

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF WHITE LAKE
Approved Minutes of the Regular Board of Trustees Meeting
April 20, 2021

Supervisor Kowall called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The meeting was held via Zoom video conferencing. He then led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Clerk Noble called the roll:

Present: Rik Kowall, Supervisor – present in White, MI
Anthony L. Noble, Clerk – present in White Lake, MI
Mike Roman, Treasurer – present in White Lake, MI
Scott Ruggles, Trustee – present in White Lake, MI
Liz Smith, Trustee – present in White Lake, MI
Andrea C. Voorheis, present in White Lake, MI
Michael Powell, Trustee – present in White Lake, MI

Also Present: Sean O'Neil, Planning Director
Justin Quagliata, Staff Planner
Lisa Hamameh, Attorney
Jennifer Edens, Recording Secretary

AGENDA

Clerk Noble removed item 9A from the Agenda: Request to Waive Application Fee from VFW
Supervisor Kowall added item 9J to the Agenda: Approval of Purchase of Bulk Grinder Stations

It was MOVED by Trustee Ruggles, SUPPORTED by Trustee Powell to approve the Agenda, as amended. The motion PASSED by roll call vote (Kowall/yes, Noble/yes, Roman/yes, Ruggles/yes, Smith/yes, Voorheis/yes, Powell/yes).

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. REVENUE AND EXPENSE**
- B. CHECK DISBURSEMENTS**
- C. APPOINTMENT SENIOR ADVISORY COUNCIL – TOWNSHIP LIAISON**
- D. DEPARTMENT REPORTS**
 - 1. POLICE**
 - 2. FIRE**
 - 3. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**
 - 4. TREASURER REPORT**

It was **MOVED** by Clerk Noble, **SUPPORTED** by Trustee Smith to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion **PASSED** by roll call vote (Kowall/yes, Noble/yes, Roman/yes, Ruggles/yes, Smith/yes, Voorheis/yes, Powell/yes).

MINUTES

A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – REGULAR BOARD MEETING, MARCH 16, 2021

It was **MOVED** by Trustee Powell, **SUPPORTED** by Trustee Ruggles to approve the Minutes – Regular Board Meeting, March 16, 2021 as presented. The motion **PASSED** by roll call vote (Smith/yes, Roman/yes, Voorheis/yes, Ruggles/yes, Noble/yes, Kowall/yes, Powell/yes).

PROCLAMATION

A. MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH – MAY 2021

Trustee Smith shared the Oakland County hotline number: 1-844-446-4225

Supervisor Kowall noted there is a seriousness with mental health, especially with all that the world has gone through this last year. He thanked his Board members for all they have done to keep the community whole. He read the Proclamation into the record. He further reminded that the Township is here to help should a resident need it.

Trustee Powell shared that he has had to stop listening to the national news as it was in fact causing him some issues. He doesn't believe that the social network, national press or politicians have done anything to help the residents of the country deal with mental health. He feels it would be nice if we could come together and speak a little more objectively and optimistically.

The Proclamation was accepted by a show of hands.

NEW BUSINESS

A. REQUEST TO WAIVE APPLICATION FEE FROM VFW

Removed as it was paid for by an anonymous donor.

B. 2021 OPEB (OTHER POST EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS) EMPLOYER CONTRIBUTIONS

Treasurer Roman indicated that this is the fifth or sixth year that he has asked the Board to make this contribution towards this liability and that a big dent is being made. He is asking the Board to approve the contribution again for \$790,000.00.

It was MOVED by Treasurer Roman, SUPPORTED by Trustee Ruggles to approve the contribution of \$790,000.00 for the 2021 OPEB Employer Contributions. The motion PASSED by roll call vote (Kowall/yes, Roman/yes, Noble/yes, Smith/yes, Ruggles/yes, Powell/yes, Voorheis/yes).

C. RESOLUTION #21-013; MICHIGAN AMPUTEE GOLF ASSOCIATION CHARITABLE GAMING LICENSES

Clerk Noble shared that the event will be held on August 13, 2021 at Brentwood Golf Course. It is a fundraiser to raise charitable donations for the above mentioned.

