

Attendees: Mark Messick, Greg Rainbolt, Peggy Young, Dave Pollard

Mary Sue Kane, Dann Veldkamp, Dr. Dick Huber, Annette Rainbolt, Jody Veldkamp, Jim Higgins

Call to order at 7:00 P.M. – by Greg Rainbolt

I. Pledge of Allegiance – led by Peggy Young

II. Approval of August 30, 2011 WRT Board Meeting Minutes –

Moved by Peggy Young and seconded by Dave Pollard.

Vote: Ayes 3 Nays 0. August 30, 2011 Minutes approved.

III. Public Hearing on the year 2012 budget

Mark Messick (WRT Trustee) went thru the proposed budget from the workshop with the board; he explained his reasoning for the amounts listed. WRT Board members questioned the budgeted amounts and shared their thoughts on the budget.

WRT Board, Mark Messick, and Jim Higgins (Accountant for WRT) had discussions on instituting a zero tax levy and its financial impact on the township, also discussed was whether unencumbered township savings could fund township assistance obligations.

Dann Veldkamp asked the trustee since the amount for prescriptions and insulin had been reduced to zero, if the trustee had a source to provide for those needs. The trustee said those needs are met thru the Partnership for a Healthier Johnson County.

Dann was wondering if the Board had any other comments they wanted to share concerning a contract with the Partnership for a Healthier Johnson County, he stated they have heard primarily from only one of the Board members.

Peggy Young; “I have just heard a lot from the community that basically they said no”.

Peggy Young; “Their belief is that there should be fair share. If there are only two out of nine townships, just as what Dr. Huber is saying, if other townships are sending residents down there, then they should, there should be fair share. Maybe it has also been suggested that maybe we go to Healthier Johnson County and say if you want some funds from us then you need to go to other townships and you need to get funds from them as well. My other question is do we really need to give \$10,000? Can we just give \$1,000?”

Greg Rainbolt; "On my position I differ from a little bit, I understand Dave & Peggy's valid points and everything, but I look at it as that I've seen the numbers, I've seen the cost benefit and I've seen the largely volunteer organization and how many people volunteer to it and that is why I would likely approve something like that, but that is my position and they have their positions, which is just as valid as mine, but since you asked, that is the reasoning, because it is a volunteer, largely volunteer organization and she presented the cost benefits of White River Township residents getting services there, and that is why I would say yes."

Dann Veldkamp; "I was just strictly sitting here having listened to it, haven't visited them, haven't looked at the numbers they presented, but believing them to be accurate. If they are providing close to a quarter of a million dollars of services for the residents of White River Township I would feel kind of a moral obligation regardless of what others do to engage their services and I think \$10,000 is a reasonable rate and the analogy that I would personally use is there are some restaurants that are pay as you go restaurants. You can pay as you can and you can go in and you can choose not to pay anything or you can pay their suggested price on the board, you know \$5 or whatever it might be or you might even work off, maybe you wash dishes for an hour for your lunch. At some point some people take advantage of that and go in and get free lunch and free lunch and free lunch. You have to ask yourself what would you think of a person who did that? Would you then compare them to others and say well there is a lot of people getting free lunches so then it doesn't matter that I do it too, and I would bring it back to personally and think about it from that perspective. But I appreciate the fact that you have been talking to the citizens and listening to them. That was just one more point of view."

Dann Veldkamp; Where is the Rainy Day Fund held and are those funds separate or included in the township savings account?

Mark Messick replied the Rainy Day Fund is held by the township in its bank account and that \$90,823.78 of the approximately \$700,000 bank balance is designated as the Rainy Day Fund.

Dr. Huber asked questions about the budget and asked for a confirmation that there would be no tax levy for 0101 – General Township Fund.

Greg Rainbolt (WRT Board) confirmed that 0101 - General Township Fund has a zero tax levy, and the advertised maximum estimated funds to raise for 0840 – Township Assistance is \$100,000, which might require a tax levy.

Jim Higgins, Mark Messick, and the WRT Board answered other questions from Dr. Huber about the financial status of the township and how long the township could operate on its savings, also questions about the budget process were answered.

Dr. Huber stated "As a citizen it bothers me a little bit that you are saying you are increasing your township side but decreasing the assistance side."

Dr. Huber also stated "I know there are strong feelings both ways on the Partnership for a Healthier Johnson County for the St. Thomas Clinic but as a citizen I would urge that if you are going to use that clinic and send people there please don't wipe them off altogether."

The public hearing was closed.

IV. Any other business that may come before the board –

Suggestions for procedures at the budget adoption meeting were offered by Jim Higgins (Accountant for WRT).

Peggy Young had a question for Mark Messick about the monthly financial report. Mark Messick explained his figures on the monthly financial report.

Mark Messick asked the board if it would consider a transfer of funds resolution at the October 18, 2011 meeting. If not a meeting would have to be scheduled before the end of the year. The board agreed to consider the resolution at the October 18, 2011 meeting.

There was discussion about the building lease agreements with Center Grove Community School Corporation and the Johnson County Sheriff. The WRT Board expressed their thoughts about the current agreements and possible future agreements. The board questioned whether there was a need for the current agreements to be renegotiated.

The opinion of Mark Messick in consultation with legal counsel is that the agreements are not legally binding. Mark Messick is in negotiations with Center Grove Community School Corporation on a new lease. Mark said that he would use a new lease agreement with the Center Grove Community School Corporation as a template for a new agreement with the Johnson County Sheriff.

For a lease agreement to become a legal document it must be approved by the executive body (Trustee) and the legislative body (WRT Board) of the township according to statute per legal counsel.

Minutes of October 04, 2011 White River Township Board Meeting

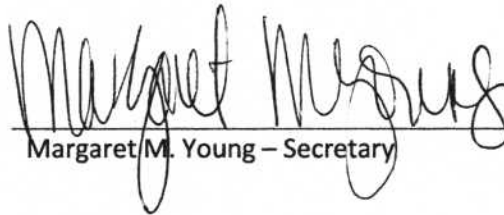
V. **Adjournment -**

Moved by Dave Pollard and seconded by Peggy Young.

The motion is to adjourn the meeting.

Vote: Ayes 3 Nays 0. Meeting was adjourned.

Approved By:


Margaret M. Young – Secretary

11-29-11

Date

Approved By:


Gregory A. Rainbolt – Chairman

11-29-11

Date

Approved By:


David S. Pollard – Member

11-29-11

Date

*A tape and transcript of the above meeting is housed in the Trustee's Office.