WHITEWATER TOWNSHIP BOARD
Whitewater Township Hall, 5777 Vinton Road, Williamsburg, MI 49690
231-267-5141 Phone

REGULAR MEETING
APPROVED AMENDED MINUTES
Tuesday, January 14, 2025, 9:00 a.m.

CALL TO ORDER:
Clerk Wendy Hoeksema called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

ROLL CALL:
Clerk Wendy Hoeksema called Roll.

Present:
Clerk Wendy Hoeksema
Treasurer Jill Koester
Trustee Tim Arends
Trustee Randy Mielnik

A quorum was established.

Absent:
Supervisor Linda Slopsema

Board Action:
In the absence of Supervisor Slopsema, Mr. Arends made a motion for Clerk Hoeksema to chair the meeting. Ms. Koester seconded the motion.

VOTE: YEAS: All. NAYES: None. Motion carried.

ALSO PRESENT:
Recording Secretary Kay Held

SET/ADJUST AGENDA:
Move Fire New Hire and Fire Report to the first item of business after the Public Hearing.

Board Action:
Ms. Hoeksema made a motion to approve the Agenda as amended. Mr. Arends seconded the motion.

VOTE: YEAS: All. NAYES: None. Motion carried.

DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST:
None.

FIRST PUBLIC COMMENT:

Township Hall:
None.

Via Zoom:

Ms. Connie Hymore, 6761 Baggs Road, Williamsburg, MI 49690, via Zoom
Ms. Hymore welcomed the Board and asked them to state facts with reference. She attended last week's Planning Commission meeting via Zoom where several Members couldn't locate meeting packets/agenda, which she believes to be a disservice. She stated in 2023, a PC representative on the ZBA reiterated what he thought was true but was in error. In

spite of the public pointing out facts, state statute, and Whitewater Township General Ordinances, he convinced the ZBA that parcels of land over 10 acres did not comply with the 4:1 depth-width ratio. This changed the trajectory of the ZBA's decision resulting in more taxpayer dollars in a lawsuit. At last week's PC meeting, this individual now understands this to be true after she stated the MCL number and General Ordinance that supported the facts that the Township does not follow the 10 acre law. He stated he only wants someone to explain to him why the Township doesn't follow the 10 acre rule. Ms. Hymore read aloud the portion of General Ordinance 26, Section 7, paragraph B stating this. Past Zoning Administrator Bob Hall stated that local law supersedes state law. If this had been followed, we wouldn't be in a lawsuit. We will never understand why the Township attorneys recommended this be sent to the ZBA when the law says it is prohibited. She and her husband have spent countless hours researching this matter.

She thanked the Board for their service and hopes this is resolved soon so they can focus on their campaign promises to turn the Township around.

PUBLIC HEARING - Zoning Ordinance Consolidation & Renumbering of Ordinances:

Public Hearing: Zoning Ordinance Consolidation & Renumbering of Ordinances
https://www.whitewatertownship.org/uploads/2/1/9/6/21966412/legal_notice_01.14.2025_township_board_hearing.pdf
https://www.whitewatertownship.org/uploads/2/1/9/6/21966412/draft_whitewater_zoning_markup_version_for_ph.pdf
https://www.whitewatertownship.org/uploads/2/1/9/6/21966412/draft_whitewater_zoning_clean_version_for_ph.pdf
https://www.whitewatertownship.org/uploads/2/1/9/6/21966412/draft_whitewater_zoning_map.pdf
https://www.whitewatertownship.org/uploads/2/1/9/6/21966412/proposed_reorganization_of_the_whitewater_township_zoning_ordinance.pdf

Board Action:
Ms. Hoeksema made a motion to open the Public Hearing regarding Zoning Ordinance Consolidation & Renumbering of Ordinances. Mr. Arends seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Arends-Y, Hoeksema-Y, Mielnik-Y, Koester-Y. Motion carried.

The Public Hearing began at 9:08 a.m.

Clerk Hoeksema asked attendees to sign the attendance sheet and reported the Public Hearing notice was published in the Elk Rapids News on 12/26/24 and posted on the Township website and at the Hall.

