

**Watertown Township
Monthly Board Meeting Minutes
January 2, 2024
7:00pm**

The Watertown Township Board met on the above date for a regular board meeting to audit and allow orders, and to transact any business to come before it.

Present were Scott Hoese, Jerry Bruner, Kathy McCann, Barry Fritzke, Stephanie Coe (remote), and Wayne Hubin

Visitors: Mike Wandersee, Shea and Frankie Lang, Greg Hahn, Junifer Bradac, Christopher and Theresa Mich, and Mike Humbert

The meeting was called to order by Chair Scott Hoese at 7:03 PM (tech difficulties)

The Pledge of Allegiance to the flag was given.

The meeting agenda was reviewed and a motion to approve was made by Jerry Bruner and seconded by Kathy McCann. Motion carried.

The minutes of the Dec 4 regular board meeting were reviewed and a motion to approve as written was made by Jerry Bruner and seconded by Kathy McCann. Motion carried.

Treasurers Report

Receipts for the month as of 12/31/2023 equaled \$253,851.91, and total disbursements of \$114,251.34, giving an ending balance of \$363,735.01, and an investment balance of \$338,588.39, therefore giving a grand total balance of \$702,323.40.

A motion to approve the Treasurer report was made by Kathy McCann and seconded by Jerry Bruner. Motion carried.

New Business

Shea Lang brought a request for an outdoor building addition variance approval. Following discussion a motion to approve was made by Kathy McCann and seconded by Jerry Bruner. Motion carried.

Mike Humbert and family appeared before the Bd to review plans for splitting their property of 99 acres. The 40 acre county requirement was reviewed and there may be a need to seek a variance or purchase a building eligibility to enable the development of two additional building lots. They will pursue their splitting options with the County. It was noted that the temporary trailer house has been sold and will be moved promptly.

Several options for moving money into a short term CD to gain a target interest rate of 5+% were reviewed.

The Treasurer was directed to seek a best option for a \$350,000 CD with either of the two Watertown banks to obtain the best rate and ideal term to obtain liquidity necessary to meet the truck payment needs coming up the late summer, early fall of this year.

A motion for the Treasurer to proceed with the above action was made by Kathy McCann and seconded by Jerry Bruner. Motion carried.

Old Business

Rose Ave bidge project. The bridge culvert replacement project has been competed, however is was noted that due to the height of the new culvert and the lack of a railing on the lintel and wings, there could be fall libility issues, particularly during apple picking season which brings crowds of people to the adjoining Luce Line Orchard.

The county has agreed to install a 48 " high railing on the above noted areas, at no cost to the township. There was consensus for the county to procede with the railing (chain link) installation.

The new township website is now up and in operation, with favorable reviews.

There was board consensus that a token appreciation payment of \$500 be made available to Brian Munstersteiger, who had offered to develope the website at no cost to the township.

Other quotes for website developement were in the \$1500 -\$3000 range.

Other Items

None

Building Permits

None

Barry's Road/Site Report

Replacement of 60 weathered road signs is 90% complete which brings the question, what to do with the old signs?

Board Supervisor Kathy McCann will research the sale of old signs via Marketplace, etc, dependent on the legality of the same.

Additional (50) culvert markers are needed and will be ordered in January.

The new plow truck chassis is officially on order with a July 16 delivery date. The new chassis will be delivered to Towmaster for installation of the box, snow plow, wing, and sander.

Completion will likely be in the Sept time frame.

Payorders

A motion to approve authorization of current pay orders #13935-13946, and tax pay orders, PERA12-23, USTR 12-23, MN Q4 2023 was made by Jerry Bruner and seconded by Kathy McCann. Motion carried.

The regular board meeting was recessed to open the 2024 annual reorganization session (see separate minutes), and later the performance review of employee, Barry Fritzke.

Following the above, the regular monthly board meeting was reconvened.

With no other business to conduct, Chair Scott Hoese adjourned the meeting at 8:50 PM.

Minutes submitted by Wayne Hubin

Clerk of Watertown Township

