

White Oak Township Board Meeting July 10, 2023

The July 10, 2023 meeting of the White Oak Board was called to order by Clerk Leela Vernon at 7 p.m. In attendance were: Treasurer Brigitte Doxtator, Clerk Leela Vernon, Trustee Diane Graf, Zoning Administrator Katrina Griffith, Planning Commission chair Missy Noll, Dean Leavitt, Bob and Judy McManaman, Richard Morrison, and Steve Bauder. Trustee Graf lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

A motion was made by Trustee Graf, seconded by Treasurer Doxtator to approve the minutes of the June 12, 2023 meeting. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Graf, seconded by Clerk Vernon to approve the treasurer's report as presented. Motion carried.

Zoning Administrator, Katrina Griffith gave her report (see attached.)

The recommendation from the Planning Commission for the Special Use Permit that was applied for by Steve and Sally Bauder at 4881 Swan Road, Stockbridge was attached to the copy of the agenda that was passed out at the meeting. Public Comment was opened. Judy McManaman stated that she agrees with the requirements and restrictions that were put in place for the special use permit. But she wanted to point out that, even though she does not live near the Bauders, and it doesn't affect her personally, by changing the ordinance it impacts everyone in the Township. She thinks the restrictions are fair. She lives on a parcel that is zoned Agricultural Residential which in her definition is crops/livestock, what they are doing is more of a business. She would not like to live in an area where there are events going on all weekend with trucks and trailers in and out all the time. Again, she is in agreement with the restrictions that were put in place regarding noise and hours of operation because it protects the rest of the residents of the Township.

Missy had a question about section III, D Event Schedule. The Planning Commission allowed 2 events per month for this first year. It was determined that the Township Board thought that in fairness to neighbors 1 event per month was fair. Judy McManaman had a response to Missy's question. Judy filled in as chairperson on the ZBA when the issue with the Roping Event was first addressed, and they had asked for one event per month at that time. And again, she stated that she would not want an event going on every other weekend if she lived near. Clerk Vernon pointed out Mr. Bauder stated at the planning Commission meeting that they usually do only one event per month. Mr. Bauder stated that they asked for one per month from April to September. He also stated that they most likely would not have an event in September but that's not definite. But he will get us a schedule. There are 3 arenas that schedule these events and that's why they asked for one a month. He thinks next year they may ask for a two day event on a holiday weekend. He stated again that this is not a business, it's a hobby. He compared what they were doing to the sporting events that are held at the Township park. Mr. Bauder stated that this is not a MRA sanctioned event, therefore he contacted his insurance company today to get the addition required insurance. He gave both insurance certificated to

Katrina. The insurance is a blanket insurance to cover the two events that are planned. He has hydrants, emergency numbers, a first aid kit. Clerk Vernon asked about the event they have scheduled for Saturday, July 15.

A motion was made by Trustee Graf to approve the Draft Special Use Permit for Steve and Sally Bauder as presented. Seconded by Treasurer Doxtator. Motion carried unanimously. Mr. Bauder signed the agreement and he would have Sally come in tomorrow to sign.

Brigitte went over the quotes from Ludwig Fence and McKearney Asphalt. We need to get additional information so the discussion was tabled until the Supervisor and Trustee Kemler were in attendance.

Clerk Vernon gave an explanation of what the new early voting laws would mean financially to the Township. There is a possibility of working with Ingham Township which would save both Townships money. Early voting would require the Township to purchase another tabulator. There would need to be 3 people working in the precinct for 8 hours a day, for nine days. There was concern about the fact that it may be confusing for our voters. Discussion was tabled.

We discussed the need to replace the carpet in the hall. We discussed replacing the carpet with tile or something else.

Richard Morrison stated that there was a broken limb on one of the trees in the park. Also, the flag pole in the park is not straight and needs to be reset.

A motion was made by Trustee Graf, seconded by Treasurer Doxtator to pay bills. Motion carried.

Clerk Vernon Adjourned the meeting at 7:47 pm.

Respectfully submitted
Leela A. Vernon, Clerk White Oak Township