Mr. Randy Mielnik provided a summary of this subject. There have been numerous iterations of the Zoning Ordinance and Amendments. These documents were not well-organized or complete and were stored in multiple electronic files, not one document. This hindered access, completeness and clarification. There were efforts to update, organize and consolidate this information. Several years ago Munico was hired by the Township to assist with codifying the Zoning and General Ordinances. A manuscript was prepared; however, not completed.

A Zoning Map was produced as the Zoning Ordinance defined zoning districts by legal descriptions rather than a map. The map was also made part of the Zoning Ordinance. The Township hired a professional surveyor to review the legal descriptions and add information to a parcel map produced by Grand Traverse County to illustrate zoning boundaries.

The existing organization of the Ordinance, adopted in 1972, was incomplete. Through review, the Planning Commission clarified information, eliminated duplications and organized the content including tables. Hundreds of changes/corrections were made, many of them minor, without changing the intent of the Ordinance.

A Public Hearing to review the new draft was held in December, 2024; however, there were no attendees or comments. Due to a severe winter storm, there was concern residents may not have been able to attend. Subsequently, the PC suggested another Public Hearing at the Township Board level.

The intent is to keep it content-neutral to use as a foundation to build more substantive changes to the Zoning Ordinance and bring it into compliance with the Zoning Enabling Act. The material posted includes the existing version with recommended changes highlighted as well as the proposed new version for ease in reviewing the transition of the document. The Township Attorney was asked to review the document, specifically for conformance to the Michigan Zoning Enabling Act. Additional changes were made. Mr. Mielnik stated two additional changes need yet to be made.

Public Comment:
Township Hall:
None.

Via Zoom:
Ms. Linda Slopsema, Whitewater Township Supervisor, via Zoom
As a former PC Member, Ms. Slopsema stated she fully supports approval of the Zoning Ordinance consolidation project. It is a big improvement for residents to access all information in one document, and assists the Zoning Administrator in her role.

Board Action:
Mr. Arends made a motion to close the Public Hearing. Ms. Hoeksema seconded the motion.

VOTE: YEAS: All. NAYES: None. Motion carried.

The Public Hearing ended at 9:19 a.m.

Mr. Mielnik added two additional changes that surfaced after the Planning Commission's Public Hearing.

On page 13-13, Section 13.17(D), add statement regarding campground cabin square footage. This relates to both family campgrounds and commercial campgrounds.

On page 1-2, Section 1:08, Mr. Mielnik read into the Minutes the Township Attorney's recommendation regarding the Enactment and Effective Date (stated specifically below in a motion).

Board Action:
Mr. Mielnik made a motion to approve Amendment #87 to the Whitewater Township Zoning Ordinance. This Amendment is necessary to clarify zoning district boundaries, incorporate past Amendments, provide more complete conformance with the Michigan Zoning Enabling Act and to make the document more user-friendly. Specifically, Amendment #87 provides:

1. One Zoning Ordinance document that is searchable, consistently formatted, properly organized with readable graphics and hyperlinks to better navigate material between sections, along with a more complete table of contents.
2. A single Official Zoning Map depicting Zoning District Boundaries (rather than legal descriptions).
3. Many clarifications to definitions, requirements and development standards, which are considered to be minor in nature.

Amendment #87 is approved with two changes from the material advertised and approved by the Whitewater Township Planning Commission. These are:

Page 13-13, Section 13-17(D): Add: (14) Campground cabins shall not exceed 650 square feet of floor area, including covered porches~~, and~~ .

Page 1-2, Section 1.08: Reword as follows: 1.08: Enactment and Effective Date: The provisions of this Ordinance are hereby declared to be necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health, safety, and welfare of the people and are hereby ordered to become effective seven (7) days following publication of a "Notice of Ordinance Adoption" in a newspaper circulating within the Whitewater Township, unless referendum procedures are initiated under MCL 125.3402. If referendum procedures are initiated, this Ordinance will take effect in accordance with MCL 125.3402. The effective date of this Zoning Ordinance is _____, 2025.

