thanked Madonna Ladouceur for her commitment to the community. Good night and God bless.

ADJOURNMENT

It was MOVED by Supervisor Kowall, SUPPORTED by Treasurer Roman to adjourn. The MOTION PASSED by roll call vote (Voorheis/yes, Powell/yes, Smith/yes, Roman/yes, Lilley/yes, Kowall/yes).

The meeting was adjourned at 8:38 p.m.

I, Terry Lilley, the duly elected and qualified Clerk of the Charter Township of White Lake, County of Oakland, State of Michigan, hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of the August 18, 2020 regular board meeting minutes.

Terry Lilley

Terry Lilley, MMC; MiPMC
White Lake Township
Oakland County, Michigan