It was MOVED by Clerk Noble, SUPPORTED by Trustee Powell to approve Resolution #21-013; Michigan Amputee Golf Association Charitable Gaming Licenses. The motion PASSED by roll call vote (Noble/yes, Roman/yes, Kowall/yes, Powell/yes, Smith/yes, Voorheis/yes, Ruggles/yes).

D. REQUEST TO WAIVE CONFLICT OF INTEREST – FOSTER SWIFT

Supervisor Kowall indicated that the library would like to retain Foster Swift as their legal counsel and because of a culminated relationship with Foster Swift, they feel comfortable with them. They are looking for a waiver so there is no conflict of interest with that representation of the library in relation to any or all business that may or may not involve the Township in general.

Lisa Hamameh indicated that Foster Swift does already represent the library and the Township in a matter that stayed at Foster Swift. She further indicated that Foster Swift wants to represent the library specifically in a matter that might be opposite the Township and that is why they need a waiver of the conflict from both the Township and the library. The matter that they are referring to is an agreement to separate certain functions from the Township and/or creating a district library to which the Township would have to be a party to either of those agreements. Therefore, Foster Swift would represent the Township in a matter and then have them opposite the Township with this conflict waiver. She stated there are different attorneys working on these matters, but that they cannot represent opposite of the Township without this waiver.

Trustee Ruggles asked of counsel if this is not the definition of conflict of interest. To which she replied, it may be as the letter indicates that the Township and the library agree with a separation and if on the same page, there may not be opposing interests.

Trustee Smith shared with the Board that the library simply wants to separate their payroll and insurance to handle it themselves and that they may need a lawyer to explore becoming a district library to expand services to neighboring communities. She further stated that this particular attorney from Foster Swift is the "go to" library attorney in the state.

Trustee Powell facetiously stated that he can see why they would want Foster Swift since there are no other attorneys they could go with. He has an uneasy feeling about a difference of opinions between the library and the Township in the future.

Supervisor Kowall reminded that they may have other legal matters which might not even involve the Township. The Township has retained the property/real estate wing of Foster Swift, Ben Price, in that capacity and Mark Kroner as part of the legal counsel for W.O.T.A. They serve very specific functions and very specific areas of expertise. He cannot say if there is a plus or minus, but the library has had a relationship with Foster Swift, and he is unaware of any particular harm in this decision.

Treasurer Roman indicated that currently the libraries payroll and benefits are part of the Township and that it complicates matters. He learned that the library is its own entity with its own board. He has no issues with the separation and supports whatever can be done to help the library achieve the separation.

Trustee Powell questioned of Treasurer Roman that he doesn't see any conflict regarding the impending downtown area and documentation of that.

Treasurer Roman does not see a conflict and he doesn't know that the Township would ever use Foster Swift again.

Trustee Smith understands that the library is only seeking legal counsel for separation of payroll and insurance purposes only. She does not believe it will affect anything else in the future. She shared that their budget is done in October/ November and they are being charged \$100 per month by the Township and starting in January they are being charged \$1,700. They are not budgeted for that change and are looking to separate for those purposes.

Clerk Noble is in support and sees no conflict of interest.

Trustee Ruggles clarified that we are only discussing the conflict of interest with Foster Swift. He continued that simply put, the Board is discussing one government agency and another one with the same attorney in the middle of them. He doesn't know how anyone could foresee a conflict arising but indicated that is why there are attorneys. When it does arise, you will have the same attorney representing both sides, which is the definition of a conflict.

Supervisor Kowall indicated that is not necessarily the case as Foster Swift does not represent the Township in general law practice, only in specific areas.

Attorney Hamameh corrected that there is no question that there is a conflict of interest, which is why counsel is asking the Board to waive that conflict as it relates to this particular matter. If the Board is not comfortable it could waive to a specific matter, limit how they feel appropriate, or simply say no. This particular attorney is very well respected and known as a library lawyer.

Supervisor Kowall stated that a motion for approval of specific duty of separation regarding financial services provided to the library and only that action might be appropriate.