Mr. Arends seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL VOTE:
Mielnik-Y, Arends-Y, Koester-Y, Hoeksema-Y. Motion carried.

Treasurer Koester echoed Supervisor Slopsema's Public Comment on what a monumental task this project has been and the significant improvement it provides the Township.

Fire Report – Chief Morgan (moved from Reports section):
Chief Morgan's written report is in the meeting packet. He additionally discussed his 2024 Annual Report based on last year's data.

Of note is an increase in call volume (22%) as compared to the prior year. This month there have been seven calls for service already, which is trending high. The Fire Department is adjusting its training schedule from Mondays to Tuesdays to accommodate Fire Academy cadets and complement the Academy's training schedule.

Renovations to the rescue sleeping space have begun.

Chief Morgan has submitted his 2025/26 budget to Mr. Arends. He continues to work on Standard Operating Procedures and Guidelines. This is a large document that will be more encompassing than in the past.

Mr. Arends provided feedback in that Chief Morgan's Annual Report was well-written and informative.

Chief Morgan explained the recent mutual aid event with Wexford County through a MABAS (Michigan Mutual Aid Box Alarm System) call out.

Fire Department New Hire Stuart Yarbrough (moved from Reports section):
Chief Morgan introduced Whitewater Township Fire Department new hire Mr. Stuart Yarbrough to the Township Board. Mr. Yarbrough spoke to the Board and specified his qualifications and experience.

Board Action:
Ms. Hoeksema made a motion to approve the hire of Fire Department candidate Mr. Stuart Yarbrough. Mr. Arends seconded the motion.

VOTE: YEAS: All. NAYES: None. Motion carried.

REPORTS / PRESENTATIONS / ANNOUNCEMENTS / COMMENTS:

County Board of Commissioners – Commissioner Darryl Nelson:
No report.

Planning Commission Report – Randy Mielnik:
Mr. Mielnik reported the Planning Commission met last week where they conducted Election of Officers. The new Chair is Mr. Keith DeYoung, Vice Chair is Ms. Rene Stratton and Secretary is Ms. Denise Peltonen.

The PC expects to finalize its budget next month, approved their meeting schedule for the year and is working on the Annual Report for the Township Board.

A Public Hearing was held regarding the Zoning Ordinance. Substantive Zoning Amendments are expected to be reviewed for approval. Specific items are related to the Master Plan and General Ordinance.

The Master Plan Draft was distributed to adjacent jurisdictions, and the state-mandated 63-day comment period has closed. The PC received feedback from East Bay Township regarding potential coordination of non-motorized transportation. There were also comments from former Township Supervisor Ron Popp. After review of the feedback and minor clerical corrections, changes were made to the draft. The next step is a Public Hearing at the Planning Commission's February meeting.

A Resolution was passed by Whitewater Township in 2008 under the old Planning Act; however, a new Planning Act was passed later that year. The Planning Enabling Act states a Township Board can be the final approval of a Master Plan or can elect to give that authority to the Planning Commission. There are conflicts between the two Planning Acts; therefore, the Township Attorney has been contacted for his opinion.

There was discussion about a joint meeting between the Planning Commission and the Township Board. These have been held in the past to ensure the Planning Commission's work is consistent with the Township Board's priorities. No meeting dates have been proposed. Mr. Arends agreed discussion among the two entities or a sub-committee would be important.

The Planning Commission also discussed hiring a Planner to assist with Zoning Amendments on a contracted as-needed, project basis. An RFQ would be necessary.

The next PC meeting will host an individual who represents the Redevelopment Ready Communities Program. He is also Chair of the East Bay Planning Commission and works for the MEDC (Michigan Economic Development Corporation).

There was a discussion regarding Short-term Rentals; the Planning Commission would like input from the Township Board on whether this is a Township or Planning Commission initiative. The PC would like to consider the formation of a sub-committee for this matter. In the past, it has had success working with Resident Outreach Sub-committees (ROS) which also increased public engagement. The structure of a committee would need to be developed.

