

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF WHITE LAKE

Approved Minutes of the Board of Trustees Special Meeting

November 21, 2017

Supervisor Kowall called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

The Boy Scouts led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Clerk Lilley called the roll:

Present: Rik Kowall, Supervisor
Terry Lilley, Clerk
Mike Roman, Treasurer
Mike Powell, Trustee
Scott Ruggles Trustee
Liz Smith, Trustee
Andrea Voorheis, Trustee

Also Present: Lisa Hamameh, Township Attorney
Amy Bertin, Recording Secretary

Clerk Lilley amended the Agenda as follows: Add Item 6A, Updated List of Bills dated 11-21-17. Move Items 7A & B, Presentations, to follow Item 4, Approval of Agenda. Change Item 14, FYI-Water Dept. to Item 7C.

It was MOVED by Clerk Lilley, SUPPORTED by Trustee Ruggles to approve the Agenda as amended. The MOTION PASSED by a voice vote (7 yes votes).

PRESENTATIONS

A. SWEAR IN NEW OFFICER, MICHAEL PENCE

Chief Keller introduced Officer Michael Pence who was then sworn in by Clerk Lilley. He is a longtime resident of White Lake Township. He graduated Ferris State Univ. where he received a bachelor's in criminal justice. He worked in the city of Mason as a traffic officer and union president.

B. SWEAR IN NEW OFFICER, MATHEW KAS-MIKHA

Chief Keller introduced Officer Mathew Kas-Mikha who was then sworn in by Clerk Lilley. He attended Delta College in Saginaw, Michigan as well as Ferris State University obtaining a degree in criminal justice. He previously worked for the Saginaw Co. Sheriff's Dept. part-time, then being hired full-time by the Bridgeport Police Dept. in 2015.

Tony Kas-Mikha. Officers are heroes who risk their life each day. They should be free to protect you, me and our family from harm. He is very thankful for his family and faith. He is

blessed and proud of his grandson. He is one of the heroes that protect the innocent and shield others from danger. May God bless you and guide your way, keep you safe and keep the officers safe.

C. FYI - WATER DEPARTMENT WILL BE CONDUCTING LEAD AND COPPER MONITORING OF DRINKING WATER SYSTEM

Aaron Potter, Water Dept. Director. Tonight the White Lake Township Water Dept. is asking for some public participation in a lead and copper monitoring program. The Water Plant has been operating on and off since July. Part of the requirement of the permit to operate the Water Plant is increased monitoring of lead and copper in the area the plant serves. We are looking for participants in the areas south of Elizabeth Lk. Rd., east of Union Lk. Rd. and west of Williams Lk. Rd. We call that District 1 and 2 with roughly 1270 homes the water plant serves. If you are interested in participating, please fill out the online form on the Water Dept. Homepage of the Township's web site or stop into the office.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Gilbert Herman. Part of the reason he moved here approximately five years ago was the beautiful forests and lovely land around here. It seems as if there is an awful lot of building going on. Are we going to have any forest left at the end of this building spree?

Thomas Johnson. There is a situation at Kingston and Pontiac Lk. Rd. There is a tree down on cable and phone wires for over a month. He has contacted the Road Commission who stated it is not part of their jurisdiction. Edison says it's not theirs either. This tree could eventually knock out landline phone systems and internet. Somebody needs to take care of it.

Randall Knox. He has lived here since he was born. He's never seen the Township go through these kind of phases. The Planning Commissioners are gleefully approving everything for tax dollars. The Township right now is in a build, tax, spend mode. He would like some sanity to come back into this Township.

Dan Garber, 8380 Jamestown. The traffic on Williams Lake Rd. is so busy you take your life in your hands. With the continued development, it is extremely dangerous. Also, he is in a relatively new subdivision and he has been without power for the third or fourth time. Something is wrong with the substation. Can someone please investigate what is going on with Edison?

John Hunt, 871 Oxhill Dr. He is the neighbor of the largest importer of human waste in the state. When the winds blow from the west he has to close the windows and go in his house. This has been going on for years. White Lake Twp. should not be the largest importer of human waste in the state of Michigan.

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. LIST OF BILLS**
- B. REVENUE AND EXPENSE**
- C. CHECK DISBURSEMENT**
- D. BUDGET AMENDMENT**
- E. SPECIAL ASSESSMENT ON TAX ROLL FOR 2017**
- F. DEPARTMENT REPORTS**
 - 1. POLICE**
 - 2. FIRE**
 - 3. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**
 - 4. TREASURER'S REPORT**

It was **MOVED** by Clerk Lilley, **SUPPORTED** by Trustee Powell, to approve the Consent Agenda as amended, moving an attachment to the List of Bills discussing a deficiency in the amount of money owed by the Library to after Trustee Comments. The **MOTION PASSED** by a voice vote (7 yes votes).

