

WARREN TOWNSHIP – PUBLIC MEETING
ZOOM MEETING
February 22, 2021
(With updated MTA wage study 2/24/21)

Board Members Present: Lisa Warner, Jerry Barber, Linda Anthony, Denny Allen and Dawn Clark.

Absent: Dawn VanBlarcom & Katie Huber.

Public: Loren Partlo 4545 Geneva Road.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Denny Allen, Supervisor – called the regular meeting to order at 6:31 PM.

01/18/2021 regular meeting minutes were emailed and presented on the screen for review during the Zoom meeting. Jerry Barber made a motion to accept as presented. Dawn Clark 2nd the motion, all were in favor. Motion carried.

Treasurer's report for month ending 01/31/2021 was emailed prior to the meeting and presented on the screen for review during the Zoom meeting. Dawn Clark has been working with the banks for balance on CD's. Report will be filed for audit.

Old Business:

Dawn Clark asked for the township boards consideration of an increase on collecting summer taxes. The rate of \$2050.00 was set years ago and has never been adjusted to current rates. The 1% amin fee that is collected, should be handed down to the treasure for that additional collection. Based on 2019 numbers the summer admin fee came in at \$6875.00. Dawn Clark is asking for the pay to be raised to \$4100.00.

Linda Anthony reviewed the bids that were accepted for 2020 road work. Shearer road drainage \$31085.25, the 3 chip/fogseals totaling \$101093.57. North County Line Road 4-way split was not approved by Wise Township or Isabella County, Warren Township will proceed with the ditching at \$48,765.46.

New Business:

Denny Allen advised via Jeni from the Spicer Group reported that less than 8% of Warren Township's property owners have submitted answers to the survey via electronic submission or hard copy. We have asked the Spicer group to do a mailing to property owners with the survey link and/or to contact Denny Allen for a hard copy survey. Deadline to submit will be 03/10/2021. At that time Jeni at Spicer will tally the information from the online submittals and the hard copy submittals will got to Dawn VanBlarcom input. Then Jeni will present the findings at the 03/15/2021 general meeting.

Linda Anthony emailed the 2021/2022 budget worksheets to the township board for both the general fund and solid waste fund. Linda Anthony briefly reviewed various items and points of interest. Linda Anthony and Dawn Clark will be getting together to review a few income based line items, including review of Harsh Drive and Brandy Lane.

Linda Anthony made a motion to move \$10,000.00 from Township Board Audit/Accounting to Planning / Comprehensive Plan. Roll call vote: Denny Allen – yes; Jerry Barber – yes; Dawn Clark – yes; Lisa Warner – yes and Linda Anthony – yes. Motion carried.

Discussion was held on the township boards wages. Linda Anthony shared with the board via email and last months meeting review of what MTA states what other townships similar in size and tax base pay their boards. Dawn Clark had the information available and shared the following: **(The most recent MTA study is listed in red below)**

Clerk – we presently pay \$10,800.00 – range on survey was **\$13,890.00 to \$17,497.00**
Treasurer – we presently pay \$10,800.00 –range on survey was **\$15,390.00 to \$17,997.00**
***Note: Treasurer range includes S.E.T. (State Education Tax) collection**
Trustees – we presently pay \$2,170.00 – range on survey was **\$2,422.00 to \$2,567.00**
Supervisor –we presently pay \$11,845.00–range on survey was **\$19,397.00 to \$22,990.00**
Deputies – we presently pay \$800.00 w/\$10.00 for additional work - range was not on survey.

Linda Anthony made a motion to set the budget hearing for March 15, 2021 at 6:00PM with the general meeting to immediately follow. Roll call vote: Denny Allen – yes; Jerry Barber – yes; Dawn Clark – yes; Lisa Warner – yes and Linda Anthony – yes. Motion carried.

Dawn Clark reported that TCF Bank will no longer be accepting property tax payments and the bank is targeted to close sometime in August. Dawn Clark will keep us posted.

Public Comment:

None.

Board Reports:

Library Board: Zoom meeting was held 02/16/2021. Library is still up and running with COVID restrictions in place, but all is going well. We will continue with Zoom meetings until the Governor states otherwise. Next meeting will be 03/16/2021 at 7:00 PM.

Fire Board: Jerry Barber reported that there was not a meeting held this month. Jerry Barber did mention that he forgot to let the board know that Bill Cozat is asking for input on whether they should hold monthly meetings or bi-monthly meetings. Dawn Clark will reach out to MTA for their input. Jerry Barber also reported that Steve Miller has taken Joe Grabowski’s place on the fire board. Linda Anthony asked if they could inquire about the amount budgeted for Warren Township for 2021/2022. Next meeting will be 03/03/2021 at 7:00 PM.

Zoning/Planning Board: Lisa Warner reported for Nathan Harsh that they would like to hold a planning meeting on 03/01/2021 at 7:00PM at the township hall. Dawn Clark is collecting taxes, but should be wrapping up at 7:00 PM. Next meeting is 03/01/2021 at 7:00 PM.

Township Code Authority: Jerry Barber reported that there were no building permits, 1 plumbing, no mechanical and 2 electrical for the month of January. Linda Anthony asked if we have been receiving copies of permits, Denny Allen stated that effective 02/01/2021 all permits will start with our Zoning Administrator. Next meeting will be held 02/25/2021.

Misc. Items:

Dawn Clark told the board that Katie Huber is ready, willing and able to keep the township's website current and make and oversee a Warren Township Facebook page. Denny Allen welcomed the opportunity and asked that Katie Huber and himself meet to review what Denny has been doing in the past month.

Denny Allen made a motion to pay the February 2021 bills. Lisa Warner 2nd the motion. All were in favor, motion carried.

Denny Allen made a motion to adjourn at 7:22 PM.

Linda S. Anthony
Warren Township Clerk