The Planning Commission discussed the subject of a Private Road Ordinance. Gourdie Fraser Associates (GFA) can provide assistance in this matter. There was a Private Road Ordinance in the past; however, it was repealed. This addresses new construction of private roads and development standards.

Parks Report – Mike Dwyer:
Mr. Dwyer's report was in the meeting packet. He additionally reported:

All trails are being used, even with the snowfall, with the exception of Hi Pray. He continues to address downed trees at the Battle Creek Trail. No pond blockages to the water flow have been found, and he has forwarded information to the DNR. Downed trees crossing the trail have been removed.

He has taken delivery of the zero-turn mower. Beginning January 1, 2025, he started receiving numerous calls from around the country inquiring when booking reservations open up. He expects a significant increase as Traverse City State Park will be closed this summer. Many staff from last summer have committed to the upcoming season. He is researching and working on 2025 season park fees, and is collaborating with Mr. Arends.

Zoning Report – Deb Graber:
Ms. Graber's report was in the meeting packet. She additionally discussed the following:

The Zoning Administrator's Monthly and Annual Report were submitted. There has been a significant increase in the number of permits issued. This report highlighted Zoning activity including Land Use Permits, Site Plan & Special Use Reviews, ZBA Appeals and Land Divisions/Combos for the year 2024 as well as historical data for the years 2020-2023.

Of note:
- There were 85 Land Use Permits granted in 2024; the majority of which were issued since April when she assumed the ZA role.
- There were four Site Plan/Special Use Reviews.
- There were three ZBA Appeals.
- There were 15 Land Divisions/Combos.

Additionally, there were 33 new accessory dwellings and 21 new homes last year.

DG Markets is scheduled to open next month.

Information regarding a short-term rental property on Elk Lake Trail was sent to the Township Attorney; he indicated to Ms. Graber he is waiting to hear from the Township Board. She encouraged a Town Hall meeting with the Planning Commission and Township Board.

Ms. Graber attended "Hot Topics in Planning and Zoning" in August. The Pros & Cons of MTA attorneys were submitted in the October meeting packet and also distributed to Planning Commissioners.

Whitewater Township currently has Short-term Rentals under a permissive ordinance. This states if something does not say it is a permitted use, it is not allowable.

An Ordinance would need to be created stating it is permitted, or the Township needs to enforce what is in the Ordinance. She encouraged the Board to evaluate the enforcement process when considering Short-term Rentals. There are currently five townships in Grand Traverse County that allow them.

ZA Graber appreciates the work of the Planning Commission to consolidate the Zoning Ordinance into one document.

Ms. Graber announced her new in-office day is now Wednesdays (from Thursday) to better accommodate other staff in the Township Hall.

A Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) meeting is scheduled for 1/23/25, at 7:00 p.m. Vice Chair Roberto Garza will serve as Chair. Meeting dates for the year will be set at that time.

Ms. Koester inquired about potential agriculture and commercial activity. Ms. Graber stated Grand Traverse Plastics has purchased property in the commercial district across the road from their existing site, which is zoned industrial.

Bay Disposal in interested in a property on M-72 next t AIS. There are DEQ issues and a need for some remediation.

The Williamsburg Vet Clinic is expected at the next PC meeting. They would like to amend their Special Use Permit to include the use on onsite small event space at their property. Information will be forthcoming.

Many are looking at this community, including young families. Short-term Rentals could impact this growth.

Mr. Mielnik emphasized Land Use Permits doubled the past year and Site Plans and Land Divisions are up.

Ms. Graber asked for her portion of the Township budget to be re-evaluated.

CONSENT CALENDAR – Receive and File:

Board Action:
Mr. Arends made a motion to approve the Consent Calendar as mended. Mr. Mielnik seconded the motion.

VOTE: YEAS: All. NAYES: None. Motion carried.

Supervisor Report: None.

Clerk's Report: In meeting packet.

Treasurer Report: In meeting packet.