MINUTES

A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - REGULAR BOARD MEETING, OCTOBER 17, 2017

Trustee Powell noted a correction to the Minutes on page 3, second paragraph from the bottom. Change "MDOC" to 'MDOT". Page 7, third paragraph, second line, remove "is" from the sentence. Page 10, third paragraph, second sentence, it should be sanitary sewer, not water main.

Supervisor Kowall also had a couple corrections. Page 4, top line, the sentence should read, "This gives the township a blanket permit where all they have to notify", insert the word "DOT" . Page 4, third line down change "Billing Dept." to "Building Dept."

It was **MOVED** by Trustee Powell, **SUPPORTED** by Treasurer Roman to approve the Minutes of October 17, 2017 as corrected. The **MOTION PASSED** by a voice vote (7 yes votes).

PUBLIC HEARING

A. PUBLIC HEARING FOR 2018 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT FUNDS

It was **MOVED** by Supervisor Kowall, **SUPPORTED** by Clerk Lilley to Open Public Hearing for the 2018 Community Development Block Grant Funds. The **MOTION PASSED** by a roll call vote (Powell-yes/Ruggles-yes/Voorheis-yes/Smith-yes/Roman-yes/Lilley-yes/Kowall-yes).

Susan Whalen, 9600 Round Lk. Blvd. When you consider the block grant, what about non-motorized pathways that would help senior citizens, families and children. Traffic is impossible. Kids have to walk on the shoulders of the road. It is a critical issue to make it more affordable to get out and do things. We would bring business to our community by getting people there safely, giving them an alternative to driving.

Pamela Barckholtz, 5555 Grass Lk. Rd. She has the privilege of serving the disabled in this Township. It is abysmal to have to help them deal with getting places. The bus schedule is not conducive to keeping appointment times. These funds may be an opportunity for us to provide something more for our disabled citizens.

It was MOVED by Supervisor Kowall, SUPPORTED by Trustee Powell to Close Public Hearing on the 2018 Community Development Block Grant Funds. The MOTION PASSED by a roll call vote (Smith-yes/Powell-yes/Voorheis-yes/Ruggles-yes/Roman-yes/Lilley-yes/Kowall-yes).

RESOLUTIONS

A. RESOLUTION #17-041, APPROVING THE 2018 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT APPLICATION

Trustee Powell questioned whether modifying the use of the CDBG funds for pathways and enhanced bus service for the disabled could be looked into.

It was MOVED by Trustee Ruggles, SUPPORTED by Trustee Voorheis to approve Resolution #17-041, 2018 Community Development Block Grant Funds. The MOTION PASSED by a voice vote (7 yes votes).

B. RESOLUTION #17-042, LIBRARY BOND

Trustee Powell. He thanked everyone for attending the meeting tonight and appreciates the opportunity to hear their input. He apologized to Library Director, Larry Ostrowski, and his family. In the recorded message it was misrepresented that Mr. Ostrowski had not been to a library meeting since June. That was wrong as he did attend the closed session meetings. Larry has always done an excellent job representing the library. In August 2016 there was a vote of the people for authorization to borrow up to \$8.6 million to build a new township library. It passed by three votes. The unfortunate issue is 18,000 voters did not vote. The Library Board took that victory as a mandate to propose spending every penny of the \$8.6 million, purchasing property and designing a building three times the size of their current one. In May of this year, Supervisor Kowall in a joint meeting of the Library and Township Boards presented a plan to share a building in an attempt to save taxpayers money. The Library Board rejected that plan.

In a last attempt to work together with the Library Board for the taxpayers he requested a meeting with the library building committee and their architect. We discussed the possibility of cost sharing by sharing the building but again they refused, stating the building had already been designed and they wanted their own parcel. He presented three different schematics showing where the library currently plans to place their single building, a campus setting with two buildings, and a single joint building which would save the taxpayers approximately \$2 million. The question is whether their 30,000 sq. ft. building is sustainable with their current

operating costs. They are proposing to operate a building three times larger than the existing one with the same staff and no proposed increase for books or programming. The new Commerce Twp. Hall is a 30,000 sq. ft. building which has a current operating budget of \$250,000 more than the proposed budget of the Library Board. It does not appear that they will be able to operate without requesting more money after building.

