

WHITE RIVER TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING  
TRUSTEE'S NOTES  
SEPTEMBER 26, 2017

ATTENDEES: Mark Messick, Gregory Rainbolt, Margaret Young, David Pollard, Mary Sue Kane and Mary Lou Habicht

Meeting was called to order at 7 PM by Greg Rainbolt. First order of business was the Pledge of Allegiance. Greg then noted the people in attendees (see above) and no members of the public were in attendance.

Greg: Part 2 of the agenda is the WRT Resolution 2017-01, the Adoption of 2018 Budget Estimates and Tax Levies. I am going to hand the floor over to trustee Mark Messick and after he speaks we will open the discussion portion.

Mark: I would like to start with reading of the Ordinance and then I would ask that the Board open it up for discussion to discuss the Ordinance. (Mark then read Ordinance WRT 2017-01, see attached copy).

Greg: Do I have a motion to discuss WRT Resolution 2017-01?

Dave: I make a motion.

Greg: Dave makes a motion, do I have a second?

Peggy: I second.

Greg: Peggy Young seconds.

Mark: The first thing I would like for you to look at is the Budget Report By Specified Date Range. If you notice as you go down to the amounts at the end of each session that you see zeros for the totals. That is because we have not increased our budget in any area. There are a couple of areas that you will notice that we are probably going to go over the amount we have for that line item but we will not go over in that section. The first one is Repairs and Maintenance, the second one is Care of Cemeteries and the third is the Care of Township Properties. As I mentioned at the last meeting we had to replace the air conditioner which we took most of those monies out of Repairs and Maintenance. Care of Cemeteries and Care of Township Properties we had headstones that we had to have repaired and we also had a tree that we had to deal with and that caused us to be short in those areas. But overall I think we have funds in those areas that we could look at as an extraordinary expense this year but not something that we need to budget for next year. The second thing that I would bring your attention to is the Annual Financial Report. That just kind of tells you the health of the township and this year for receipts we received \$147,544.85. We dispersed \$109,912.24. So you can see we have gone from \$473,464.96 to a current balance sheet as of today of \$511,097.57. So the township has funds. The next thing I would like to bring your attention to is Budget Form 1. That is what you have already seen and that goes hand in hand with the Budget Report By Specific Date Range and you can see that those are the appropriations that we are asking for by general, by township assistance, and those are the same dollars that we looked at the previous year. The next one is Budget Form 2 and that is the Estimated Miscellaneous Revenue. Part of that is the certified shares and that is what we are thinking we are going to bring in for monies for next year. Those things are indicated in that area. That is kind of how we go about trying to set our tax levy. The next thing I ask you to look at is the Notice to Taxpayers and that is just hand and hand with what we are presenting tonight the total township budget including general assistance is \$174,630 which is the same as last year. But we decreased the amount of funds being raised to just being \$100,000 versus last year I think we raised \$144,000. So our current tax levy is shown there at \$144,039 and this year we are only asking for \$100,000 to be raised thru taxes. So you can tell everybody you decreased their taxes this next year. The next one is the Budget Report and that

is the Form 4A which is there again clarifying what we are raising and in what areas. The last thing is the Estimate for Financial Statement for Proposed Tax and that just shows an 18 month lowering amount and it shows you our net asset value. So from those standpoints again it shows that we are a healthy township. If you approve the budget I have to submit all of those forms to the DLGF along with form 4A where you put your Resolution in. The other thing I did not give you a copy but I'm just going to make the Board aware. This is an Error Prevention Report and what that does is when we click on that it tells us if we have any areas where we put funds in that we could not do it or if we have an imbalance according to the information I gave you. The only thing that is missing for us to have zero errors is the signed ordinance. We can't do that until we have a signed ordinance. So that is pretty much it from me so I would ask the Board at this time to discuss and approve the presented budget.

Greg: Ok we talked about 31B 5000 category. Could you explain that again to me what that category is under Care of Cemeteries?