Trustee Smith asked of Attorney Hamameh, as she believes the library would like to explore the separation as a district library and will need this attorney to assist in setting that up and with documentation. She asked if this could be included also or does it need to be very limited to separation fiscal responsibilities.

Attorney Hamameh replied that it is the comfort level of the Board. She further indicated that the Foster Swift attorney might want an agreement entered between the Township and library to allow her to represent the library in the exploration/investigation of becoming a district library. Should they need to approach the Township for that agreement the Board would need to reevaluate the conflict at that time.

Trustee Smith reminded that the Township Board has no say whether the library can become a district library. It will simply need to decide if they waive the conflict with Foster Swift.

Attorney Hamameh indicated that the letter from the Foster Swift attorney indicates that there may be an agreement that the Township may have to be a party to.

Treasurer Roman clarified what the motion would be for and that Attorney Hamameh agrees with it. To which Supervisor Kowall indicated it would be limiting the scope. Treasurer Roman stated he does not totally agree with that motion and he is not in favor.

It was MOVED by Supervisor Kowall, SUPPORTED by Trustee Smith moved to waive the conflict of interest, limited to separation of payroll and human resource service and benefits and to explore and advise on district library formulation. The motion PASSED by roll call vote (Powell/no, Voorheis/yes, Smith/yes, Ruggles/no, Roman/no, Noble/yes, Kowall/yes).

E. RESOLUTION #21-014; AGREEMENT BETWEEN WHITE LAKE TOWNSHIP AND FIRE CHIEF JOHN HOLLAND

Trustee Powell stated personally and professional that Chief John Holland is an incredible man and an asset to the Township. He appreciates him being a part of the Township.

Trustee Voorhies congratulated Chief Holland and noted that she loves the fact that he is the first inhouse, rising through the ranks fire chief the Township has had in years.

Supervisor Kowall gave kudos and congratulations to Chief Holland.

Trustee Smith congratulated and apologized that she was not at the swearing in ceremony and hopes to be able celebrate him in the future. She further shared that she had an opportunity to speak with some of the firemen and that they are thrilled to have him as their new chief.

Supervisor Kowall interjected that there will be a swearing in ceremony at 2:00 p.m. on Thursday at the pavilion. The official swearing in was done to avoid a gap in services, but this will be more ceremonial. The new Fire Marshall will also be sworn in.

Trustee Ruggles congratulated Chief Holland and joked that if he thought the Board was tough on him before...

Clerk Noble stated he is excited to watch him lead the department and start a tradition of starting at the ground level and making it to this point. From his public service background, he thinks it is very important.

Treasurer Roman echoes all the comments made and is totally honored to have him as the new fire chief.

It was MOVED by Supervisor Kowall, SUPPORTED by Trustee Ruggles to approve Resolution #21-104; Agreement between White Lake Township and Fire Chief John Holland, and authorize the Supervisor to sign all necessary documents for that agreement. The motion PASSED by roll call vote (Ruggles/yes, Noble/yes, Voorheis/yes, Kowall/yes, Roman/yes, Powell/yes, Smith/yes).

F. RESOLUTION #21-015; TWIN LAKES ROAD SPECIAL ASSESSMENT DISTRICT BOND

Treasurer Roman indicated this Resolution will approve the Township to sell bonds to fund the project. He apologized for getting this to the Board so late. He is trusting that the bond attorney crossed all the t's and dotted all the l's.

It was MOVED by Treasurer Roman, SUPPORTED by Trustee Voorhies to approve Resolution #21-015; Twin Lakes Road Special Assessment District Bond and allow any and all township officials to sign or amend it as needed. The motion PASSED by roll call vote (Kowall/yes, Noble/yes, Roman/yes, Ruggles/yes, Smith/yes, Voorheis/yes, Powell/yes).

G. FIRST READING – FEE ORDINANCE AMENDMENT #129

Supervisor Kowall noted this to be a housekeeping matter that is brought before the Board a few times a year to address the different amendments to Ordinance #129. In the cemetery end of things there have been some increased cost as the sexton costs have gone up a little bit and therefore those costs are passed on. There are very few increases and through the suggestion of the Billing Department and Building Official some of those costs have also been adjusted.