The Board is being asked tonight to approve what the voters authorized up to \$8.6 million for a very large building. If we approve the bond sale the people of White Lake Twp. owning a \$300,000 home will be paying \$243 a year for 20 yrs. for this new building. He personally doesn't understand why the Library Board is unwilling to share a building with the Township in order to save the residents money. If the economy fails, everyone's taxes will have to go up. His recommendation to his fellow board members is to approve a bond sale of \$6.5 million instead of the \$8.6 requested which will hopefully make the Library Board rethink some of their decisions.

Ron Binge, 8750 Sierra Court. He is having a hard time understanding why we need a new library. There aren't many children in his neighborhood. There aren't many people using the current library. We need to reconsider this whole project.

Milissa Schmantowsky, 6120 Brendel. Mr. Powell in an August meeting referenced a study which supposedly showed a reduction in the need for book space in libraries. This was not a study but an anecdotal article. A man of integrity would have made a public announcement about their error and he did not. Mr. Powell's recent robocall was misleading, confusing and frustrating. The only purpose being to create a sense of distrust of the Library Board and their actions and to muddy the waters between the library building and civic center, which are two completely different issues.

Doug Sordyl, 3234 Waldon Cove. He appreciated the robocall. He and his wife read many books but they are gotten from the Farmington Hills and Commerce Libraries. He voted against the library because there are more important priorities such as Police, Fire or Township Offices. The concept to combine the facilities is reasonable and rational. By what authority does the Library Board have to financially encumber White Lake Twp. and its residents and who is financially responsible for its commitments?

Janice Brines, 10375 Cedar Island Rd. The library won by three votes. This is a democracy. Everyone had the option to vote. She was shocked that along with the library you are talking about a civic center for which you spent \$45,000 and no one here voted for that.

Gilbert Herman. He has a concern that there isn't sufficient money to build the library properly. What our children need is an opportunity to have access to books, computers, meeting rooms, access to the web, the basics of a good education. We do need a library but it needs to be cost effective, efficient and meet their budgets.

Beverly Orndorf, 1270 Lake Jason Dr. We had an election. This is not a dictatorship. She expects the Boards to work together and get this done. The remarks made about the Library Director were appalling as he is going through tough health problems.

Richard McGlew, 1172 Lake Jason Dr. He appreciates the concern, efforts and passion shown by this Board for our Township. Each has demonstrated they care deeply about our community and our future. The Library Bond Resolution is well written to fund the building of the library while assuring you and the taxpayers that the building planned can be built within budget. He would encourage each Trustee to vote in support of the Resolution.

Margaret Ostrowski, 7760 Biscayne Ave. She first completed the comments of Milissa Schmantowsky. What has upset her about Mr. Powell was his outright lie that Larry Ostrowski, Library Director, has not been present at any meetings since June. Larry is a man of integrity and honesty who has done much for this community because he cares. Her own comments are as follows. Larry has worked tirelessly to build a relationship between the Township and Library Boards. It would not be fiscally responsible in the future to share a parking lot as it isn't right now. It is in terrible shape and many people have fallen. She acknowledged the support of Township Trustees Smith and Voorheis for the library.

Ercil Skaglin, 7064 Biscayne. He voted against the library but it passed. He didn't vote for a complex there for the City Hall. Can they not move into the existing library and use those facilities?

Michael Skaglin, 6803 Ellenwood. The vote passed. He and his wife use the library often. He doesn't understand why it has taken this long to get to this point. If they want new township offices for everyone, have another vote and don't tie the two things together.

Doug Hanks, 10115 Joanna K. There is a recording of a White Lake Board Meeting on April 5, 2016. Pull it up and listen to it. Clerk Lilley stated the library wants to do its own thing which is their right. If you listen to this recording you will see that the library has been conspired against from the very start.

Mary Earley, 5925 Pine Ridge Ct. In the August primary of 2016 the voters of White Lake made two brave decisions. First, to send all the current board members to the November general election. Second, those same smart, informed voters agreed to increase our tax burden to pay for a new library. She trusts this intelligent, well-read and well-informed Board will approve the Resolution.

Thomas Beuchel, 7320 Biscayne. He thanked Trustee Powell for his diligence in this matter. It was necessary and his suggestions hold some merit. It is more important that this Board has a fiduciary responsibility to this Township to manage its dollars. He would urge the Board to reduce the bond or vote it down.

Rhonda Hoffman, 560 Burgess. She moved from a community which had an enormous, beautiful library. When the new library was up for vote she was thrilled. She is supporting the community with this vote. We need a new library. This needs to be a place of learning and personal growth.

