
BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Gary Wall, Supervisor
Kim Markee, Clerk
Steve Thomas, Treasurer
Anthony Bartolotta, Trustee
Marie E. Hauswirth, Trustee
Janet Matsura Trustee
Mark Monohon, Trustee

ABSENT:

None

OTHERS PRESENT:

Mary Craite

Derek Diederich

Robin McGregor

Agenda included:

1. OCC Campus Tour Follow-Up
2. Guidehouse Grant Services
3. Sidewalks
4. Opportunity for Trustees to Discuss Topics of Concern
5. Public Comments Limited to Three (3) Minutes Per Speaker

Supervisor Wall opened the meeting by asking the Trustees what they thought of OCC after taking the tour. Most of the Trustees agreed that OCC has a lot of potential, however, the costs would be one of the major factors in making a decision, and we still need the costs to make a decision. Trustee Matsura thought it seemed like a money pit because of how old it was, and the leaking roof was a big concern. Clerk Markee thought it had potential depending on the costs, and the timing may be right considering what may or may not occur with the School District and the Senior Center. Trustee Hauswirth thought the residents would support it because we would be re-purposing a facility, and it is also connected to Hess Hathaway Park. There were already a few people who attended a Board of Trustee meeting in support of making it a Community Center. Trustee Hauswirth would hate to see the facility sit empty and she also supported residential development all around it. Treasurer Thomas liked the banquet facility and thinks the Township could realize income by renting it for events such as weddings. Trustee Bartolotta thought it had possibilities but the parking needs improvement for accessibility. Trustee Monohon thought it could be an anchor for development in that part of the township, and possibly we could leverage MEDC or Oakland County for funding. Supervisor Wall then asked if we should pursue getting a study completed to provide an estimate for the costs and value of the property we were looking at, and all the Board Members agreed to move forward with getting a market value estimate for the pieces that Waterford Township would be interested in.

Supervisor Wall said he would set up a meeting with Scott Lindberg, Superintendent-Waterford Schools, to see what their plans are for the current Senior Center.

Mr. Diederich, Budget Director asked the Board if they would be interested in having Baker Tilly come talk to them to explain the process of a bond and what the timing would be for placing a bond question on the November 2024 ballot. There are a lot of steps before it gets on the ballot. The Board agreed that they would like Baker Tilly to attend one of the September work sessions. Mr. Diederich will reach out to them and bring them in for one of the upcoming work sessions.

Mr. Diederich also asked the Board if they would be interested in grant services provided by Guidehouse, and the Board agreed to have them come to one of the September work sessions. Clerk Markee said she would like to see their success rate for obtaining grants and the amount of grants that they have received for different municipalities. She would also like the names of the municipalities so she could reach out to them to ask if they were satisfied with Guidehouse's performance. Do they also have preliminary engineering services for us, or could they obtain grants for evaluating possible projects in the future? It seems that DLZ has been taking a long time to get the information about projects to us. Trustee Monohon said that SEMCOG has started a program to help with funding preliminary studies for municipalities, and he asked if the Board would like a representative from SEMCOG to come and talk to the Board. Clerk Markee said we would like them to send someone in person given the amount that Waterford pays to belong to SEMCOG. If they cannot attend in person, then we could do a Zoom meeting or Teams meeting. The Board agreed they would like to hear from a SEMCOG representative to understand the benefits that SEMCOG can provide.

Supervisor Wall informed the Board that we need to take a proactive approach to fixing our sidewalks. Mr. Diederich informed the Board that in 1982, the Township collected \$311,000 for the repair of sidewalks, and in today's dollars that would equate to \$1 million. Clerk Markee asked what the voters were paying for this sidewalk repair SAD in 1982 and Supervisor Wall thought it was \$15 to \$20 per household and every household paid the same.

Clerk Markee informed the Board about the added requirements for Waterford's 2024 Elections due to Proposal 22-2 passing. There will be nine days of early voting starting the second Saturday before the Election and going through the Sunday before the Election for eight hours per day. We will partner with Oakland County because it will save the Township a substantial amount of money since Oakland County will purchase all the voting machines and voting booths and provide three workers to work the Early Voting Center. Lake Angelus will join Waterford, and most likely Waterford will have two Early Voting Centers, one at the Library Community Room and one sponsored by the County where all county residents could go to vote which most likely will be at Waterford Oaks on Watkins Lake Rd. Clerk Markee said she would be bringing the Interlocal Agreement to one of the future Board meetings. Also, the Presidential Primary dates have not been determined by the State, and most likely the Clerk's office will be required by the State to mail a selection card asking the absentee voter if they would like a Democrat or a Republican ballot. If the voter **does not return** the card, they will be mailed a non-partisan ballot which would not have any presidential candidates on it. This will confuse the voters and the voters will ask the Clerk's Office to spoil and reissue them a ballot that has the presidential candidates on it. They will think the Clerk's Office mailed them the wrong ballot, but because they never returned the selection card to the Clerk's Office, a non-partisan ballot was mailed. The Clerk's Office will have to spoil their ballot and then re-issue them a partisan ballot. Many more changes will be implemented in a Presidential year, and Clerk Markee asked the Trustees to spread the word to all voters that they need to look and watch out for all official election mail that is sent by the Local Clerk's Office.

The meeting adjourned at 5:40 p.m.