Trustee Ruggles reminds that he has spoken out on this topic at least three times now as it seems to him whenever a raise is wanted for the sexton services, it is passed along to the Township and the Township subsequently hands it down to the residents. He noted an increase in the baby rate, burial after 4:00 p.m., and Saturday burials. He doesn't know how long this will continue to happen until the Township puts this out to bid. He believes this is something for Clerk Noble to investigate. He questioned how many more increases will flow down the pipe until somebody steps in front of it. He is not and will not vote in favor of this until the issue is addressed.

Trustee Voorhies agrees with Trustee Ruggles and would like to see bids for sexton services as every year there are increases.

Trustee Smith suggests an amended motion to go out for bids and revisit it later.

Supervisor Kowall believes the cemetery portion could be withdrawn and revisited.

Attorney Hamameh clarified that this is only for first reading and the Board can make whatever changes it wants, pass it to second reading and then the notice of consideration that is published would have any changes made today so when it comes to second reading it can be adopted.

Trustee Powell finds a problem with passing this to second reading and believes that the Township could then be left without a sexton at the second reading. He noted it is a 50% increase in fees and that it would be nice to have comparisons before this acted upon.

Clerk Noble does not disagree with the statements made.

Treasurer Roman believes the Board should approve this and if the Board thinks the fees are too high it should look elsewhere.

Clerk Noble interjected that these fees are from a signed contract from September of 2020 and therefore, contractually the Township is under contract.

Trustee Ruggles confirmed if this is not approved then the Township would be responsible for the difference.

Attorney Hamameh shared by way of an anonymous person observing the meeting, that the contract was approved last fall, approximately October or November.

Supervisor Kowall suggest to not have an interruption of services for the residents, to abide by the contract agreement, move forward with this, but take it under review and look at this issue as a bigger picture. He believes Clerk Noble can look at it.

Clerk Noble does not disagree with Trustee Ruggles and believes there are a lot of things they can look at to be more efficient. He and Deputy Clerk Santiago will look at it tomorrow and he will email his findings to the Board.

Trustee Smith asked when the contract ends. To which Clerk Noble identified he doesn't have it in front of him but will advise the Board tomorrow.

It was MOVED by Trustee Powell, SUPPORTED by Treasurer Roman to approve the modification of Fee Ordinance #129 be moved to second reading. The motion PASSED by roll call vote (Kowall/yes, Noble/yes, Roman/yes, Smith/yes, Voorheis/no, Ruggles/yes).

H. REZONING REQUEST – 7775 HIGHLAND ROAD

Sean O'Neil noted that this is technically the first reading of the rezoning as it is a two-step process. This is for 7775 Highland Road, Tax ID Parcel 12-21-276-019, which is approximately 6.66 acres in size. He shared his screen to display the area in discussion.

The owner of the property, Wade Brancheau (present tonight) appeared before the Planning Commission on April 15th where the public hearing was held. There was one participant who commented and had an

objection. After going through the planning review the Planning Commission concluded with the recommendation for approval as it is consistent with the Master Plan, the requested rezoning from suburban farm to local business is consistent with the Master Plan and Future Land Use Map, rezoning the parcel to local business is compatible with the character of the surrounding area, rezoning the parcel local business will not result in spot zoning, and the parcel is a reasonable module of land for local business development. It was further recommended that the rezoning traffic study be waived.

Mr. O'Neil shared that since the early 1990's this parcel has been taxed as a business to some extent. He also indicated that Mr. Brancheau has advised that effective June 1st the operation of boat storage by a tenant who rents from him will cease.

He further stated that the Master Plan for this area considers this to be part of the town center focus area and it encompasses the Elizabeth Lake Road and M-59 area.

Trustee Powell asked if there are any residents that use the common drive as access to their residents. To which, Mr. O'Neil indicated this common drive only accesses Mr. Brancheau's property and that there are no other adjacent or neighboring residents that would use the driveway. This property is tucked behind Auto Zone and the Center Point Plaza. He referenced the Crane property and the fact that they approached Mr. Crane to see if he wanted to rezone concurrently, but he was not interested.