Joe Fennell, 6040 N. Bryan. He is a Library Board Trustee. The Township study regarding the civic center has confirmed that we should have a standalone library. The right thing for the Township Board to do is to approve the proposal to issue the bonds to pay for it. As the first piece of a civic center development the library will serve as a catalyst for retail and commercial businesses in that location.

Alan Roman, 1150 Porter Rd. First, thanks to the Board of Trustees for supporting and representing the huge majority of voters and residents of White Lake Twp. who did not vote yes. We appreciate your efforts on our behalf.

Glenn Rossow, 7536 Cooley Lk. Rd. Based on the Board's comments at the last meeting, he thanked them in advance for passing the Resolution tonight and authorizing the sale of the bonds. He would like to move forward and hopes the two Boards can demonstrate to the community that while we are separate and autonomous we can work together for the benefit of everyone. To concerned citizens of White Lake Twp., the library did approach the Township before starting this process; putting the library's request for a bond on the ballot was a unanimous vote; all registered voters can vote in all elections; the number of votes 'for' exceeded those who were 'against'; the library purchased the land after the environmental study, after a land use discussion with the Planning Dept. and after the residents voted to pass the proposal. There's been a lot of discussion that the two Boards haven't gotten along. The library did participate in the civic center study in which their final drawings show that this library would be a standalone building. The library is being built as, where and when it was described in the proposal.

Gerry Herrington, 2240 Wiggen Ln. She is upset about the letter that recently went out as it contained a lot of untruths such as the land was purchased before the vote. The transaction was not complete until March of this year. An increase in residents will increase our tax base. This library can be a centerpiece for the future development of the civic center. The library is not just for books, it is a hub of the community.

Theresa Johns, 9105 Steepollow Dr. She thanked Mr. Powell for the robocall. If we are to support the library we need to make sure it can sustain itself. If you do the research you will note their budget is to sustain a 9700 sq. ft. building and they are proposing to operate the new building on that same budget. We are paying \$8.6 million for a bigger building. Only 20% of that money is for books and videos. This library is currently running on three millages, with the bond proposal being a fourth. It is guaranteed they will be coming back for a fifth.

David Glixby, 1775 Porter Rd. He loves the library, going two times a month. We don't need another library. We've got them all around us. There is a disconnect between the financial arrangements and our commitments for 20/30 years to pay for it. Books are on the way out with the advent of the internet. We are putting our money into something that is going to be irrelevant 20 yrs. from now.

Shelley Kirchner, 547 Deer Run. She did vote yes for the library. She is concerned about the quality of the community. However, it is a bad decision to enter into something when you don't know how you are going to meet the budget for the 30,000 sq. ft. building. It is wrong to enter into something and figure out how to pay for it later.

Steve Atkins, 3975 McKeachie. He thanked Mr. Powell for educating him on the library. Who actually supports the library, the taxpayer or the library?

John Hunt. He's lived here 65 ½ years. He is retired. He can't afford it. He doesn't get \$8 million.

Mark Creswell, 9516 Round Lk. Blvd. He appreciates any comments, emails or robo calls that got some of the folks here to rationalize some things. He isn't opposed to a library. He is opposed to the gross negligence in the due diligence of this building. If this level of incompetence continues, what will come of the budget for the library?

Burry Feixer, 8990 Huron Bluffs. He is totally confused. The vote is done. You don't have the right of veto. The idea of a multi purpose building is great but where were you when the millage for the library was passed. With more space there is opportunity for more programming. Let's move forward.

Sharon Keranen, 9393 Steephollow Dr. She voted for the library. She wants a library but there are concerns. The land was purchased before the bond money was disbursed. They've already asked the Township for \$220,000 for water main line. They can't make their payroll. The contingency fee allotted is 7%. That is not enough. They are going to run out of money. She is looking to the Township Board to do its due diligence on behalf of the citizens.

Clerk Lilley. In August of 2016 residents of our community passed an 8.6 million dollar millage. It doesn't matter that it was a primary with 23.19% of the registered voters participating in the election. What does matter is residents should not take any election lightly. Primary and General elections have an enormous impact on our community. And as we have just experienced, every vote does matter.

The Library Board without question utilized library operating funds to purchase property without consideration of its employees needs and other general operational issues, when in fact by working together (the Township Board and Library Board) the property may have been

purchased with Township Board reserved funds or down payment and purchased upon receipt of bond funds (contingency). One or the other was a viable option, most likely the first. There is no reliable documentation that specifically indicates bond funds would be received in July of 2017 as the Library President claims.

