

**Unapproved Minutes of the Whitefish Township Board**  
**Date: September 14th, 2023**

Supervisor Forrester called the meeting to order at 7:00pm

**A.ROLL CALL:** Present: Edson Forrester, Judy Griebel, Glen Gomery, Earl Skeans, Katie Becker

Absent: None

Citizens present: 12

**B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

**C.AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA: None**

**D. REVIEW OF MINUTES:** (Regular Meeting August 3<sup>rd</sup>) Motion by Becker, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Gomery to approve. Supervisor Forrester Noted that there needs to be a change to an old set of minutes, one word needs to be changed. Clerk Becker will find and amend.

**E. CLERK'S REPORT:** Received a notice from Northern Transitions (recycle company) to let us know what is allowed in the recycle trailers. We are almost there with our website! We are waiting to receive our .gov domain. This is taking some time.

a. ELECTION AGREEMENT - This agreement will support a joint site for the 9 days of pre-election day voting. This will save our township quite a sum of money. Clerk Becker is asking our township to join this consolidated election site. Motion by Skeans to enter this agreement, Second by Becker. Roll Call Vote: Skeans Y, Gomery Y, Forrester Y, Becker Y, Bean Y. Yes 5, Motion Carried.

**F. TREASURERS REPORT:** Today was the last day to pay 2023 summer taxes. Our township was required to collect \$1,030,871.46 as of today we have collected \$882,950.16. This leaves \$147,921.30. There was a huge stack of returned address bills, and it was able to be worked down to 20 addresses who have not received any bills.

**G. SUPERVISORS REPORT:** A survey was completed for MTA concerning the removal of local authority over Wind and Solar Power. Corporations are looking to come in and place windmills on our shoreline. Our Transfer Station Inspection was completed, and we are in compliance. Water Samples were done and came back within normal range. There is some concern about the speed limit on North Whitefish Point Road. The Supervisor encourages the township to begin a petition to the County to lower that speed limit. Trustee Gomery inquired about signage, that can be determined later but may come at some cost to the township. Generator Service will be completed soon. We do have things under way for the 2022/2023 audit. We are waiting for the date for completion. Our SharePoint site is up and running as well as a Trustee workspace in the office. New E-mail addresses will take effect with our .gov domain.

**H. PRESENTATION OF BILLS:** Payroll: \$33,722.91, Bills \$37,638.58. TOTAL: \$71,361.49 Motion by Gomery, Second by Skeans. Roll Call Vote: Skeans Y, Gomery Y, Becker Y, Bean Y, Forrester Y. 5 YES, Motion Carried

**I. CORRESPONDENCE/ RECOGNITION/ ANNOUNCEMENTS:** There is a letter from a Citizen asking the Board to consider a Constable Position for the 2024 election.

**J. PUBLIC COMMENT:** Debbie Skeans asked who we contact to voice concerns about Windmills. Rick Brockway asked about starting the petition for Speed Limit change. Supervisor Forrester offered his assistance on the matter.

**K. DEPARTMENTAL/ COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**FIRE DEPT** – Fire Truck parked across the street is needing repair, determining how feasible it is. The tire system needs new tires as well.

**EMS:** 22 calls this month and we were able to cover them all. Renee is asking if we need to use new e-mail by policy., Edson is checking. Director Grey asked us to look at page 11, Article 22 especially.

**LIBRARY:** No Report

**ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS:**

**PLANNING COMMISSION:** The Planning Commission agreed with the Board of Trustees proposed changes to the Zoning Ordinance. They urge the Township to schedule a Public Hearing as soon as possible to get this topic moving.

**WFT ENVIROMENTAL CLEAN-UP:** EGLE does have funding to help with the clean up, they are urging our Township officials to reach out ( Bridget Nodruft will provide contact information) to let them know our Board wants to move forward with the clean-up.

**L. GUEST SPEAKER: NONE**

**M. OLD BUSINESS**

**1. Ordinance Enforcement Officer:** No interest currently.

**2. ZBA Appointments/ Alternates:** No Interest currently.

**3. Board of Review Vacancy:** No interest currently.

**4. Housing Project Discussion:** The Township is still waiting on the DNR for word on the 80 acres West of town on 123. We are looking to add an 8–12-unit apartment complex on the North side of 123 and develop the south side of 123 for community activities – sledding hill etc. The Township is not seeking to shut down Paradise Pathways.

**5. EMS Authority Articles of Incorporation and By- Laws:**

**6. Zoning Ordinance Change Review:**

**NEW BUSINESS**

**1.Zoning Administrator approved to Issue Civil Infraction**

**2.TAP GRANT Application**

a. Ordinance for Snowmobile use West M-123

b. Resolution for No Parking in ORV Trail

**3.Copy Machine**

**Adjourn:**

Motion by Becker, second by Gomery to adjourn, Time 9:04pm.

All in favor Yes 5, Motion carried.