Westphalia Township

Regular Meeting October 2, 2023

DRAFT MINUTES

13950 Pratt Road, Westphalia MI, 48894

Supervisor Thelen called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag at 6:00 p.m. Board members present were Supervisor Thelen, Trustee Barker, Trustee Thelen, Treasurer Buckley, and Clerk Platte.

GUESTS: Nathan Thelen Bret Thelen Doug Steffen- County

 Margie Wirth Greg Trierweiler Mike Frederick- County

A motion was made by T. Thelen, supported by Barker, to accept the minutes from September 4, 2023 as well as the agenda for October 4, 2023 with corrections to the minutes. Motion carried.

Treasurer Buckley presented the financial statements via email to all board members. A motion was made by Treasurer Buckley to approve the financial statements as well as bills presented for the General and FD funds, seconded by T. Thelen. Motion carried.

County Commissioner Dave Pohl was not in attendance – see notes attached.

Public comments:

Greg Trierweiler – wanted to know the update on McKenna and the planning/zoning commission that the township discussed in their April meeting. Supervisor Thelen gave updates on the county planning/zoning commission. Greg also asked the board about the mention of a survey going out to all residents in regards to the planning/zoning. Supervisor Thelen mentioned that we haven’t brought up the topic again as we weren’t sure how or who to approach with this survey, be it township land owners and/or all registered voters.

Margie Wirth – she had concerns in regards to the eagle mega site, the wind/solar, Nelson Road to Oneida towers, and the talk of planning/zoning board for the township. She is in favor of having a survey sent out to all registered voters. Supervisor Thelen answered all her questions with the knowledge he has in each concern Mrs. Wirth had.

Doug updated the board on the new facility and that they are working on taking down the old one but ran into some problems with asbestos. They are planning an open house of the new facility November 21, 2023 from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. He also talked about the county receiving grant funding in the amount of 13.5 million dollars. These funds have not yet been received but $10 million will be designated for Chandler Road and $3.5 million will go towards a four mile stretch of DeWitt and Kinley and Kinley to Colony with the paving of Kinley. The county finished all gravel projects for Westphalia Township. They would also like to change the gravel contracts for next year and have them all signed by April 2024. There are 124 bridges in Clinton County and some of the bridges are taking a hit. In the spring the county went to Eagle and discussed chloride restrictions but they haven’t really heard anything back from them yet.

Bret and Nathan Thelen were in attendance to discuss a Droste Park project. They have been working on getting bids for this project and as of now the project looks to be coming in at $1,818,900.00 with a 20% buffer totaling $2,182,680.00 for the project. They will be going to the Village of Westphalia’s board meeting as well this evening and asking for help funding. They did as the Township if we would be willing to help with funding. In this project they would like to have three ball fields, additional parking, pickle ball courts, and an event building with bathrooms. The two talked about grant funding as well and asked if anyone would be willing to help with this. Supervisor Thelen mentioned that he would be willing to help

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them with this. They also mentioned a possible millage for this project. A diagram of the proposed new Droste Park is attached.

Clerk Platte discussed the nine day in person voting agreement that the County has prepared and she would like to enter into this. A motion was made by Clerk Platte to accept the County early voting agreement. T. Thelen seconded. Motion carried.

Clerk Platte handed out the snow contract by Matthew Reay for the 2023 winter season. T. Thelen made a motion to accept the bid from Mr. Reay for the 2023 snow season. Barker seconded. Motion carried. Clerk Platte to email the signed agreement to Matt.

Clerk Platte brought up that the Board of Review still hasn’t been paid for April 2022 through March 31, 2023 budget year and still haven’t been paid for July 2023. Supervisor Thelen to contact Mary from Preston Community Services to see about getting all minutes within these timelines and getting the members paid. Supervisor Thelen mentioned that he has asked Mr. Preston to get all minutes to Clerk Platte several times, as well as Treasurer Thelen did with Mary.

If anyone would be interested in helping the County with their Free for Fall event on Saturday, October 7th from 9:00am t0 1:00pm at Granger’s facility on Wood Road in Lansing they are looking for 2 volunteers for check-in for both shifts- duties include greeting participants & accepting/receipting money if they didn’t prepay online. Clinton County residents are required to register for an appointment to attend this event. This event will be accepting electronics and household hazardous waste items only. Volunteer shifts from either 8:30am to 11:00am OR 10:30am to 1:30pm. You may also opt to volunteer the entire day. Volunteers can register now here: <https://www.clinton-county.org/316/Volunteer-Signup>.

Next scheduled meeting has been moved to Monday, November 6, 2023 @ 6:00 p.m.

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by T. Thelen, supported by Buckley at 7:09 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted

Heather Platte, Clerk Troy Thelen, Supervisor