For months the Library Board continued to convince its supporters we want the money, we are ready to start construction, ready to move forward. Little was talked about with the Township Board about the requirements of the White Lake Township regarding Policy & Procedures regarding site plan issues and approvals including bids based on actual plan approvals instead of relying on estimates, to obtain bond funding as the Library Board was requesting.

The conversations taking place in the last several months are an example of the readiness of the library to move forward. You promised to everyone a 30,000 sq. ft. library. Now maybe a 28,000 sq. ft. facility. The Oakland County Road Commission right of way issue- now move the building back away from right of way. Then the issue of the looping of water lines- now you want the Township Board to pay for part. We have not yet been noticed on approval of just a preliminary site plan. Until final plan approval and needs of other governmental agencies approvals have been met, will we know all the costs and issues related to this project? Hopefully all these issues have been addressed in the bond resolution that will need to be agreed upon by both the Library and Township Boards and passed as soon as possible to proceed to actual sale of bonds.

The last item that comes to mind is the Library voting to not pay the Township for salaries and benefits. No Township Board discussion. (Maybe there should have been discussion before the vote occurred.) This to me was total irresponsibility of the Library Board and misuse of its responsibility to its employees and former agreement with Township Board for library to operate as their own entity.

Their voting to grant salary increases to its employees, again dumping the responsibility to pay on the Township Board all-knowing bond funds are now projected by March 1st 2018.

My personal views as a member of the Township Board:

For months, we heard we want the money, we want the money. With total disregard for Township policies and procedures and any other obligation regarding funding of the bonds themselves. I believe we now have agreed on a schedule for moving forward, example is bond resolution with requirements needed to achieve actual bond sale.

I am frustrated to think the Library Board and particularly its President finds it acceptable to dump on the Township Board the responsibilities to fund salaries and benefits and give raises to its employees. That has been the responsibilities of the Library Board (autonomous library board as you call it, to meet your needs and responsibilities), not the Township Board. And yes our

funds are taxpayer funds but not your tax payer funds allocated to the library. Is this going to be the same way after construction when library operating costs are more than you are currently planning? I believe the Library has indicated operating expenses for the new library 30,000 sq. ft. should be the same as current library. I don't believe it for a minute. Or should the Township Board rescind the Library Board's authority that it originally gave and resume responsibility for continued operations, if this were to occur? The library remains a needed Township facility for White Lake Township and its residents.

I regret the continued bashing from both sides of this issue. I am a public servant, not a vindictive one. I'm not here to take out my frustrations on the same residents and taxpayers I was elected to represent and serve.

We need a new library just like we need new facilities for fire, police, senior center and a new Township Hall. I'm disappointed that we are not able to serve our residents in the same facilities, however being separate is not that unusual but truly disappointing.

For years we have planned for enough property for all our facilities and I would have been willing to purchase property for the library anyway. So reimbursing them for the property was not an issue for me. I believe that the funds are taxpayers' funds anyway you look at this situation however both Boards are responsibility for their own funding. We, the Township Board could accept future funding for land reimbursement at a later date or have waited for this bond issue as well. By the Township picking up the current land cost it would have allowed the library to replenish their operating funds the land is owned by the Township residents anyway and the Township can be paid in full immediately. I am saddened that this issue has caused a dark cloud over the hard work the Library Board and in particular of the Township Board. I have been here for the last 18 years having part of being fiscally responsible to our citizens and our employees and while at the same time I have not had even a slight increase in general operation millages. Unfortunately, the library is seeming more concerned about the ownership of the library future building than cooperation. The taxpayers own both buildings and those funds approved by our citizens should be used according to their wishes, not mine. As Clerk, builder and friend I truly believe that a joint effort could have brought about cost savings for all of us. But this bickering is not worth it for any cost. Let's resolve the current problems of cost flow and let's move forward for this great community!

(Whereupon a recess was taken from 9:53 p.m. to 10:05 p.m.)

Michelle Spencer, 8200 Carpathian Dr. She is for the library but she does have some concerns. To buy property without getting the proper approvals is not a sensible choice. Then to take operating costs to pay for the property without knowing the building will be approved is very questionable. There are many registered voters who know nothing about the library and the Township Board has a responsibility to all the residents. The millage said up to \$8.6 million but

we don't have to spend every cent of it. A 7% contingency fee is not enough to meet your budget.