Trustee Powell followed-up that this in no way deals with any site plan issues, buffering, and parking. That it is strictly a request for rezoning. To which, Mr. O'Neil confirmed. Trustee Powell further asked of Mr. O'Neil if there was any reason why the first reading and waiver of the traffic study should be dealt with separately.

Mr. O'Neil advised that the Planning Commission dealt with it as one question and found that the traffic study was unnecessary.

Trustee Powell as a point of interested identified that this parcel was once looked at for a Target location.

It was MOVED by Trustee Powell, SUPPORTED by Clerk Noble to move the proposed rezoning request from suburban farm to local business, specifically for address 7775 Highland Road, Parcel #12-21-276-019 and to move the Traffic Study Waiver to second reading. The motion PASSED by roll call vote (Roman/yes, Noble/yes, Ruggles/yes, Kowall/yes, Voorheis/yes, Powell/yes, Smith/yes).

**I. PLANNED DEVELOPMENT WAIVER REQUEST FOR MINIMUM PARCEL SIZE (SEC. 3.11.X) –
VACANT PARCEL 12-21-426-004**

Supervisor Kowall identified this is in reference to Parcel 12-21-426-004, formerly known as the Scott Ruggles Market Place (as tenant). He reminded that a while back the Board made a change that the Plan Development was required to have ten acres or more, but that the Board also implemented a tool in the box for a waiver on lesser parcels. This will allow the planning on this parcel that is under ten acres.

Sean O'Neil reminded that the Board has done one of these waivers before with a church across from the White Lake Market Place. The request only allows the property owner to proceed through the process, it does not give them any right or approval, or ability to proceed ahead. He opined that it is pretty harmless and he believes this one makes sense.

The parcel in discussion is 8.61 acres. It is bordered on two sides by roads and the other two sides by wetland and streams. It would not be an easy task to add usable land to this parcel.

On March 18, 2021 this plan was brought to the Planning Commission, which is very sensitive to what will be the future civic center area. A lot of the comments went beyond the realm of the waiver request and went into the specifics of the plan. The plan requires a specific layout be included and with that, the Planning Commission provided their thoughts and gave a peek into what they are looking for to the developer. Mr. O'Neil shared his screen showing the layout of the plan. The plan has been reviewed and feedback has been given to the applicant. The plan is not what is before the Board tonight as they are asking permission to move through the process. Mr. O'Neil thinks this is a good plan for the waiver.

Trustee Powell thinks the Planning Commission is right on in looking at the plan. He feels it looks like an engineer designed it with no creativity, like a strip mall. He further feels that plan developments have been applied for in the Township because the applicants know they can get more in White Lake. There is no creativity and no give back to the Township, it is just one-sided. He further stated that most communities ask more of the developer than the developer does of the community. In most cases he would be in major favor of this, but he is not at all in favor of this plan. He understands this is an independent part of approval. He noted this allows the applicant to apply for PD zoning which requires a site plan, architectural drawings and additional expense to the developer. He feels this is huge for the downtown area of White Lake Township and he doesn't see how this plan approaches what is needed.

Supervisor Kowall reminded the Board that this is not regarding the particular plan, but strictly waiving the ten-acre minimum. He doesn't want the issue confused.

Trustee Smith added that she was in the audience of the March 18th Planning Commission meeting and noted that the Commission was very vocal about their wishes, desires, and changes to the plan. She has faith in the Commission that they are in tune with what the Board is looking for.

Clerk Noble has the utmost faith in the Planning Commission, Justin Quagliata, and Sean O'Neil moving forward from here. He agrees with Mr. Powell regarding the plan development give backs and reminded that the Township was able to obtain funds for Stanley Park with the development farther down from Bocovina. He believes the Township has a great Planning Commission and Planning Department and believes moving forward the Township will be able to work through it.

It was MOVED by Trustee Smith, SUPPORTED by Clerk Noble to amend Zoning Ordinance #58 to allow a plan development waiver. The motion PASSED by roll call vote (Smith/yes, Voorheis/yes, Ruggles/yes, Powell/yes, Kowall/yes, Roman/yes, Noble/yes).

