

Rutland Charter Township

# Regular Board Meeting

November 9, 2022 / 7PM

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

## Roll Call - Members Present:

Gene Hall, Sandy James, Sandy Greenfield, Larry Watson, Robin Hawthorne, Brenda Bellmore, Doug Lectka

## Others Present:

Dale Svihl, Pat Sharpe, Nickie Haight

## Approval of Agenda:

Motion by Greenfield, seconded by James to accept the November 9th agenda. All ayes. Motion passes.

## Guests:

Hawthorne says there is no Library Rep because the Library Board did not have their monthly meeting.

## Open Comments:

Pat Sharpe wishes the board an enjoyable Thanksgiving Holiday.

## Consent Agenda:

Motion by James to accept the consent agenda, seconded by Bellmore. All ayes. Motion passes.

## Supervisor:

Watson discusses Broadband with the board. He says the Home Owner Association President from Jones Crossings says they have money to donate towards bringing broadband to their neighborhood. Hawthorne says RCT has around 460,000 in savings to go towards Broadband and that MEI is the provider that Jones Crossing is talking to. The board discusses that everything is expensive right now and prices continue to go up. Watson says it is foolish to leave that money sitting in the bank. He asks the board to think about deciding who to help with that money, whether up to a certain amount or a certain percentage. He says they should move forward on making up a formula that gives equal opportunity for RCT residents to apply. Hall mentions that the state has 100 million set aside for underserved broadband areas and he would think RCT would be considered that. The board discussed the possibility of an assessment district but again wants to make sure they are providing equal opportunity for help to RCT residents. Watson asks board members to come to the December meeting ready to discuss this in more depth.

## Clerk:

Hawthorne says her clerk report is available and board members have it on their desks.

She welcomes the new trustee, Doug Lectka, and shares that he will be serving his term from November 20, 2022 until November 20, 2024.

Hawthorne shares that the election yesterday was very busy. RCT has 1441 walk in voters and 836 mail in ballots, that only 28 did not come back in. She says there are around 3400 total voters in RCT.

Hawthorne asks board members to let her know if they would like to attend the Assessment Training that is being offered. Hall and Lectka would both like to attend and Hawthorne will sign them up.

#### **Treasurer:**

Greenfield shares that a copy of her Treasurer's Monthly Report is on each board member's desks.

#### **Trustees:**

Hall asks about the attorney fees listed in the new budget. Greenfield answers that there are 2 people running businesses on the airport land that are not airport related businesses. Therefore, those businesses were taxed last year and did not pay. Greenfield then sent the delinquent taxes to the county and the county paid them. Lectka asks what the 2 businesses are and Greenfield answers Sand Creek Dairy and Affordable Roofing.

#### **Unfinished Business:**

##### **Second Reading and Adoption of Ordinance #2022-184 - Definitions for front lot lines and family and group daycare homes**

Motion by Greenfield, seconded by Hall, to adopt Ordinance #2022-184. Roll Call Vote: Hall - Yes, James - Yes, Greenfield - Yes, Watson - Yes, Hawthorne - Yes, Bellmore - Yes, Lectka - Yes. Motion passes.

##### **Algonquin Lake feasibility study for sewer system**

The board and Pat Sharpe discuss that they decided not to move forward with this. It was going to be around \$50,000 per property owner plus the cost to hook up their homes would be extra. There was no cost to residents for this study. Lectka says they need to create a larger assessment district but Watson says there is not enough interest in close enough areas. James is disappointed in the wording of "Aging septic systems" and "18 residents interested".

Lectka asks if the RCT board is involved in the Barry County Broadband Committee. Hawthorne and Greenfield went to a meeting but did not get the feeling there was any forward movement, they are still in the ideas phase.

#### **New Business:**

##### **Public Hearing on proposed budget for 2023**

Hall asks some clarifying questions about the budget. Hall and Watson will look into adding some outside lighting at the township hall. There is no need to adjust the budget for that.

Hall asks what PIF is. Hawthorne says "Public Improvement Fund" is to help out at the start of a special assessment and would get paid back once taxes started getting paid.

Hawthorne says they will have resolutions to pass at the December meeting for - 2023 Meeting Dates and Approval of the 2023 Budget.

##### **Podunk Lake Treatment Plan for 2023**

This is the proposed weed treatment costs for Podunk Lake for the 2023 season. Hawthorne explains this is something they have to approve every year.

Motion by Bellmore, seconded by Lectka, to approve the proposed weed treatment costs for Podunk Lake for the 2023 season. All ayes. Motion passes.

#### **Open Comments:**

Watson asks the board if they feel that the meeting room desk they use should be replaced. Most board members do not think they need new desks for as little as they are used.

#### **Adjournment:**

Motion by Greenfield, seconded by Bellmore to adjourn at 8pm, all ayes. Meeting adjourned.

Submitted by Nickie Haight, Recording Secretary