Dennis Fiems, 9095 Satellite. Just as progress was being made to secure the bonds to build the library approved by the citizens of White Lake, Trustee Powell has attempted to divide us again. He sent out a robocall filled with untruths and alarm. What is on the agenda tonight is a resolution on the library bond which was approved by the voters. As for his call for "providing direction for the spending of over \$8 million" the people in their wisdom have already provided for that. Finally, Mr. Powell falsely and gratuitously attacked a person who is quite ill and not in a position to defend himself.

Karen Brikholz, 7719 Biscayne. Over the last eight months there have been many meetings, discussions and opportunities for public input regarding the library bond. The library and township representatives have been meeting regularly to work on the bond Resolution language and schedules. Please pass the Resolution.

Henry Storm, 10087 Lakeside Dr. Thank you for your diligence on the library issue. His problem is the animosity between the Boards. The election was decided by three votes. His fear is we'll have a beautiful facility for \$8.6 million that is going to be vacant.

Cheryl Herrmann. This is a voter rights issue. Mr. Lilley spoke about being a public servant and that is the role of this board. A servant leader is a servant first, not a leader first. You have a responsibility to ensure you listen to the people that you serve.

Ted Fryxell, 30 Oxbow Lake. He and his wife did vote for the library, not a community center or township hall or police station. If you don't think the library community has done their due diligence, vote down the bond and wait. If they did, then vote for it.

Dan Garber, 8380 Jamestown Dr. This is about due diligence. Operating costs far exceed the initial cost of the facility. He's been in the library and he hasn't seen many people in there. What are the real needs? Technology is taking over. Let's be responsible, take a look at what we really need, and do it wisely so we can pay for it moving forward.

Ed Wenz. His vote would be to make sure the Board doesn't approve the bond. He is embarrassed by the building for the Township Offices, the Police Dept. and Fire Dept. and you're going to tell him we are going to have an awesome library? We don't need to blow money. He would be for building a joint complex.

Frank Nagler, 6033 Rosewood Pkwy. He appreciates this Board and the Library Board. No one who has ever been to the library would say the staff there isn't dedicated. It makes sense to do this together. We do need to upgrade all the facilities. We need to get along.

Christina Marble, 5550 Old Flint Rd. It is un American to suggest that we circumvent this vote. It is insulting to say the library made these decisions by itself. The lawyer of the Township wrote the bond language. We are worried about people with \$300,000 houses paying an extra \$250 a year. That is groceries. There are the haves and have-nots in this community. There are many days the library is full. This does need to be voted on and passed.

Thomas Johnson, 9136 Buckingham. The only thing that is constant is change. The \$8.6 million is for the building and the equipment inside it. How are they going to run a 30,000 sq. ft. building on the same budget they have now? Technology is going to overrun us so we need to take a look at the library and how much we want to put into it.

George Navarrette, 8445 Pontiac Lk. Rd. This is not a democracy, this is a republic. A republic is a form of government where we the people elect representatives to help make decisions. The Township Board has the financial responsibility. Appoint a fiduciary to be sure the money is spent and budgeted properly.

Chris Navarre, 8601 Jamestown Dr. He didn't vote for the library initially but it got passed. What he is hearing is, we got ours, now you get yours. You are both a bit disingenuous on how you are going about things. For the sake of the taxpayer let's get this done and done right. Let's be smart.

Karen Borgeson, 8648 Rosario Ct. I want to plant a seed in Mike Powell's head. Could you make a robocall out to everybody that you made one to on Friday apologizing to the Library Director.

Elyse Schepansky, 3612 Jackson Blvd. There are some serious issues between the Boards. She expects the Township Board to deny the bond. The world is all about compromise and one needs to be made between the Library Board and this Board. If anybody needs a building in this Township, it is the Police and Fire Dept.

Jean Philippe Loew, 247 Rosario Ln. Last year he couldn't vote but he is now an American citizen. Anyone who hasn't voted, remember that for the next election and come. In France during elections we get 50% to 80% participation. His family uses the library. We need to compromise. Maybe make a smaller library. We need to be realistic and look at how much it is going to cost.

Larry Cadotte, 8344 Fox Bay Dr. The library itself, 30,000 sq. ft., is too big. They should downsize it. A library is a good thing to have. You guys need a civic center, you need more room. Let's get together and work together.

Trustee Voorheis. Yes, she does support the library but we also need to do what is best for our taxpayers. We need to compromise.