Mr. Yaldo thanked the Board for their time and consideration. He also apologized for not attending previously when this appeared before the Board, but he was unable to do so due to COVID related circumstances.

J. APPROVAL OF PURCHASE OF BULK GRINDER STATIONS

Supervisor Kowall shared that late in the day today he learned from Mr. Aaron Potter that the vendor advised him a bulk buy at a considerable discount was available on twenty-five grinder station units. Supervisor Kowall has no doubt that the Township will use these units in a heartbeat based on the number of certificate of occupancies the Township has been signing off on. He opined that it would be a good decision for the township to purchase. He further indicated that normally when there is a bulk buy through a plotted development with multiple units and the developer does a prepay, the Board has authorized the Township to just go forward with it. This opportunity provides a considerable savings at about \$1,000 a unit.

Trustee Powell asked if these are the typical Barnes Pumps and what the cost is.

Supervisor Kowall indicated this is a quantity of 25 Simplex base packages at a price of \$2,936.00 each. If purchased in lesser quantity, they are approximately \$3,900 each. He suggests a motion to approve up to \$100,000 to allow Mr. O'Neil to get as many as possible at the discounted price.

Trustee Powell is in favor as this price is approximately \$300 less than the E1 competitor and this is the best price he has seen. He also indicated that normally when you buy a truckload shipping is free. He questioned if housing is free buy the supplier.

Supervisor Kowall indicated that the Township has an area at a water plant where they are now being stored as they found in the past that parts came up missing. He indicated they are safe and secure in the Township's possession. He further stated that he believes Mr. Potter already has 50% of these already dedicated and that it is a recoverable expense.

Clerk Noble commended Mr. Potter for thinking outside of the box and thinking ahead. He believes this is saving the Township thousands of dollars down the road with the upset of the supply chain as it is.

It was MOVED by Trustee Powell, SUPPORTED by Treasurer Roman to authorize the Supervisor and DPS Director to purchase twenty-five Barnes Simplex Pumps at a total cost to be negotiated but authorized up to \$100,000.00 towards that purchase and potential additional volume at that price. The motion PASSED by roll call vote (Kowall/yes, Roman/yes, Noble/yes, Ruggles/yes, Smith/yes, Voorheis/yes, Powell/yes).

Supervisor Kowall hopes that everyone is in line to get there shot or considering getting their shot if they think it is in their best interest. Statistics show that if you are vaccinated your chances of contracting the COVID virus is .008%.

TRUSTEE COMMENTS

Trustee Powell thanked the Board for a good meeting. He has been attending the MTA Conference virtually, and while he appreciates a face-to-face, he is enjoying the Conference and he has learned a lot. He believes the MTA has done a great job.

He shared that the smoke alarms and detectors in his home were over due to be replaced. In listening to Joe Gannon, the appliance doctor on WJR, about six months ago he presented on replacing them. In communicating with Mr. Gannon, he learned that it could take up to forty-one minutes for an ionizing smoke detector to react to a house fire. The country of Australia and seven states in this country have banned those detectors. Mr. Gannon highly recommends against purchasing ionized smoke detectors.

Treasurer Roman thanked all the residents for tuning in this evening and welcomed the Township's new Deputy Treasurer Kim Patton.

Trustee Voorhies shared that the Township has applied for the Ralph C. Wilson \$50,000 Design Grant for the Township Triangle Trail and she is hopeful that the Township will learn by the of April if they get it. She was not able to attend the Parks and Rec monthly meeting, but she was able to watch it. There was a nice presentation from the Huron Watershed Council regarding the Huron River history. Also, in discussion was picnic tables and canine poop bags for Stanley Park. The next meeting via Zoom will be in May/June. In July and August, they are hopeful to be face-to-face in a park. She further shared that she visited Bloomer Park and that it is maintained nicely and under control. She wished everyone safety, health and get vaccinated.

