

Regular Monthly Meeting of the Windemere Township Board - December 8, 2022

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM by Chair, Heidi Kroening. Others present were Supervisors Tony Bakhtiari, Clerk Cindy Woltjer, Treasurer Ron Mossberg & Road Coordinator Scott Danelski. Absent was Zoning Administrator Dennis Genereau.

Also, in attendance were 16 Windemere residents and 11 participants via Zoom.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA :

There were no objections to the agenda as provided.

CLERK'S REPORT:

Clerk Woltjer read meeting minutes from the November 17, 2022 meeting. A motion was made by Kroening, second by Bahktiari to approve the November 17, 2022 minutes as read. Vote Taken: Kroening - Aye, Bahktiari - Aye. Motion Passed 2/0. Clerk Woltjer then read the minutes of the November 17, 2022 Board of Canvass. A motion was made by Kroening, second by Bahktiari to approve the Board of Canvass minutes as read with the exception that Treasurer Mossberg was not in attendance. Vote Taken: Kroening - Aye, Bahktiari - Aye. Motion Passed 2/0.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Before giving his monthly report Treasurer Mossberg gave a report stating the 20 most important improvements he accomplished over his 6 year term.

Treasurer Mossberg then gave the treasurer's report through November 2022. He reported receiving the second half of the Pine County Levy along with current and back taxes and some interest earned. Larger expenses included the second half of the Fire District Contract and gravel hauling. He also stated that the balance of the Covid money we received has now been used. Motion made by Bahktiari, second by Kroening to accept the Treasurer's report. Vote Taken: Kroening - Aye, Bahktiari - Aye. Motion Passed 2/0.

OLD BUSINESS:

2023 Budget :

Nothing to discuss. It was already finalized at the November meeting.

NEW BUSINESS :

Sturgeon Island Bridge Picture :

Clerk Woltjer presented a print of the Sturgeon Island Bridge from the original painting by Nedene Thomas Kuhlman, whose family had lived in Windemere Township for four generations, to be hung in the township hall. She stated that Nedene's father, Chester had once served on the township board.

2023 Monthly Board Meeting Dates :

Clerk Woltjer presented the regular meeting dates for 2023. A motion was made by Kroening, second by Bahktiari to accept the dates as presented to be posted. Vote Taken: Kroening - Aye, Bahktiari - Aye. Motion Passed 2/0.

Resolution Designating Annual Polling Place :

A resolution designating the annual polling place was presented by Clerk Woltjer for approval. A motion was made by Kroening, second by Bahktiari to accept the township hall as the official polling place. Vote Taken: Kroening - Aye, Bahktiari - Aye. Motion Passed 2/0.

Resolution Appointing Member to MLWSSD :

A resolution designating that Clair Strandlie would like to continue serving on the MLWSSD for another term was presented. A motion was made by Kroening, second by Bahktiari to accept Clair Strandlie for another term on the MLWSSD until January 1, 2027. Vote Taken: Kroening - Aye, Bahktiari - Aye. Motion Passed 2/0.

Resolution to Establish a Policy for Snow-Plowing Private Roadways & Driveways :

Road Supervisor Scott Danelski stated there have been requests for plowing private roads and driveways. A Resolution #2022-12-8 was presented stating Windemere Township would no longer plow private roads. A motion was made by Bahktiari, second by Kroening to accept Resolution # 2022-12-8 establishing a policy for private roadways and driveways. Vote Taken: Kroening - Aye, Bahktiari - Aye. Motion Passed 2/0.

Board of Supervisors Other :

Chair Kroening asked that Mr. Mossberg be able to keep a township laptop in his possession in able to assist the new treasurer with the transition after which it would be returned to the township.

Supervisor Bahktiari then thanked Mr. Mossberg for his years of service to the township.

ROAD UPDATE :

Road Supervisor Danelski reported that the township roads are now frozen and the first snow plowing of the season went well. A road review was done with Sandberg Construction to address where gravel might have to be replaced in the spring. Several trouble spots were identified for turning around snow plow equipment and consideration should be made for building turnarounds in the future to solve this problem. The beavers have plugged culverts again and the one on Sturgeon Island Road could cause flooding damage in the spring. There is a shoulder wash out on Northstar Lane near Arrowwood Court which should be ok for now but should be addressed in the spring. There is a road bump on Military Road between North Shoreland Road and Heppner Road from a culvert replacement. There is a lot of traffic on this stretch of road and if the bump gets worse a load of class 5 gravel should be brought in and spread out to alleviate this problem until the ground thaws and it can be addressed properly in the spring. The brush pile at the pit should be burned this winter. No permit is required as long as there is 3 inches of snow on the ground. Several complaints were received concerning snow removal and those issues have been addressed with the contractor and will be rectified. A resolution was passed to deal with requests that have been made to plow snow on private driveways.

Road Coordinator Danelski then recommended that the township go ahead with the sign inventory stating that some of the signs are in poor shape. The signs will be GPS located, a map will be provided along with the type of sign it is and the condition of the sign. He also suggested going ahead with a culvert inventory at the same time.

ZONING UPDATE :

Zoning Administrator Genereau was absent so Chair Kroening gave his report. He has issued 6 new permits in November which include 2 for new dwellings. Three administrative land splits are in process and two more land splits have been denied. One of which has requested a variance and a Board of Adjustments meeting is set for December 20th. The DNR lawsuit mediation is set for December 22nd. The STVR Ordinance is still being worked on.

PLANNING COMMISSION UPDATE :

Commissioner Cindy Carlson reported that there is still work being done on the STVR to finalize and present to the board.

FIRE DISTRICT UPDATE :

Supervisor Bakhtiari stated that the meeting is scheduled for next Tuesday but also mentioned they are suggesting a 5 year contract from the township. Supervisor Bahktiari suggested it would be better to do another 1 year contract for now.

PUBLIC INPUT :

The first person thanked Treasurer Mossberg for his service and for the tremendous amount of effort and time he has put into his job.

The second person thanked Treasurer Mossberg for his service, going above and beyond bringing clarity and transparency to the numbers.

The third person thanked Treasurer Mossberg for his clarity, clearness and accuracy on all his reporting. She also wanted to thank Supervisor Dunaski for his time.

A fourth person on zoom said he thought Mr. Mossberg is honest and has common sense.

CLAIMS :

November 2022 claims were reviewed. Motion made by Kroening, seconded by Bahktiari to approve the November 2022 claims as provided. Approval of Payroll #PAY 22-12, EFT #s 22-38 & 22-39, Check #s 13250 through 13266, & Direct Deposit #s DD1539 through DD1545 for a total of \$65,872.38. A motion was made by Kroening, second by Bahktiari to accept the November claims as presented. Vote Taken: Kroening - Aye, Bahktiari - Aye. Motion Passed 2/0.

TOWNSHIP MAIL :

There was no mail to review.

ADJOURN :

Motion made by Kroening, seconded by Bahktiari to adjourn the meeting at 7:48 PM. Vote Taken: Kroening - Aye, Bahktiari - Aye. Motion Passed 2/0.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED :

APPROVED :

Clerk, Cindy Woltjer

Chair, Heidi Kroening