

Regular Monthly Meeting of the Windemere Township Board - August 11, 2022

The meeting was called to order at 6:31 PM by Chair, Heidi Kroening. Others present were Supervisors Mark Dunaski & Tony Bakhtiari, Clerk Cindy Woltjer, Treasurer Ron Mossberg & Zoning Administrator Dennis Genereau.

Also, in attendance were 11 Windemere residents and 11 participants via Zoom.

CLERK'S REPORT:

Clerk Woltjer read meeting minutes from the July 14, 2022 Regular Monthly Meeting. A motion was made by Kroening, second by Dunaski to approve the July 14, 2022 minutes. Vote Taken: Kroening - Aye, Dunaski – Aye, Bakhtiari - Aye. Motion Passed 3/0.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Treasurer Mossberg gave the report through July 31, 2022. It was mentioned that the second and final payment of the ARPA money of approximately \$96,000 had been received. Motion made by Kroening, second by Bahktiare to accept the Treasurer's report. Vote Taken: Kroening - Aye, Dunaski – Aye, Bakhtiari - Aye. Motion Passed 3/0.

Pine County Sheriff Jeff Nelson introduced himself to the board and gave a short talk about wanting to restore communications with the residents of Pine County that may have suffered because of covid. Some of the points of concern include speed issues, ATV's in the communities & watercraft on the lakes. He acknowledged the receipt of the signed agreement concerning the blight issues in the township and assured the residents that his department would help as much as needed.

OLD BUSINESS:

Rules of Procedure and Decorum :

Suggestions were discussed for changes and Chair Kroening will continue to work on making a clean and correct copy with those changes to be approved by the board at a later date.

Road Employee/Union Update :

Supervisor Dunaski reported that the board, as the employer, under labor laws, is required to negotiate with the employees and the union until an impasse is reached. The board is continuing discussions at this time.

Township Road Co-ordinator :

Supervisor Dunaski reviewed a past description of a Road Maintenance Manager Position and will send a copy to the clerk to review for spelling and grammar. It will then be discussed at the next board meeting.

Warbler Lane/Sturgeon Island Road Repair :

Supervisor Dunaski reported that both roads are in need of repair and due to the high cost of asphalt this year instead of paving he contacted a contractor to patch the spots and put off paving until next year.

Sturgeon Island Bridge Update :

Supervisor Dunaski stated that because of delays with engineering, MNDot, the DNR and processing of materials needed to repair the bridge, it would not be repaired this year as planned. He also reminded the board that the bridge will probably cost between \$400,000 to \$500,000 and the township is only responsible for \$20,000 of that total cost.

Sturgeon Lake High Water Feasibility Study :

Supervisor Dunaski reported that the study has mostly been completed with the exception of information that the DNR is providing. They are just waiting for DNR input and it was also stated that the DNR is extremely understaffed.

NEW BUSINESS :

Small Business Outreach Program for Veterans :

The Veteran’s Outreach Program had asked if they could post a link on the township website to be of help to local veterans. The board decided to do more research into this organization before doing so.

Approval of Liquor Licenses for Doc’s & Moose Lake Golf Club :

A motion was made by Kroening, second by Dunaski to approve liquor licenses to Doc’s and the Moose Lake Golf Club for September 1, 2022 to August 31, 2023. Vote Taken: Kroening - Aye, Dunaski – Aye, Bakhtiari - Aye. Motion Passed 3/0.

Board of Supervisors Other :

None reported.

ROAD UPDATE :

Supervisor Dunaski stated it was all covered earlier in the meeting.

ZONING UPDATE :

Zoning Administrator Genereau stated there were 17 permits issued in July. He is continuing to working on the Short Term Vacation Rentals Ordinance and stated the public hearing on the issue was very well attended.

PLANNING COMMISSION UPDATE :

Zoning Administrator Genereau reported the regular planning commission meeting had to be rescheduled to August 16th due to the primary elections on August 9th. He also reported two Board of Adjustment meetings scheduled for September 1st and September 6th for the Eberhart variance and the Sinna variance, respectively.

FIRE DISTRICT UPDATE :

Supervisor Bakhtiari stated that because of the primary elections the meeting had been moved to tonight. He then brought up the option to lower the levy and have a seat on the Fire District Board by having the county collect taxes from the residents. Fire District Chair Osten Berg would be available to address the township board regarding this issue if needed.

PUBLIC INPUT :

The first resident commented on the condition of the township hall stating that it looked abandoned. The grass was tall and there was equipment laying around. He suggested hiring a lawn service and making the property look more presentable. He also suggested that a sign audit be done. A company could be hired for approximately \$1000 to assess all signs for condition and proper size.

It was then stated that Pine County will do an audit at no cost and that they were already in the process of doing so.

There were no comments from Zoom.

CLAIMS :

July 2022 claims were reviewed. Motion made by Kroening, seconded by Dunaski to approve the July 2022 claims as provided. Approval of Payroll #PAY 22-08, EFT #s 22-27 & 22-28, Check #s 13149 through 13168, & Direct Deposit #s DD1509 through DD1516 for a total of \$36,826.92. Vote Taken: Kroening - Aye, Dunaski – Aye, Bakhtiari - Aye. Motion Passed 3/0.

TOWNSHIP MAIL :

Township mail was opened and reviewed.

ADJOURN :

Motion made by Dunaski, seconded by Bahktiari to adjourn the meeting at 8:32 PM. Vote Taken: Kroening - Aye, Dunaski – Aye, Bakhtiari - Aye. Motion Passed 3/0.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED :

APPROVED :

Clerk, Cindy Woltjer

Chair, Heidi Kroening