Trustee Ruggles noted that the Planning Commission met on April 15, 2021 for the rezoning request discussed tonight. The next meeting is May 6th. He brought up that Bloomer Park has thirty acres of woods there and he is not sure if a management plan has been discussed for those woods, or who would be in charge of that, but it is something that will need to be looked in. He indicated a ten-year harvesting to manage the woods is necessary or they degrade themselves. He stated that the property has a great deal of value in the lumber and is probably in need of some harvesting right now. He further shared that he put a request into the OCRC to get some signage on McKeachie Road to reduce the speed. He put a request into the Concerns Division for horse signage that he even offered to pay for and learned that they will need to come out and preform a study for the same.

Trustee Smith updated that the library is still in phase III and all the information is on the website. She is very glad for the Mental Health Resolution as COVID has taken a toll on people in different ways. A good friend of hers, Mary Whiteford is the Chair of the House and Health Human Services, launched today a 24-hour crisis hotline that connects callers with the proper mental health care professionals they need. It is called MYCAL. She also shared that April is Child Abuse Awareness Month and sometimes mental health and child abuse go hand in hand. With some children not being in school right now, they do not have extra eyes on them, and she encouraged the community to be aware. This topic is very near and dear to her heart, and she will be testifying before the Michigan House Committee as a child advocate later this month. She indicated that Michigan Police Week is May 9th. Due to COVID they cannot have the festivities they normally would, but she encouraged residents to find ways to show their appreciation. Residents can always visit the Michigan Police Week website to find ways to help. She shared that she too enjoyed the MTA Conference virtually. She congratulated the new Fire Chief John Holland and she looks forward to

celebrating him on Thursday. She mentioned that the fire department will be doing training on the brown house next to the new civic center area this week and didn't want residents to be concerned if they see fire trucks in that area. She wished everyone to stay healthy as there are a lot of closings in the school district right now. God bless the first responders and the community.

Clerk Noble thanked the Board for the opportunity to get to govern like they do and finds it is a privilege to serve. Police week is near and dear to him as he has been retired from it now for six months. He appreciates both the police and fire departments. He further indicated that weekends and holidays are sacrifices they make with their families. He mentioned Sherry Barber and Building Official Nick for thinking outside of the box and coming up with new ways to be efficient. He thanked Sean O'Neil and Justin Quagliata for always being on top of things. He thanked John Wheaton for always being there early and having a smile on his face. He recognized Jason Hudson who goes to people's houses when people are angry. His interpersonal communication skills and representation of the Township is amazing. He has a very volatile job and he walks into very dangerous situations and he handles things calmly. He opined that the Township has an amazing staff.

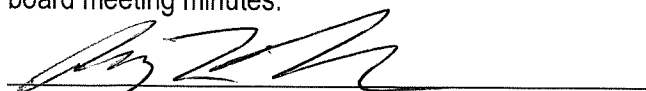
Supervisor Kowall shared that he goes for his second shot tomorrow and hopes that he won't have an adverse reaction. He encourages people to go forward with the vaccines. He alerted the Board that there will be some special meetings/workshops in the next few weeks. He thanked Mr. O'Neil and Mr. Quagliata for working diligently with him in the grant application approved by the Board last week for \$1.6 million for infrastructure. He will keep the Board posted. There are multiple grants that W.O.T.A. is moving forward with as there is \$50.3 billion dollars dedicated to transportation alone from the save America money. There has been an uptick in riders, and they are looking for potential drivers. He shared that anyone interested can visit the W.O.T.A. website for information. In closing he indicated that we are all lucky to be living in White Lake Township, stay safe, stay healthy, and thank you for allowing me to be the leader of this community and to lead with this Board.

Good night and God bless.

It was MOVED by Treasurer Roman, SUPPORTED by Trustee Smith to adjourn. The motion PASSED by roll call vote (Kowall/yes, Noble/yes, Roman/yes, Ruggles/yes, Smith/yes, Voorheis/yes, Powell/yes).

Meeting adjourned at 8:32 p.m.

I, Anthony L. Noble, 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 April 20, 2021 regular board meeting minutes.



Anthony L. Noble, Clerk
White Lake Township
Oakland County, Michigan