

---

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

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

**ABSENT:**

Marie E. Hauswirth, Trustee

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Mark Simlar

Alison Swanson

Robin McGregor

**Agenda included:**

1. Opportunity for Trustees to Discuss Topics of Concern
2. Public Comments Limited to Three (3) Minutes Per Speaker

Supervisor Wall opened the meeting by asking the Trustees what concerns they have. Clerk Markee explained her concerns about the changes to the Elections due to Proposal 22-2 passing in November. The Clerk's Office will be mailing out a Permanent Ballot Request Form asking all registered voters in Waterford if they would like to receive a ballot mailed to them automatically for every election to the address on file for them. There will be several new seasonal workers in the Clerk's Office to help with processing these forms when the residents return them. Eventually, there will not be a Permanent Absentee Voters Application list because the applications will go away, however, for next year, there will be two lists of voters including the Automatic Ballot List and the Application List. We will also have Early In-Person Voting most likely located at the Library and the Waterford Oaks Activity Center, and plan to partner with Oakland County and the City of Lake Angelus. We will add three new Election drop boxes and they will require additional labor hours to send two people every day to check them, which may take about two hours to go around the Township to pick up the election mail from the five drop boxes. The Presidential Primary will be challenging because a separate card will have to be sent to registered voters before we can mail a ballot so they can request a Democrat or a Republican ballot. If there is a non-partisan question on the Presidential Primary ballot, most likely we will have to mail them a non-partisan ballot if they do not return their ballot request card choosing Democrat or Republican. They will think we made an error and call or come in person asking about the presidents that they want to vote for and why they are not on their ballot. This will require extra work to spoil and reissue the ballots. Also, some of the cut-off dates for spoiling ballots have changed and we still do not know the dates of the election next year. It could be February 27<sup>th</sup> or March 12<sup>th</sup>. Pre-paid postage will also be provided to absentee voters. When communicating to your constituents, please make sure they read all the election mail that is coming from their local Clerk's Office, and not from special interest groups. The special interest groups add a lot of confusion and extra work to the process. Overall, the changes will cost the State of Michigan taxpayers millions of dollars to implement.

Clerk Markee also shared her concerns regarding the Williams and Hatchery Rd development. There was a playground installed in the center of the development with sidewalks going directly to it, however, there are no basements or homes built yet. Supervisor Wall was also concerned and said that we requested the developer to fence off the playground until the homes were built. Some residents are very unhappy with the amount of dirt that blows across their homes and driveways.

Trustee Monohon explained that Mike Harris is following up on the Hawk Signal, but still has not heard anything. He also asked about Carrie Lees and was wondering if it was sold, but no one heard anything about it. He saw someone there cleaning out the building.

Trustee Matsura asked about two items; do we have the purchase price for OCC, and why are we thinking about NOCRRRA? Supervisor Wall said no we do not have the purchase price yet and he is working on it with Plante Moran and OCC to come up with a fair price for the specific buildings and land that we are interested in. This could take a while before we receive a price. Supervisor Wall explained that the Resolution for NOCRRRA was only to study the benefits of joining and it is not to join at this time, only to let them know we are interested in finding out the cost and benefits to our residents. If it does not benefit Waterford residents, then we would not join, however, usually when you go with a larger group, you can get a better price due to economies of scale. Trustee Matsura thinks that GFL is doing a good job, so we should consider them, and Supervisor Wall thought that they would bid on the larger areas with NOCRRRA. He also said that SOCRRA has been operating in the southern part of the county since the early 1950s, and they seem pleased with this authority.

Treasurer Thomas asked if we saw the huge dumpster sitting in the Town Hall parking lot that was overflowing. He was concerned when they haul it away that debris will fall out and cause a litter problem. Supervisor Wall said they would cover it before they haul it away to prevent the debris from falling out. Treasurer Thomas also thought the Summit Place Mall area would be a great place for a Trade School, or anywhere in the Township. He said Waterford could use a Trade School to teach trades to kids who do not want to attend college. The trades are an important part of our economy, and he is concerned there will not be enough workers in the trades to meet the demands of the future. Supervisor Wall suggested for him to talk to Ari who is the owner of the land. Trustee Bartolotta said that Jeff and Arie have met numerous times to see what a viable business for that location could be.

Trustee Bartolotta said the Planning Commission has been reviewing the details of the proposed Master Plan for three hours per week, and there were some things the contractor missed that we are asking them to include. The Crescent Lake Board Meeting went well for the first time but was very long. The Township Attorney was also present at the meeting. The residents will receive a credit on their winter tax bill because there were some funds left over in their accounts. The location of the old White Castle off of Elizabeth Lake Rd is asking to put a drive-through on this property.

Supervisor Wall asked if the Trustees had seen the recent pit bull email, and they had not. He went on to explain that there was a death from a pit bull and that is why Waterford has banned the breed. Their jaws lock on and do not let go. He also said he loves dogs; however, he does not want to revisit something that has been in place since 1989.

Mark Simlar, Personnel Director, asked about making a bridge vendor a single source vendor based on DLZ's recommendation for a bridge vendor. DLZ has worked closely with this vendor and thinks they do a quality job at a reasonable cost. All Trustees seemed to be optimistic about this vendor.

Alison Swanson, Parks and Rec Director, and Mark Simlar, Personnel Director presented their concerns about the Oakland County Earth Science Club (the Club) using space in the basement of the Rec Center Building. Each time it rains hard, the basement floods which costs the Township thousands to clean up, and if the Club was not there the Waterford Facilities and Operations workers could use shop vacs and clean it instead of paying a restoration company thousands of dollars to clean up the flood waters. They showed the Board numerous pictures of the basement and the letter that was approved by Joellen Shortley, the Attorney, that they planned to mail it to the Club, and the Trustees were okay with sending the letter.

Alison Swanson, Parks and Rec Director, informed the Trustees to go online and complete the Parks and Rec Survey because they are planning a new five-year plan for the Parks and Rec department. The survey will be open for input through September 30, 2023.

Trustee Bartolotta said that Gary Allison, the Cable Coordinator, is accepting new ideas to refresh Channel 20, the cable municipal channel. This channel is looking tired compared to other municipality's channels and a refresh is being worked on. If you are interested, you can submit your ideas to Gary Allison for the refresh.

The meeting adjourned at 5:45 p.m.