

November 2, 2022

## COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MINUTES

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BOARD-IN PERSON WITH PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AVAILABLE THROUGH ZOOM

Commissioners Present in person: Huebel, Dutcher, Finley, Miner, and O'Farrell.

Absent: None.

Vacant: None.

Also Present: Nancy J. Huebel, County Clerk/Assistant County Administrator; Jamie Carruthers-Soboleski, County Controller/Financial Director; Jason Ogden, Press; Scott Frank, Iosco County Sheriff; Cathy Anderson, Iosco County Treasurer; Raymond Bruning, II, EMS Operations Manager; Ron Whitney, Veterans Service Officer; Shawn Flynn, Flynn Landscaping Owner; Ed Beckley, Veteran; Thomas Bain, Veteran; Clifton Nichols, Veteran; Felicia Sharbek Whitney, Veteran; Edward Whitney, Veteran; Michael Frank, Veterans Affairs Chairman

**Meeting called to order after a five-minute recess following the full Board meeting.**

### **New Business:**

#### **Jamie Carruthers-Soboleski, County Controller/Finance Director – Snowplow Bids**

Iosco County received three sealed bids. Carruthers-Soboleski asked Bruce Bolen, Iosco County Road Commission Manager/Engineer, to review the bid specifications. Bolen recommended some changes but said to keep the specification saying to start plowing snow at three-inches. Salt will be asked for at the discretion of Iosco County officials, Carruthers-Soboleski, Nancy Huebel, County Clerk, and/or Scott Frank, Sheriff. The bids do not include shoveling the sidewalks as this will be done by the trustees. The board would like Carruthers-Soboleski to make a recommendation and come to the full board on November 16, 2022.

#### **Jamie Carruthers-Soboleski, County Controller/Finance Director – Appoint Joseph Perrera, Superintendent of Whittemore-Prescott Area Schools, to the Planning Commission**

The newly adopted Planning Commission Ordinance requires an individual from the school district to be appointed to the board and to have coverage from all parts of the county. Joseph Perrera is the Superintendent of Whittemore-Prescott Area Schools. The current board, which will have to be re-appointed, does not have anyone from the Whittemore-Prescott area represented on the board or from the school district. Perrera will check two boxes and would make a good addition to the Planning Commission. Dutcher motions to take the appointment of Perrera to the Planning Commission to the full board for consideration and Huebel seconds. All ayes. Motion carried.

## Old Business:

### Ron Whitney, Veterans Service Officer – Veterans Service Building

Carruthers-Soboleski looked into the old Michigan State Police (MSP) Building in Iosco County. The MSP are leasing the building; it belongs to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR). If the DNR wants to sell the building to Iosco County, then it would have to go through legislature first. The Veterans Board wants to purchase a building and has \$100,000 for a down deposit. However, the Veterans Board legally cannot purchase or own property. Iosco County would have to purchase the building and will hold any debt that is associated with said purchase. Carruthers-Soboleski recommends that debt does not continue longer than the Veterans Millage term. Currently, the Veterans Affairs is budgeted for \$54,000 per year for a building. The building that the veterans board is looking at is in a strategic location and handicap accessible. Home Depot will do repair work and make the building suitable to Whitney's needs at no cost to Iosco County. Carruthers-Soboleski recommends hiring a debt/loan consultant, which will be paid from the Veterans Millage. Dutcher motions to move forward with getting quotes from a debt/loan consultant and Miner seconds. All ayes. Motion carried.

### County Controller's Report: Jamie Carruthers-Soboleski, County Controller/Finance Director

#### Recycling

A survey regarding recycling needs and opinions is on the Iosco County website as well as several other municipalities websites. Our consultant says that Iosco County has the most responses in the region. The survey is finished on November 18, 2022.

#### Parks and Recreation

Denise Kline from NEMCOG met with Carruthers-Soboleski and several Parks and Recreation Commission members to discuss map options for the region. The map will show ORV, Snowmobile, biking, hiking, and equestrian trails. A QR code will be placed on the maps or cards to allow individuals to download the map to their phones. The maps are being partially funded from the US 23 Heritage Grant.

#### Mechanical

Mike Russo has the plans to repair/redo the stairs to the Annex Building done. They are requesting bids. However, this project needs to be done before winter. Russo is holding a meeting on Monday at 10 am.

Colvin's Cooling and Heating is starting on the Jail roof top furnace unit replacement today.

#### Iosco County Humane Society

The Iosco County Humane Society is in the process of putting up the fence for the dog run. However, there is an old tower and small building attached to it in the area. They would like permission to remove these structures. Iosco County owns it and does not use it anymore. It seems that no company in the surrounding area uses it. Scott Frank, Sheriff, will open the building to see what is in there and will report back to the board. The cost to remove both structures and whether or not the tower can be sold as scrap metal is not known at this time.

Any Other Matters:

Dutcher – Develop Iosco – Winter Farmers Market will be hosted in either Plainfield Township or at the Sand Lake Men’s Association in National City.

Public Comments:

Ron Whitney, Veterans Service Officer – The Iosco County resident who received an Honor Flight in Kalamazoo, Michigan passed away yesterday.

Claims and Accounts: Bills reviewed and approved by Finley, Miner, O’Farrell in the amount of \$634,416.01.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully: Kathleen M. Murphy, Board Secretary