Trustee Smith. Thank you to everyone who attended the meeting tonight. She has supported and will represent the voice of the people. The Resolution before the Township Board tonight is to follow through on the request of the people who made their wishes known in an honest election back on August 2, 2016 which required the township to begin the process to sell the bond, collect the millage and allow the library to move forward with the building of the library as proposed within the contents of the ballot language. I will support that action as I truly believe it is in the best interest of our Township. I respect the vote of the people and the integrity of the election process.

Trustee Powell. Without checks and balances this government doesn't function. Our job is to be that check and balance for every department and every board in the Township. It is not too late for the Township to pay for a basement underneath the library. We have the funds to be able to do that. The voters did approve a ballot up to \$8.6 million. Any change in the amount is still solidifying the vote of the people.

Trustee Ruggles. Regardless of his personal feelings, the library did pass and that is the will of the people. We are going to have a library. There are pros and cons to both sides. Taxes are going up. The discussion about the finances of operating the building are very real. We aren't here to get along with each other but to question each other. From this point on we can move forward and embrace the process. He will support the bond.

Treasurer Roman. He thanked everyone for coming tonight. What is great about White Lake is that no matter what your position, you can stand up and be heard. Most people, whether it be combined or separate, support the library. He had hoped to do a combined facility but he respects the decision the Library Board made. He will support the Resolution. In regard to their operating costs, they do plan to continue making payments in January as the millage money comes in.

Supervisor Kowall. He made a proposal back in May to the Library Board which was a concept idea to build a building which would house all the community offices, the kind of building that would last as long as the building we are in now. To fix up the building we are in now, without adding one square foot, would be in excess of \$1.7 million. A functional study has been done to see how each one of our governmental, commercial, residential and other developments could coexist in the future. It was done to provide long-term planning for the area. The library is autonomous. They aren't financially on the hook for these funds, we are. The door is still open from this Board to do a joint project. He would caution the Library to be prudent, cautious and be aware of the entire community as a whole. Although he is in favor of a new library, he is not in favor of this particular plan. It is with very guarded reservation he will support this Resolution.

It was MOVED by Clerk Lilley, SUPPORTED by Trustee Smith to approve Resolution #17-042,

Library Bond as written. The MOTION PASSED by a roll call vote (Voorheis=yes, with emphasis on compromise taking place between the Library & Township Boards/Smith=yes/Powell=no, as he is in favor of a library but not one that is more expensive than those in the surrounding communities/Ruggles=yes/Roman=yes/Lilley=yes/Kowall=yes, cautiously and optimistically for the good of the Township.)

C. RESOLUTION #17-043, CHARITABLE GAMING LICENSE

It was MOVED by Clerk Lilley, SUPPORTED by Supervisor Kowall to approve Resolution #17-043, Charitable Gaming License. The MOTION PASSED by a voice vote (7 yes votes).

NEW BUSINESS

A. LAKELAND ATHLETIC RECOGNITION SIGN PLACEMENT

It was MOVED by Clerk Lilley, SUPPORTED by Trustee Voorheis to allow the Supervisor to act on behalf of the Board in conjunction with the Planning Department on design and placement of signs in accordance with the White Lake Township Ordinance requirements and to extend an invitation to other school districts within the Township to participate. The MOTION PASSED by a voice vote (7 yes votes).

B. AGREEMENT FOR CEMETERY SEXTON SERVICES 2018-2020

It was MOVED by Clerk Lilley, SUPPORTED by Trustee Powell to approve the Agreement for Cemetery Sexton Services 2018-2020. The MOTION PASSED by a voice vote (7 yes votes).

C. FIRST READING, FEE ORDINANCE AMENDMENTS - ORDINANCE 129

It was MOVED by Treasurer Roman, SUPPORTED by Trustee Ruggles to move to Second Reading, Fee Ordinance Amendments - Ordinance 129 with final consideration to take place at the next regularly scheduled meeting. The MOTION PASSED by a voice vote (6 yes votes/1 no vote, Ruggles, as he is not in favor of increasing the fees for the cemetery).

D. FOIA APPEAL - BEDNARZ

It was MOVED by Clerk Lilley, SUPPORTED by Supervisor Kowall to Deny the FOIA Appeal - Bednarz. The MOTION PASSED by a voice vote (7 yes votes).

OLD BUSINESS

A. SECOND READING, AMENDMENT TO MINOR IN POSSESSION ORDINANCE

Atty. Hamameh requested that one change be made to the language within the Amendment.

On page 2, Article 3, under effective date. Because our Ordinance could be effective and published sooner than the effective date of the statute, add language, This Ordinance shall take effect "On January 1, 2018" following publication in the manner prescribed by law.