Trustee Reports: In meeting packet.

Zoning Report: In meeting packet.

MMR Reports: In meeting packet.

Fire Monthly Report: In meeting packet.

Sheriff's Report: In meeting packet.

PC Report: Provided verbally.

Historical Society Report: None.

Parks & Recreation Report: In meeting packet and verbal presentation.

PC Minutes – https://www.whitewatertownship.org/planning-commission/html

Parks & Recreation Minutes – https://whitewatertownship.org/advisory-committee/html

CORRESPONDENCE:
Correspondence from the IRS, Mr. Hymore and Butch Straight Inspections is included in the meeting packet.

MINUTES FOR APPROVAL:

Whitewater Township Regular Special Board Meeting Draft Minutes 2024.12.02:

Amendments: None.

Whitewater Township Regular Board Meeting Draft Minutes 2024.12.10:
Amendments:
Correct Footer on pages to read "December 10, 2024" not "December 2, 2024"

Whitewater Township Special Board Meeting Draft Minutes 2024.12.18:
Amendments:
Page 3 under IT Infrastructure: The IT Grant Ms. Koester wrote was for $50,000 not $1,500
Page 9 after the credit card limit vote where it references "Secretary Hoeksema" should be corrected to read "Clerk Hoeksema" will coordinate with Alden State Bank.....

Whitewater Township Special Board Meeting Draft Minutes 2024.12.23:
Amendments: None.
Minutes for this meeting are on the website and not included in the meeting packet.

Whitewater Township Special Board Meeting Draft Minutes 2024.12.30:
Amendments: None.

Board Action:
Mr. Arends made a motion to approve the following Minutes as presented and amended:

Whitewater Township Regular Special Board Meeting Draft Minutes 2024.12.02
Whitewater Township Regular Board Meeting Draft Minutes 2024.12.10
Whitewater Township Special Board Meeting Draft Minutes 2024.12.18
Whitewater Township Special Board Meeting Draft Minutes 2024.12.23
Whitewater Township Special Board Meeting Draft Minutes 2024.12.30

Ms. Koester seconded the motion.

VOTE: YEAS: All. NAYES: None. Motion carried.

BILLS FOR APPROVAL: Report in meeting packet.

Board Action:
Mr. Arends made a motion to approve the Bills Paid. Mr. Mielnik seconded the motion.

VOTE: YEAS: All. NAYES: None. Motion carried.

BUDGET AMENDMENTS: Fire Department – 3 Items
Chief Morgan presented three budget amendments for fund transfers. These requests were included in the meeting packet. There was discussion regarding grant funding consideration and each of Chief Morgan's requests.

Thomas Cosgrove Foundation Grant – turnout gear
Budget Amendment Request – funds not used for three months due to resignation of Chief Flynn; reallocation of $9,000
Funds Transfer Request – account transfer of $149,775

Board Action:
Mr. Arends made a motion to accept a grant from the Thomas Cosgrove Foundation in the amount of $2,395 for turnout gear for the Fire Department; further, the Board approves a Budget Amendment to increase grant revenues in the Fire Fund in the amount of $2,395 and respectively increases budgeted expense line item 206-336-745 in the amount of $2,395. Ms. Koester seconded the motion.

VOTE: YEAS: All. NAYES: None. Motion carried.

Board Action:
Ms. Koester made a motion to amend the budget with an increase to line item 206-336-970 (Capital Expenditures) in the amount of $9,000, and decrease budget line item 206-336-702 (Salaries) in the amount of $9,000. Mr. Arends seconded the motion.

VOTE: YEAS: All. NAYES: None. Motion carried.

Board Action:
Mr. Arends made a motion to transfer of $149,775 from .5mil Fire Special Assessment from the Fire Fund to the Fire Capital Improvement Fund for the purchase of a new fire pumper truck from CSI. Ms. Koester seconded the motion.

VOTE: YEAS: All. NAYES: None. Motion carried.

