

Rutland Charter Township

Regular Board Meeting

September 13, 2023 / 7PM

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

Roll Call - Members Present:

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

Others Present:

Mark Jordan, Jane Cybulski, Steve Pachulski, Rick Brown, Dennis McKelvey, Pat Sharpe, Dale Svilh, Angela Rigas, Nickie Haight, not included are residents from Podunk Lake that did not sign in.

Approval of Agenda:

Motion by James, seconded by Greenfield to accept the September 13, 2023 agenda. All ayes. Motion passes.

Guests:

Jane Cybulski - Hastings Library Rep gives an overview of the last library board meeting. Her report is available and included.

Doug Lectka - shares that his wife, Becky Lectka, would like to become the RCT Library Representative when Audrey Burton is done at the end of 2023. Motion by Hawthorne, seconded by Greenfield to appoint Becky Lectka as RCT Library Representative. All ayes. Motion passes.

Open Comments: None

Consent Agenda:

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

Supervisor: Watson says his items will be covered under new business

Clerk:

Hawthorne says that her Clerk's report and Vouchers/Payroll reports are on board members' desks.

Hawthorne shares that she attended a meeting for local clerks. Hastings Charter, Hope, and RCT have decided to work together on the new early voting requirements. She is also still hoping for grants from the state to help pay for more tabulators and other items that are now required.

Treasurer:

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

She says that tomorrow is the last day to pay taxes in her office and that her office will be open 9am-5pm.

Trustees: None

Commissioners Report: None

Unfinished Business:

Public Hearing to confirm the 2023-2032 Special Assessment Roll for Podunk Lake Weed Control

Board members discuss that this is the final step in the process. Hawthorne tells the public that anyone that wants to protest can sign the form on the back counter.

Rick Brown shares that this process has been 20 years worth of work. He says PLM does a great job and that they are asking for a 10 year plan this time.

Motion by Greenfield, seconded by Bellmore, to approve Resolution 2023-295. Roll Call Vote: Hall - Yes, James - Yes, Lectka - Yes, Greenfield - Yes, Watson - Yes, Hawthorne - Yes, Bellmore - Yes. Motion passes.

Walmart Tax Tribunal Discussion

Motion by James, seconded by Lectka, to go into closed session at 7:12pm.

At 7:38, motion by Greenfield, seconded by Bellmore, to open the meeting back up to the public.

Motion by Greenfield, seconded by Lectka to counter offer back to Walmart at \$37.10/square foot. Roll Call Vote: Hall - Yes, James - Yes, Lectka - Yes, Greenfield - Yes, Watson - Yes, Hawthorne - Yes, Bellmore - Yes. Motion passes.

BIRCH Funding

Watson and Jordan share that BIRCH is purchasing a tanker and \$61,000 is RCT's share. These funds would come out of the BIRCH Milage Fund. There is a question of whether Irving Township will drop out of BIRCH. Jordan thinks that Irving will still contribute to this tanker even if they leave BIRCH.

The board discusses that they will need to put the fire milage back at 1.2 mils in order to pay the BIRCH annual bill along with this tanker. Hawthorne says they will handle that in budget discussions. Greenfield says they cannot have excess funds in the fire milage account, so they decide each year what amount to levy.

Motion by Lectka, seconded by James, to approve the charges of \$61,000 for the new fire tanker for BIRCH. Roll Call Vote: Hall - Yes, James - Yes, Lectka - Yes, Greenfield - Yes, Watson - Yes, Hawthorne - Yes, Bellmore - Yes. Motion passes.

New Business:

Resolution 2023-294 to approve amendments to the Township Master Plan

Lectka asks if the old golf course should still be Parks & Rec. Hawthorne says yes and that farming is allowed in P&R.

Motion by Bellmore, seconded by Greenfield to approve Resolution 2023-294. Roll Call Vote: Hall - Yes, James - Yes, Lectka - Yes, Greenfield - Yes, Watson - Yes, Hawthorne - Yes, Bellmore - Yes. Motion passes.

Accept Ordinance 2023-190 for First Reading - Text Amendments and Rezoning of Parcels

Hawthorne says that this ordinance will allow existing two-family dwellings to be rebuilt in case they are damaged or destroyed.

Motion by Lectka, seconded by Bellmore, to accept Ordinance 2023-190 for first reading. Roll Call Vote: Hall - Yes, James - Yes, Lectka - Yes, Greenfield - Yes, Watson - Yes, Hawthorne - Yes, Bellmore - Yes. Motion passes.

Budget Amendment for Service Agreements with Mercy Ambulance

Hawthorne says this is due to having to pay extra to Mercy Ambulance. She says this amendment will allow them to move the funds to cover the cost. She confirms that if Mercy drops from BIRCH, RCT would keep the equipment that these funds will pay for.

Motion by Bellmore, seconded by Lectka, to accept a budget amendment for service agreements that needs to be done due to the new service agreement with Mercy Ambulance. Roll Call Vote: Hall - Yes, James - Yes, Lectka - Yes, Greenfield - Yes, Watson - Yes, Hawthorne - Yes, Bellmore - Yes. Motion passes.

Discussion of Possible Township Hall Rental Agreement

Hawthorne has provided a copy of the sample rental agreement to all board members. She says this is the same one that they voted down in 2015. She says they took other agreements and combined them into one that could work for RCT. Public comment and board members agree that there are things that could go wrong and details that need to be figured out. Hawthorne will look into how much it would cost to have the hall cleaned and several board members want to charge enough to cover the cleaning. The board also discusses requiring a liability insurance rider. Board members decide to table the discussion until the October meeting

Open Comments:

None

Adjournment:

Motion by Bellmore, seconded by Greenfield to adjourn at 8:23pm, all ayes. Meeting adjourned.

Submitted by Nickie Haight, Recording Secretary