# Wheatland Township Board of Directors Meeting Minutes Thursday, March 13, 2025

# 1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Crowner at 7:32 p.m.

# 2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

led the pledge of allegiance.

# 3. ROLL CALL AND ESTABLISHMENT OF A QUORUM

<u>Board Members:</u> Trustees Jones, Rotkis and Tyson attended the meeting. Trustees Krzywinski was absent.

<u>Board Officers</u>: Supervisor Crowner, Clerk Liskey, Tax Collector/Cemetery David Scriven-Young and Assessor Katzberg attended the meeting. Highway Commissioner Wieser attended electronically.

# 4. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

# 5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

# 5.1. Approval of January 9, 2025 – Regular Board Meeting Minutes

- Trustee Rotkis motioned to open discussion/approval of the minutes from the January 9, 2025, Regular Board Meeting, and Trustee Jones seconded the motion.

- The minutes from the January 9 Regular Board Meeting were approved 3-0 via roll-call vote.

\*\*Supervisor Crowner motioned to postpone the Board meeting for 15 minutes to allow newly appointed Trustee Tyson to be sworn into her position, and Trustee Jones seconded the motion. The Board meeting was adjourned briefly to accommodate the oath and resumed at 7:37 p.m.

# 5.2 Approval of January 9, 2025 – Executive Session Board Meeting Minutes

- Supervisor Crowner motioned to table approval of the January 9, 2025, Executive Session meeting minutes to the March Board Meeting. Trustee Rotkis seconded the motion. Approval of the Jan 9 Executive Session Meeting Minutes was postponed 4-0 via roll call vote.

# 6. NEW BUSINESS

# 7. APPROVAL OF BILLS & CLAIMS

# 7.1 Town and Road District Fund Bills & Claims

- Trustee Rotkis motioned to open discussion/approval of the January 2025 Town and Road District Fund Bills and Claims and Trustee Jones seconded the motion.

-Trustee Jones asked about SpringGreen lawncare charges. Tax Collector Scriven-Young clarified the expense was for lawncare services for both the township and cemetery

- Monthly bills and claims of \$173,027.91 were unanimously approved by the Board 4-0 via rollcall vote.

# 9 REPORTS

# 9.1 Administrator/Deputy Clerk Green

-Updated a \$75k grant had been completed and submitted. Confirmed approximately \$325k in grants monies had been secured for Wheatland Township during the past 12 months.

-Reported he was participating in training through the Department of Public Administration & the Center for Governmental Studies School of Public and Global Affairs at Northern Illinois University on February 15.

# 9.2 Assessor Katzberg

- Presented the Assessor's 2025 budget proposal, beginning with a review of the past 20 years, detailing dramatic increases in the scope of work and reduction in staffing levels that have occurred during that time. Discussed additional challenges including pay discrepancies with other neighboring townships and noted that the final budget would include a request for pay increases for the assessor deputies.

-Reported the assessor's staff was currently focused on processing general homestead exemptions which would continue during the month of February.

# 9.3 Road Commissioner Wieser

- Informed that the road crew was preparing for predicted snowstorms expected later in the week, and noting resident feedback on snow removal this year to date had been positive.

- Supervisor Crowner requested an update on the easement proposal for Tower Court, and Road Commissioner Wieser noted concerns had been addressed and confirmed he would submit blueprint drawings for Board review in the coming weeks and in advance of the groundbreaking scheduled for spring 2025.

# 9.4 Trustees Reports:

Trustee Jones

-No report

Trustee Krzywinski -No report

# **Trustee Rotkis**

-No report

#### Trustee Tyson -No report

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# 9.5 Clerk Liskey

- Reported eight FOIAs were received during January, noting a significant increase in requests was experienced during the month and continuing into February. Confirmed the Clerk's office was up to date in responding to the requests received to date, with one response still in process.

- Noted that she, along with Supervisor Crowner and Trustee Rotkis would be serving on a second electoral board panel on Friday, February 14, 2025, to consider a second objection submitted to Wheatland Township regarding an assessor candidate for the consolidated election on April 1, 2025.

- Confirmed the names of Wheatland Township elected officials had been verified with Will County for the 2025 Statements of Economic Interest submissions, noting she would follow up to add newly appointed Trustee Margaret Tyson.

#### 9.6 Tax Collector/Cemetery David Scriven-Young

- Commended the Wheatland Township Road Crew, specifically calling out Kevin Martinich, for proactive assistance in plowing the cemetery in advance of a scheduled burial service.

#### 9.7 Supervisor Crowner

- Reminded the Board that a replacement for Trustee Hickey (who resigned in January) would need to be appointed to serve on the Senior Committee at the March meeting, in advance of the luncheons which are scheduled to resume in April. -Reported he was continuing outreach efforts with other Townships to network and

identify best practices for consideration by Wheatland Township.

#### **10. ADJOURNMENT**

- Trustee Jones motioned to adjourn the meeting, and Trustee Rotkis seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m. via voice vote.

#### Next Regular Township Board Meeting: March 13, 2025, at 7:30 PM

Approved by: <u>Anita Liskey</u> Clerk, Wheatland Township