REVENUE & EXPENDITURE REPORT: Pending.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

BS&A Proposal:
Ms. Koester reported this proposal is an extension of what the former Board was working on. The budget currently has $60k in it for the addition of the software. BS&A's comprehensive software is designed specifically for government municipalities, with interactive modules that can work together. This increases efficiency, effectiveness and transparency between the Township Supervisor's and Clerk's offices. The Treasurer's office uses very old software.

BS&A is the industry leader, with software tailored toward governmental business. Information is maintained in the Cloud and accessible by authorized users at any time. There will be many upgrades to accounting functions. The public will have access to view and pay their taxes online as well.

The quote came in slightly less than proposed last month at $54,525. There is an additional expense of $5,045 for BS&A staff travel and training. There will also be an additional expense of approximately $2,000 for hardware; i.e., printer, scanner, credit card reader; however, that will not be required until approximately nine months out.

System implementation is anticipated to begin within 3-4 months converting data to the new Cloud system. Phase II will be adding new modules and training. All total, it is expected to be a nine-month process. BS&A will migrate five years of data into the new system.

There was Board discussion including an inquiry about the annual fee to maintain modules and customer support. An Accounts Receivable module was listed in the quote; however, it is not necessary and will be removed. Clarification of annual fees will be made.

Ms. Koester is asking for approval to move forward with BS&A's services. Travel and training costs may vary slightly depending on actual training time.

Board Action:
Mr. Arends made a motion that the Clerk and Supervisor enter into a contract with BS&A Software for upgrades and annual fees as described in their proposal in an amount not to exceed $60k. Mr. Mielnik seconded the motion.

VOTE: YEAS: All. NAYES: None. Motion carried.

Zoning Ordinance Amendment Consolidation & Renumbering of Ordinances:
Covered earlier in the meeting under.

NEW BUSINESS:

Regular Board Meeting Dates for February and March 2025; revise day, date and time:
The Township Board discussed the prospect of adjusting the February and March, 2025, meeting dates and times. Board Members were polled for their availability and preferences. There have been some inquiries from the public whether the meetings could be held in the evening.

Proposed meeting dates were in the packet. Note: options were incorrectly listed as March 10 and 12 as well as April 10 and 12. The Board clarified the months being considered today for change are for February and March.

Board Action:

Ms. Hoeksema made a motion to schedule the Regular meetings of the Whitewater Township Board for February and March, 2025, changing to an evening time, on the following dates:

Monday, February 10, 2025, at 6:30 p.m.
Monday, March 10, 2025, at 6:30 p.m.

Mr. Mielnik seconded the motion.

VOTE: YEAS: All NAYES: None. Motion carried.

2025/2026 Budget – Arends:
Mr. Arends was asked by Supervisor Slopsema to spearhead budget preparation. He is working in this capacity as Deputy Supervisor, appointed by Whitewater Township Supervisor Slopsema. A ~~copy~~ memo of the proposed 2025/2026 Whitewater Township Budget was in the meeting packet for Board review.

Mr. Arends reported the Township's fiscal year starts April 1. The budget must be adopted by March 31, 2025. He has developed a more user-friendly format. The framework is complete and he is collaborating with department heads on specific information. He will be presenting data for current year, year-to-date, and projections with recommendations. Prior to approval, a Public Hearing will need to be scheduled.

Tax Assessments Go Out Mid-February – insert Township Update:
This notice is for informational purposes. Tax Assessments will go out mid-February.

The Township newsletter will be forthcoming at that time as well.

TABLED ITEMS: None.

BOARD COMMENTS/DISCUSSION:
Mr. Arends commented a Policy & Procedures document is being prepared by Deputy Clerk Hoeksema based on existing copies in order to better organize and consolidate this information.

Treasurer Koester referenced the Clerk and Treasurer reports in the packet and whether the Board needs to go over them now or at the next meeting. In consideration of time today, it was inferred Board Members would review those reports themselves. The reports were acknowledged under the Consent Calendar, which was accepted via motion.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:
The next Regular Township Board Meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 10, 2025, at 6:30 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Township Public Comments:

Mr. Roland Oosterhouse, 7450 River Road Park, Nashville, TN 37209 and 7185 Skegemog Point Road, Williamsburg, MI 49690:
Mr. Oosterhouse stated he appreciates efforts of the Board. He has owned 30-acres off Lossie Road/Lossie Trail since the 1970's and started a walnut farm there in the 1980's. The property was transferred from the County to the Township in 1992.

