

Wacouta Township  
November 14, 2022 Meeting Minutes

Following is the written text of the business transacted by the Wacouta Board of Supervisors at its monthly meeting held on November 14, 2022. Board members present were: Supervisors John Plehal, George Thoma, and Daryl Franklin. Also, Laan Dommer, Clerk/Treasurer was present. The meeting was held at the town hall, 27700 Grace Trail, Red Wing, Minnesota.

- 1) Chair John Plehal called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
- 2) Approval of the minutes for the October 11, 2022, monthly meeting. Thoma made a motion to approve the minutes; seconded by Franklin. The motion carried.
- 3) Old Business:
  - a) Election wrap-up: Dommer reviewed the recent General Elections held Tuesday, November 8, 2022. Notes of appreciation were given to the election judges and Head Election Judge, Laura Lutjen, for the excellent help.
  - b) Notice of Special Election: Dommer read the Notice of Filing for the 2023 Special General Election, Goodhue County, Minnesota. This will be held Tuesday, February 14, 2023, for the purpose of electing a candidate for the office of County Commissioner – District 5.
- 4) New Business
  - a) Roads and Trail:
    - i) Plehal reviewed some of the recent winter snow removal communications and plans that were made with the current contractor, Riverland Excavating.
  - b) Planning and Zoning:
    - i) Thoma reviewed the update on the setback questions for the Bill & Emily McElmury permit.  
Any issues to date have been resolved.
    - ii) Thoma introduced Steve Nelson, newly appointed Planning Commissioner, who is filling out the vacant Franklin seat. His term will expire on December 31, 2024.
    - iii) AirBnB: Plehal opened a preliminary discussion about the potential for reviewing the zoning ordinance, regarding AirBnB allowances, and to whether to form a committee or ask neighboring townships for their input. Franklin has information from Florence Township regarding their recent actions which include a moratorium. Commissioner Betcher asked whether it should be proposed at an annual meeting. The discussion was tabled for now and Plehal requested gathering information from neighboring townships.
    - iv) Permits: No new permits were discussed.

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November 14, 2022 Meeting Minutes

- c) Town Hall, Cemetery, & adjacent areas:
  - i) Franklin reviewed the requested furnace bids that were submitted. Thoma made a motion to accept the bid from Ziemer Heating & Cooling for \$ 4,460, as presented; seconded by Franklin. The motion carried.
  - ii) Town Hall: Franklin reviewed recent requests for hall use. Plehal suggested that a consistent policy be established which includes rental rates & deposits. A motion was made by Thoma that the refundable security deposit rate be increased to \$100- and if you break it, you buy it; seconded by Franklin. The motion carried.  
Also, a written policy for use and fees was suggested.
- d) Website development: Plehal contacted Kyle Mehrkens to review the current website. His work is underway.
- e) MAT training in Rochester is November 29, 2022.
- f) County Commissioner Sue Betcher was introduced and fielded questions.
- g) Deputy Sheriff Matt Garrick was present to answer questions.

5) Treasurer's Report as of October 31, 2022.

- a) Bills were presented in the amount of \$ 2,642.83 to be paid for the October 2022 checks (*disbursements & payroll*).  
Thoma made the motion to approve the Treasurer's report and bills for \$ 2,642.83; Franklin seconded it. The motion carried.

- 6) The next scheduled monthly meeting is Monday, December 12, 2022, at 7:00 p.m.  
Thoma made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Plehal. Motion carried at 8:00 PM.

-Submitted by Laan Dommer