Mark: Care of Cemeteries we are asking for \$7,500 which we have done every year. This year we over spent that area so we moved money from Care of Township Property into that area so that is why it shows that we are increasing it by \$1000 but we are not, we are just taking it back to what we have done in the previous years to \$7,500 for Care of Cemeteries and \$5,000 for Care of Township Properties. That is what I was talking about earlier. We did three things, we fixed a fence, we had trees we had to deal with and we had headstones reset. So we took that away from Care of Township Property. Care of Cemetery shows we only have 1% left in that area and the Care of Township Property we only have 14%. So \$30 and \$558 is what we have left. We are going to go over those numbers so we will be moving money from another category in category 3 to cover those. Just like last year I don't see that as a problem. At the end of the year I will tell you what we moved and how we were able to overcome the amount of monies that we had to spend. Are there any other questions?

Greg: Any other questions, any other discussion?

Dave: No, not from me.

Peggy: I just have from last time that you mentioned Mark that you may need to use the funds in Utility Services possibly and Professional Services to move it.

Mark: Yes that is where we will go to move it.

Peggy: For mowing or moving stone or whatnot.

Mark: Right.

Peggy: Ok.

Mark: We have money left over in Advertising and Printing and we have no more of that for this year. We have monies left over in Utility Services because we have done a good job about maintaining our utilities here, lights, electric and things like that.

Peggy: I don't have anything further.

Greg: Nothing further from Dave, nothing further from Peggy, nothing further from me, I am going to ask for a vote to adopt this Budget and WRT Resolution 2017-01. All those in favor indicate by saying Aye (all board members said Aye). Three Ayes, the Resolution has passed and the Budget has been adopted.

Mark: While you are doing the signatures I would like to bring up some other items for the township. I don't know if at the last meeting if I mentioned the fact that Trafalgar wants to buy this desk back here. We have this blond colored desk back here that has never been used since the school left. They want to buy that. We can sell it to them for a penny; we can sell it to them for any amount that I determine that they will pay. But in order to do that it has to be in the minutes that a discussion was held and that the Board is aware that I'm going to sell that desk and credenza and stuff.

Peggy: Why, why do you want to sell it?

Mark: It is useless to us and they want it.

Peggy: How do they know about it?

Mark: They came for a DLGF meeting and they saw it and they said that it was something they could use in their office. They asked Dawn Ray if it was something that we might sell. I talked to Steve Buschmann and Steve Buschmann said as long as it is in the minutes of the board that the board is aware that you are considering that to be of no value to the township and the board agrees you to sell it then you can do that.

Dave: I didn't know you could sell stuff like that, I thought you had to auction it.

Mark: Since it is inter-government, we don't have to auction it. We don't even have to have it appraised. I would entertain selling it to them and I would probably call a used furniture place and ask what they think the value would be and that is probably what I would ask for. Then those funds would be considered income and would be recorded, we would receive and deposit it.

Peggy: I don't know what it looks like.

Greg: We can take a look at it.

Peggy: I could use something like that in my house if I knew it was available.

Mark: If we sell it to you, we would have to have it appraised and the Board would have to approve that.

Peggy: I'm not saying that you wouldn't, I'm just saying if people don't know items are here to possibly purchase.

Mark: That involves basically hiring somebody like Christys or something like that and they would get a percentage and we would get a percentage. If we do it inter-government, we don't have to do that.

Greg: So you don't know the value of it?

Mark: I have no clue. I know it has sat here for 7 years.

Peggy: Because no one knows it is here.

Mark: We have office furniture in some of the other offices back here too.

Dave: Do you have enough stuff to have an auction?

Mark: Not really. By the time we pay Christys to do it, we would probably get...

Dave: I could get it done cheaper than that.

Greg: Actually the school has auctioned before and what they get for some of that stuff is minimal.

Mark: When those trailers went away out here, all of the stuff that was basically in those trailers that I didn't move out of there, the school took and put it in an auction and we got nothing from them. The people who were buying were buying for salvage. They were of not value to us. We moved some of the file cabinets into our vault.

Greg: Any thoughts?

Peggy: Did the trustee's office pay for it or is it the schools?

Mark: It was the schools originally but we inherited it. When we traded the buildings it became our property. That was part of the deal, they got the furniture over there and we got the furniture that was in this building.

Peggy: Then they bought new furniture.

Mark: They did.

Greg: If it is not going to be of any use to us and the value of it, I would not have any idea.

Mark: Do you have an idea of a minimum you would like to see us get?

Peggy: Usually stuff like that is what they are willing to pay. That would be my guess.

