

Rutland Charter Township

Regular Board Meeting

February 14, 2024 / 7PM

Meeting called to order by Supervisor Watson at 7pm. Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call - Members Present:

Sandy James, Sandy Greenfield, Larry Watson, Robin Hawthorne, Brenda Bellmore

Members Excused Absence:

Gene Hall, Doug Lectka

Others Present:

Bob Teunessen, Jane Cybulski, Pat Sharpe, Mark Jordan, Nickie Haight

Approval of Agenda:

Motion by Greenfield, seconded by James to accept the February 14, 2024 agenda. All ayes. Motion passes.

Guests:

Jane Cybulski is the RCT Library Board Representative. She gives an update and has provided the board with her report.

Open Comments:

Pat Sharpe thanks the board for the 2 ALCA items on the agenda.

Consent Agenda:

Motion by Hawthorne to accept the consent agenda, seconded by Greenfield. All ayes. Motion passes.

Supervisor:

Watson would like to appoint Marty Hawthorne as an alternate Board of Review member.

Motion by Greenfield, seconded by James to appoint Marty Hawthorne as an alternate board of review member. Roll Call Vote: James - Yes, Greenfield - Yes, Watson - Yes, Hawthorne - Yes, Bellmore - Yes. Motion passes.

Clerk:

Hawthorne says her vouchers and payroll report is in the board member's packets. She has also provided the board with the Revenue Sharing Projections for 2024. She shares that early voting starts February 17, lasts for 9 days, and will be open 9am-5pm. The regular election is February 27th from 7am-8pm and is the Presidential Primary.

Treasurer:

Greenfield has provided the board with her treasury report and says she has had a lot of tax payments coming in.

Trustees:

Bellmore asks about the dispensary escrow. Hawthorne says she had to send them a bill because they exceeded their escrow but she has not heard back from them yet about possible opening timeframes.

James says she is unhappy that Tires 'N Such is still such a mess. Watson says they have done what can be done to clean it up. Rick Argo has been working with them for a long time trying to improve the situation. Watson shares that Attorney Rolfe said they are allowed to have 1500 tires and the only thing they can do is require them to get rid of unlicensed vehicles. James says she and other board members have complained many times in the past and have never been told that Tires 'N Such is in compliance. Hawthorne says they should have a Special Use Permit but they do not. She says that RCT does not allow outside sales but they do not put for sales signs on the items so RCT cannot prove they are selling them. Watson says the old sign finally got replaced and Argo is working on the tires.

Commissioners Report:

Bob Teunessen says that the commissioners met recently for the first time in a while. He wants to clear up some misconceptions that he has been hearing from the public about the 911 Millage. He says people think their taxes are going to increase way more than they actually will if the renewal is approved. He says they will only bring in \$162,000 for the whole county from this renewal.

Hawthorne and Greenfield ask Teunessen if he has read the actual ballot language because it says property taxes will increase by \$50 for every \$50,000. Hawthorne says it is not a misconception if it is true and according to the ballot language, it is. All the board members are concerned because legally whatever is on the ballot is facts. Teunessen says that is not the language that was approved by the commissioners.

Board members and the public in attendance all agree this millage will not pass as it is written. They also discuss that it is too late to change it since the ballots are already printed. Watson asks who is in charge of the ballot language and Teunessen says he will do some digging to find out what happened. The board says it is a shame to waste so much money on an election.

Sharpe asks how long until the existing 911 millage expires, but no one is sure. The new millage will be a 5-year millage.

Unfinished Business:

Second reading of Ordinance 2024-191 Zoning Map Amendment and Text change to the MUD District

No discussion. Motion by James, seconded by Hawthorne to accept Ordinance #2024-191 for second reading and adoption. Roll Call Vote: James - Yes, Greenfield - Yes, Watson - Yes, Hawthorne - Yes, Bellmore - Yes. Motion passes.

New Business:

Algonquin Lake Weed Control prepayment

No discussion. Motion by Greenfield, seconded by Bellmore to approve the pre-payment to PLM for an early pay discount for weed control on Algonquin Lake. Roll Call Vote: James - Yes, Greenfield - Yes, Watson - Yes, Hawthorne - Yes, Bellmore - Yes. Motion passes.

Hold Harmless agreement Algonquin Lake Fireworks

Pat Sherpe verifies that nothing has changed since last year. Motion by Bellmore, seconded by James to approve the hold harmless agreement for the fireworks permit for Algonquin Lake on July 3, 2024. Roll Call Vote: James - Yes, Greenfield - Yes, Watson - Yes, Hawthorne - Yes, Bellmore - Yes. Motion passes.

Hold Harmless agreement for PPI Fireworks

No discussion. Motion by Greenfield, seconded by Bellmore to approve the hold harmless agreement for the PPI Fireworks tent located by Walmart. All ayes. Motion passes.

WOW Internet WIFI Proposal

Hawthorne shares that she spoke with Bryant from WOW and they have made 2 proposals for the board to consider. Both options can be paid for out of the ARPA funds which the board designated to bring more broadband coverage to RCT. Both proposals will be free installation to the house. The only difference is the second proposal covers an additional 71 homes than the first proposal does. Hawthorne says Bryant thinks he can get more areas approved for future phases and there will still be ARPA funds left.

Motion by James, seconded by Greenfield, to accept the second proposal from WOW to extend WIFI into more areas of RCT. Roll Call Vote: James - Yes, Greenfield - Yes, Watson - Yes, Hawthorne - Yes, Bellmore - Yes. Motion passes.

Open Comments: None

Adjournment:

Motion by James, seconded by Greenfield to adjourn at 7:40pm, all ayes. Meeting adjourned.

Submitted by Nickie Haight, Recording Secretary