Mr. Oosterhouse referenced a letter from Attorney Patterson to former Supervisor Popp in 2020. At that time, the Board agreed to post No Motorized Vehicles Allowed signage due to damages from vehicles. There was Board consensus to allow property owners adjacent to the property to drive on the road. Mr. Popp later told Mr. Oosterhouse no one is allowed to drive on that road and he would verify the transfer of property. After one year, he had not heard back from Mr. Popp. Mr. Oosterhouse has appeared at multiple Township meetings.

Former Township Zoning Administrator Robert Hall walked the property with Mr. Oosterhouse's son and stated there is no access to the property other than Lossie Trail because it is swampland. Mr. Oosterhouse acquired a permit to construct a building to store farm equipment. In 2023, he received a letter from the Township Attorney that a permit to build does not give authorization to drive on the trail. Mr. Oosterhouse cited a case in the Upper Peninsula regarding use of an existing, 15-year old easement.

Adjacent property owners do not have full access to their property. They have maintained the property. He needs access to maintain and harvest his walnut crop. He is asking the Board to allow signage stating "Property owners may use motorized vehicles. All others are prohibited." He believes this problem can be easily solved.

There was Board discussion with Mr. Oosterhouse regarding equipment and vehicles he needs to use to manage the farm and to clarify the location of his property.

Clerk Hoeksema responded the Board will review his documentation and put him on the next meeting Agenda. As Mr. Oosterhouse resides in Nashville, he can join the meeting via Zoom.

Fire Chief Josh Morgan, 6130 Cook Road, Williamsburg, MI 49690
Chief Morgan announced the Fire Department is accepting donations of beds, dressers, nightstands, etc., for build out of bedroom search and rescue space. He will also post this on Facebook.

Zoom Public Comments:

Township Supervisor Linda Slopsema, Via Zoom
Supervisor Slopsema will send out a note with the meeting change information and post it to the website. She apologized for some of the gaps in the meeting packet for this month. She is still learning the process for utilizing Adobe Pro.

Ms. Heidi Vollmuth, 8388 (Inaudible) Lane, Williamsburg, MI:
Ms. Vollmuth quoted a private citizen is sleeping; a concerned citizen sleeps with one eye open. She believes there is more wheel traffic than foot traffic on Lossie Trail. She spoke of concerns with the use of certain verbiage; i.e., shall/may, any/all. The right decisions can be made by Ordinance enforceability, doing the homework and fixing mistakes for a better decision for all.

Regarding evening meetings, there used to be two different meetings; for business and for the people. Concerning issues, it only takes one person. An unhappy customer in the audience should make the Board uncomfortable at the table until they compromise or come to a decision.

Ms. Vicki Beam, (no address provided), Via Zoom:
Ms. Beam is a Baggs Road resident. She stated during the last PC meeting, Mr. Carl Wroubel admitted the 4:1 depth to wide ratio does in fact apply to all parcels in Whitewater Township regardless of size. This has been very confusing for the PC and ZBA regarding Baggs Road and the parcel in question. It is over 10 acres and is almost a 6:1 ratio.

She encouraged the Board to consider whether the Township Attorney is the proper legal representation for Whitewater Township. The attorney should have given proper guidance. She is paying with tax dollars for an attorney she doesn't believe is helping the Township as well as paying for attorneys on the other side to ensure the Township is adhering to the Ordinance that has been put in place.

It was noted that Ms. Beam's internet froze during periods of her comment via Zoom.

ADJOURNMENT:

Board Action:
Ms. Hoeksema made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Arends seconded the motion.

VOTE: YEAS: All. NAYES: None. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:06 a.m.

Presented by: Kay Z. Held, Recording Secretary