

**WAKEFIELD TOWNSHIP
MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING
MAY 1, 2024 6:30 PM**

Chair Shawn Garding called the meeting to order and lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

Board members present: Shawn Garding, Dave Dold, John Willenbring, Heidi Stalboerger.

Others present: Todd Menke, Mike Nielson, Chris Sonmor, Luke Vossen, Vicki Jungles, Jan Decker, Brad Fredin

Clerk Stalboerger read the posted meeting notice.

Mike Nielson was present and introduced Chris Sonmor, Sonmor Consulting, to the Board. Sonmor reviewed his background and engineering history. He currently owns Sonmor Consulting and collaborates with Mike Nielson and Sambatek Engineering on several projects. Sonmor went on to say that he specializes and works with townships and other municipalities, writes grants, and also works for private clients. He takes a practical, conservative approach, focusing on transparency, value, improvements, and safety. He appreciates the trust his clients offer him and realizes that townships have limited budgets. Sonmor listed projects that he is or has worked on, including a DNR park grant in Cass Lake Park. He highlighted that he has clients in and around the St. Cloud area and the distance of office is not an issue for him. The Board asked about his relationship with Sambatek. He partners with Sambatek for resources since they have a larger office and staff members and can be more cost effective for larger projects. He also collaborates with Mike Nielson. Nielson stated that upon official retirement, he would be willing to function as an independent contractor to continue to work with Sonmor and selective clients, Wakefield Township being one of those clients. The Board reviewed the needs of Wakefield Township, reviewing current, past, and future projects. The group reviewed Sonmor's fee schedule.

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR WILLENBRING SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR DOLD TO HIRE SONMOR CONSULTING FOR ENGINEERING SERVICES AND TO DIRECT THE CLERK TO PROVIDE NOTICE TO WSB, INC TO CANCEL THE CURRENT CONTRACT EFFECTIVE WHEN 2024 PROJECTS ARE COMPLETE. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

The Board directed the Clerk to work with the Township Attorney to review the cancellation of the current engineering contract with WSB, Inc. The Board requested that the Clerk also review the WSB, Inc. 3rd Ave SE project with the Township Attorney.

Members of the Woodland Hills Homeowners Association were present to hear the engineering presentation.

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR WILLENBRING SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR DOLD TO
ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 7:22 PM. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved By,

/s/Heidi M. Stalboerger, Clerk

/s/Shawn Garding, Board Chair