

Winfield Township December Board Meeting

12/8/2022 7:00PM Winfield Township Hall

Meeting called to order by Ryan VanSolkema at 7 p.m. Followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call: Ryan VanSolkema, Cathy Killinger, Kenneth Bloom, Julia Potratz, and Steve Cole were in attendance.

Cathy Killinger brought up that George Killinger, deputy treasurer, was not mentioned to be on the bank signing documents. Meeting minutes were amended to have George added. Initialed by Kenneth Bloom and Ryan VanSolkema of the change.

Cathy also brought up that the supervisor cannot make motions or second a motion. (This was found to be false as every board member has the right to make motions and second them.)

Motion by Julia Potratz to approve of meeting minutes on 11/17/2022 with the addition of George Killinger to the bank accounts, second by Steve Cole. Vote all yea, Passed.

Motion by Julia Potratz to approve of 12/8/22 Agenda, second by Steve Cole. Vote all yea, Passed.

Public comment (*New Agenda Only*) No comments. Closed at 7:07.

Clerks Report – Kenneth Bloom getting familiar with Quickbooks and did deposits that I Got from Colleen Stubbins but some had already been entered. One check, 4579, was messed up during attempt to print the check.

Treasurer Report -Cathy Killinger read bank balances from her report.

Dave Kelsey read his Zoning Report and there was no further discussion.

Fire Dept/County Commissioner- Pat Carr was agreed that a emailed report prior to the board meeting would be acceptable versus appearing in person. Current contract runs until June 2026. Also discussion about county and township blight ordinances.

PC Report- Julia Potratz report on how to separate the small and large solar into two ordinances. No progress was got on that and was tabled. Conflict of interest was discussed and people had concerns about it.

OLD Business

Tech quotes for 4 new Laptops, Copier, scanner, IT Services, set up etc. Office Machines Company Inc. \$10,100 (all-inclusive)

No internet currently at hall getting it reestablished. Ken pc needs upgrade as missing the battery. Planning commission secretary wants a new computer as he is using his personal computer.

Steve Cole wants to table this until we get more information about software and backup drive.

Bank signatures are ongoing to get Charles Killinger on bank accounts.

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MTA new candidate training has been signed up for & paid 12/16/2022.

QuickBooks training for Ken is ongoing at \$0 cost so far.

Mail box has been set up. PO Box 109 Howard city mi 49329

Township hall locks have been replaced.

Conflict of interest policy is being updated. A Bloom & Sluggett opinion has been sent to all planning commission personnel for review.

Bloom & Sluggett created a new Wind Regulatory Ordinance/Moratorium official document. Solar is still being worked by the lawyers. Motion by Julia Potratz to adopt the Regulatory Ordinance/Moratorium, seconded by Kenneth Bloom. Roll call vote, Ryan –yes, Steve-yes, Cathy-yes, Julia-Yes, Ken-yes. Motion passed.

Checks & Bills to pay. Steve Cole's check is missing special meeting to be paid next month. Checks 4578 through 4600 minus 4579 that was misprint. Missing IRS payment for taxes. Julia Potratz made a motion to pay bills and the IRS payment that is missing. Seconded by Steve Cole. All yes votes. Passed.

Bloom & Sluggett attorneys

NEW Business

Motion by Steve Cole to end relationship with Fahey Schultz Burzych Rhodes PLC, second by Julia Potratz. Yes - Ken, Ryan, Steve and Julia. No- Cathy. Further discussion about returning to Bloom and Sluggett as the lawyer representing the township. Fees are lower than what was charged by Fahey Schultz Burzych Rhodes PLC. Supervisor, Ryan VanSolkema to send certified letter to Fahey Schultz Burzych Rhodes PLC requesting all records to be turned over to the township .

New Hall discussion. Ryan reached out to George Hubbard about getting architect engineering firms for getting estimates. Reducing the size to 40 x 80. Reducing some office sizes, increasing hall storage to store the election hardware, tables and chairs. Dennis Arnold was reaching out to a possible leasing company for some of the cost. Special meeting in January for building.

Road Commission Masters Road Bridge project \$72,227.75 to be put into next year budget for next year.

Ryan will open the hall for Winfield Hustlers 4H-Club Hall usage on 12/18/22 1:00pm and 1/15/23 1:00pm

Discussion about Creekside Computer Services. If we go with Office Machines Company Inc. they will do this service for the township.

Mileage Expense Re-imburement form created to include mileage, destination, and reason for the trip. Julia Potratz to use the form to track mileage, seconded by Steve Cole, All yea, passed.

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Township Credit Card for online purchases. To be used by Ryan VanSolkema, Kenneth Bloom and Cathy Killinger.

Motion by Steve Cole to get a credit card in the township name with the Treasurer, Secretary (clerk) and the Supervisor allowed to use it. That it only be used for township business, no personal use. Seconded by Julia Potratz. All – yea. Motion passed.

Board comments:

Steve Cole is getting a lot of calls about not renting out the township hall. That he talked to MTA and that they felt that it should be rented out. Also gut the kitchen to use as records storage. If the wrong people looked at this place it would be condemned and we could not use it. Motion by Julia Potratz to that we do not rent out the township hall. Seconded by Kenneth Bloom. Roll call vote: Steve – no, Julia – yes, Ryan – yes, Ken – yes, Cathy – yes.

Discussion about Amble Cemetery new grave site cleaned up. Also about a damaged tree that may need to be removed because of damage and affecting headstone.

Julia Potratz about recording meeting and posting on YouTube. Douglas had 8 microphones set up to improve recording of meetings.

No comment from Cathy, Ken and Ryan

Public Comment:

Discussion about when the public comment is to be offered. Open Meetings Act only states that one public comment period be offered not when. There is nothing preventing multiple times for public comments.

Motion to adjourn by Julia Potratz and seconded by Steve Cole at 8:40

Kenneth Bloom, Clerk

Ryan VanSolkema, Supervisor

Cathy Killinger, Treasurer