It was MOVED by Trustee Powell, SUPPORTED by Trustee Voorheis to approve moving adoption of Amendment to Minor in Possession Ordinance with the modification of adding "On January 1, 2018" as to the date the ordinance will take effect after publication. The MOTION PASSED by a voice vote (7 yes votes).

B. SECOND READING, AMENDMENT TO FIRE CODE ORDINANCE

It was MOVED by Treasurer Roman, SUPPORTED by Trustee Ruggles to approve moving adoption of Amendment to Fire Code Ordinance. The MOTION PASSED by a voice vote (7 yes votes).

C. STATUS OF CIVIC CENTER CONSULTING PROJECT

Supervisor Kowall stated this project was the culmination of gathering a tremendous amount of information and data. Much of the data will be used in our ultimate design and concept in development of the corridor area. This document will act as a guideline or blue print that will allow us to move forward with interested parties that come into the area, working with other governmental agencies to show them that we have a plan, something we are moving forward to. A compilation of this information will come to the Township in a booklet form which will be available to the public in our office and online.

TRUSTEE COMMENTS

Trustee Voorheis. Parks & Rec along with the Historical Society had a very successful Trunk or Treat and Movie in the Park in October. Every year the event gets bigger. She had the privilege of attending two Veterans activities. The first one was on Veteran's Day at the White Lake Cemetery as well as on November 19th at the VFW Hall. Friday, December 1, 2018 from 6 to 8 p.m. is the annual White Lake Tree Lighting Ceremony at the Fisk Farm. Santa will be there at that time as well as December 2nd & 3rd from 12 to 4 p.m. She extended a Get Well Soon message to Larry Ostrowski, Library Director, for a quick recovery. He is an awesome, great, fantastic advocate for White Lake Twp. In addition to being involved at the Library he is the vice president of the Historical Society and a member of the Optimist Club and also at one point was active with the Paid On-Call Firefighters. Happy Thanksgiving to everyone.

Trustee Powell. He respects the vote of the people and this Board and holds no ill will to the Motion and the vote of the Board. From now on he will be a fully in support of the Library. We will build a library depending on exactly what their wishes are. Happy Thanksgiving to everyone.

Trustee Smith. Thanks to all the residents who attended this meeting and shared their thoughts and concerns. She thanked all who attended the community unity breakfast supporting those who have gone the extra mile and congratulated all those who were recognized. It was her honor to help out approximately 50 homeless Veterans. It is humbling to serve those who have served us for our freedom. There is new activity this year at the Tree Lighting event called the Tree Walk. If anyone, resident, organization or business, is interested in participating contact White Lake Tree Lighting @ gmail.com. Also, thanks for supporting the Police No Shave November. They are looking for donations for needy families in White Lake Twp. for Christmas. Happy Thanksgiving to all the residents.

Trustee Ruggles. Happy Thanksgiving to everyone.

Clerk Lilley. Thanks to all the Board Members for all the tough decisions they've had to make over the last couple months. Happy Thanksgiving.

Treasurer Roman. Happy Thanksgiving. Your tax bills will be mailed on November 30th.

Supervisor Kowall. The decisions this Board makes are not easy. We are trying to look out for the Township as a whole. We have our families, friends and community to be thankful for. The event at the VFW Hall was a humbling experience to see how appreciative the Veterans were and the graciousness of all who volunteered. Thank you for everyone's participation and Happy Thanksgiving to all the residents. He would like to officially welcome Chief Daniel Keller and his family to the Township as they are now White Lake Township residents.

Clerk Lilley discussed the attachment to the List of Bills regarding the obligation of the Library. He has been asked both personally and via email by what authority the clerk has to accept non payment. He does not have the legal obligation to either approve or deny that request. It is really a Board decision on whether they want to subsidize it until bond funds are available or an agreement needs to be made between the Boards as to when payment will be received.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

It was MOVED by Supervisor Kowall, SUPPORTED by Treasurer Roman to approve Recessing into Closed Session to Consider Attorney/Client Privileged Communication in Accordance with MCL 15.268 (h). The MOTION PASSED by a roll call vote (Voorheis-yes/Powell-yes/Roman-yes/Kowall-yes/Lilley-yes/Ruggles-yes/Smith-yes.)

Adjournment of meeting at 11:45 p.m.

I, Terry Lilley, the duly elected and qualified Clerk of the Charter Township of White Lake, County of Oakland, State of Michigan, hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of the November 21, 2017 special board meeting minutes.



Terry Lilley, Clerk
White Lake Township
Oakland County, Michigan