Mark: We can put a range in there, you would like me to ask this much but will accept that much.

Peggy: I have no clue.

Mark: I think we can easily get a \$150 for it.

Peggy: I would say absolutely.

Mark: They would have to come get it and take it out of here.

Peggy: I think that would be a great deal.

Greg: I think we should probably get something in return.

Peggy: I think those credenzas are worth \$150.

Dave: You said you were or were not going to get somebody to give you an estimate on it?

Mark: I am going to call a used furniture guy and ask him, send him a picture on my cellphone and ask him what he thinks it is worth.

Peggy: He would be the one to know.

Mark: They would know. There is a place downtown where they go and buy up buildings of furniture and then they turn around and sell it, liquidators or something like that, furniture liquidators or something like that.

Peggy: Are they friends of yours or will they charge us?

Mark: I imagine they will just give us an estimate; I'm not going to pay for an estimate.

Peggy: Ok.

Greg: You don't see any other Department of Local Government within the township that could use it?

Mark: We don't have any use of it.

Peggy: My guess would be at least \$300.

Mark: Ok.

Peggy: But I don't know what the estimate is going to come in at. I think those credenzas are pretty nice.

Mark: I will find out what the guy says and based on what he says and what you say and if it is similar we will go with \$300.

Greg: I don't have a problem if we don't have a use for it and we get something in return for the taxpayers and also there is no other WRT Local Government that might use it.

Mark: I will talk to the Fire Dept. I need that entered in your minutes.

Dave: It is being recorded.

Mark: I need it in your minutes too.

Greg: Right, so there was a discussion.

Mark: I will discuss with Greg before we have a final deal.

Peggy: Perfect.

Greg: Alright, is there any other business?

Mark: We have helped some people lately. We got a check today from a lien that we put on for a burial that we did, a cremation that we did for \$860.00. We got a check from the estate today for \$860.

Dave: Where does that go, in the Burial Fund then?

Mark: It goes into our General Fund, it has already been spent and appropriated but it will be added to our bottom line as unincorporated funds.

Peggy: The lien worked then.

Mark: I would say we made about \$700 back, more than that probably, whatever the lien cost us because we paid S. Buschmann. That is the second time we have gotten money back. We did it one other time when the guy died over there on Mullenix Road. This guy I think lived up off Smokey Row Road. That has been a couple of years.

Greg: Anything else?

Mark: This guy had a wife and they had property and I told them at the time if we helped we put a lien on and we did. I did a presentation today on burials for Indiana Townships and that is one thing I told them, it may be a year, maybe two years, maybe forever long but when they go to sell that property or settle the estate they have to settle with us and twice we have seen that happened.

Dave: You also have to go thru a settlement process before you legally settle in court don't you?

Mark: We presented it to the clerk and the paperwork down there is apparently there but what ended up happening was the lawyer called and he said he wanted to get this settled, can you send us a copy of what you sent to the clerk? I sent them a copy and we got a check two days after we sent them a copy. They wanted to get that estate closed and no telling how long it would have taken the clerk. One other thing I will say again we still have questions whether or not the furnace is going to work when we fire it

up. We have not had any cold days and have not fired it up yet. If that happens we may have to have a meeting for an additional appropriation.

Greg: We will probably have a meeting at the end of the year as normal.

Mark: We will have a meeting at the end of the year at which time we will do our Form 17 which is our salary resolution. I don't see that changing in anyway other than the fact we may change the amount of money per hour that we pay the clerks and we may change the amount of money that we pay the investigator per case. It is in the budget but there will be a discussion, we have budgeted this much, do you feel comfortable in increasing pay to this much.

Dave: I didn't think you used an investigator anymore?

Mark: Yes we do. The investigator that we currently use, Tom Calvano, has some health issues right now and he is going to cease to be our investigator the end of October but he is going to take a two week vacation on his own. So the last two weeks of October I will be doing the investigations until he formally resigns as our investigator. At that time I will be looking for a new investigator.

Greg: Hearing no other business, I will ask for adjournment.

Dave: I make a motion.

Peggy: I second.

Greg: Having a first and a second, the meeting is adjourned.

Next scheduled Board Meeting will be Monday, December 18, 2017 at 9 AM.