

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF WHITE LAKE**  
**Unapproved Minutes of the Special Board of Trustees Meeting**  
**August 31, 2022**

Supervisor Kowall called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. He then led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Clerk Noble called the roll:

Present: Rik Kowall, Supervisor  
Anthony L. Noble, Clerk  
Mike Roman, Treasurer  
Liz Smith, Trustee  
Andrea Voorheis, Trustee

Absent: Scott Ruggles, Trustee  
Michael Powell, Trustee

Also Present: Elaine Homeister, Finance Director  
David Hieber, Assessor  
Daniel Keller, Police Chief  
Aaron Potter, DPS Director  
Pam Zurek, Recording Secretary

**AGENDA**

**It was MOVED by Clerk Noble, SUPPORTED by, Trustee Voorheis to approve the Agenda. The motion PASSED by voice vote (5 yes votes).**

**BUDGET DISCUSSION**

**2023 PRELIMINARY BUDGET**

Supervisor Kowall noted the budget presented did not reflect the projected construction costs for future buildings as those items would be a budget amendment at the time of construction. Supervisor Kowall further noted the budgets as: General Township \$6,110,632, Police Department \$6,771,795, Fire Department \$4,082,340, Sewer \$3,242,250, Water \$2,135,586, Building Department \$808,133, Parks and Recreation \$1,300,000, and Rubbish \$2,273,572. Supervisor Kowall added that the budget was balanced.

Finance Director Elaine Homeister stated there were no major changes from the budgets of prior years.

Supervisor Kowall asked the Trustees to review the budget then compile and direct any questions towards the Department Heads for further explanation.

Treasurer Roman added that overall, the budget appeared appropriate.

Trustee Voorheis asked how salary increases would affect the budget. Supervisor Kowall responded that salary increases would need to be approved by the Township Board or abide by union agreements, which were already in place.

Clerk Noble noted a possible need of increasing budgets for the Fire Department and Police Department to accommodate the increased prices of fuel. Supervisor Kowall noted the budget for the Police Department was adequately cushioned in the past and the Fire Department fleet was more fuel efficient, which could help ease the costs of fuel.

Supervisor Kowall reminded that this was the introduction of the budget and requested questions be compiled and addressed by the specific department head.

## **PUBLIC HEARING**

### **TO HEAR COMMENT REGARDING THE LEVYING OF THE TAXES VOTED FOR BY THE PUBLIC (TRUTH IN TAXATION)**

**It was MOVED by Supervisor Kowall, SUPPORTED by, Trustee Smith to open the public hearing. The motion PASSED by roll call vote (Smith/yes, Noble/yes, Kowall/yes, Roman/yes, Voorheis/yes).**

No public comment.

**It was MOVED by Supervisor Kowall, SUPPORTED by, Clerk Noble to close the public hearing. The motion PASSED by voice vote (5 yes votes).**

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **RESOLUTION #22-028, TRUTH IN TAXATION**

Township Assessor David Hieber stated annually township authorities and other taxing authorities needed to officially adopt tax rates. Assessor Hieber also noted a number of elections changed tax rates including the Police Department, Fire Department, and the Library and were included in the resolution.

Assessor Hieber added that passing the resolution would also authorize both Supervisor Kowall and Clerk Noble to sign form 4029, which was required to be sent to Oakland County. Assessor Hieber further added that the library millage calculated by Treasurer Roman was also included in the 4029 form.

**It was MOVED by Treasurer Roman, SUPPORTED by, Supervisor Kowall to approve Resolution #22-028, Truth in Taxation. The motion PASSED by roll call vote (Voorheis/yes, Smith/yes, Roman/yes, Noble/yes, Kowall/yes).**

**FIRE DEPARTMENT REQUEST TO APPROVE TANKER  
LENDING/LEASE AGREEMENT WITH INDEPENDENCE TOWNSHIP**

Supervisor Kowall explained a new tanker was ordered with anticipated arrival in October 2022. Supervisor Kowall also explained that the current tanker had an agitator/impeller problem that would cost approximately \$11,000 to repair, which was signed as an emergency repair bill. The tanker was nonfunctional and Independence Township offered lease of a tanker for \$1.00. The lend/lease agreement had been reviewed by both attorneys and was received and signed today. Supervisor Kowall further explained that the tanker would be maintained by the White Lake Fire Department and also noted the agreement was benefitted by use of the same insurance company as Independence Township. The tanker could be used as long as needed.

Treasurer Roman asked if the tanker would be inspected before taking possession of the tanker.

Supervisor Kowall stated the tanker was fully operational.

Treasurer Roman explained the need to ensure the tanker was returned to Independence Township in the same condition as received.

Clerk Noble suggested taking pictures of the tanker and recording any damage noted prior to use of the tanker by the White Lake Fire Department.

**It was MOVED by Supervisor Kowall, SUPPORTED by, Clerk Noble to approve the lending/lease agreement with Independence Township Fire Department for use of a tanker for \$1.00. The motion PASSED by voice vote (5 yes votes).**

**DISCUSSION ON COUNTY MILLAGE PROPOSAL FOR  
TRANSPORTATION**

Supervisor Kowall noted the Oakland County Board of Commissioners passed a resolution to allow a ballot item at the next election for county-wide transportation throughout Oakland County. Supervisor Kowall further noted that the Oakland County Association of Township Supervisors (OCATS) requested funding contributions from the area townships for the education of the public, providing information only, regarding the impact of the proposed millage.

Trustee Smith stated she would like a breakdown of how the monies would be used.

Supervisor Kowall responded that he was unable to provide a breakdown of the contribution at this time; however, the motion could contain a contingency upon reviewing the proposed plan.

Due to the election being held in November, it was important to approve the monies urgently, as the next regularly-scheduled Board meeting was scheduled for September 20, 2022.

Trustee Smith stated an amount of \$7,500 was appropriate but could be readdressed at the next scheduled meeting if necessary.

**It was MOVED by Supervisor Kowall, SUPPORTED by, Trustee Smith to support contribution to the OCATS millage education fund on county transportation not to exceed \$7,500. The motion PASSED by voice vote (5 yes votes).**

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

**It was MOVED by Supervisor Kowall, SUPPORTED by, Trustee Smith to adjourn. The motion PASSED by voice vote (5 yes votes).**

**Meeting adjourned at 6:30 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 August 31, 2022, special board meeting minutes.

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