

NORWAY TOWNSHIP BOARD MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES: April 8, 2024

Board members present: Don Byczek, Supervisor; Joyce Giuliani, Clerk; Dave Solda, Trustee.
Absent: Jeff Edwards, Treasurer; Mike Steeno, Trustee.

1. Meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. Pledge was recited.
2. Approve/amend agenda: Motion was made by Solda, second by Giuliani, to accept the agenda as presented. All ayes. Passed 3-0.
3. Citizens' Time: None
4. Approve minutes for last month's meeting: Motion was made by Solda, second by Giuliani, to approve the minutes from the March 12 Public Budget Hearing March 12 board meeting. All ayes. Passed 3-0.
5. Financial reports for last month: financial reports were reviewed and discussed.
6. Bills for approval: Bills were reviewed. Motion was made by Solda, second by Byczek, to pay the bills as presented. All ayes. Passed 3-0.
7. Guest: Bruce Moore, President of Highline Interment. Mr. Moore gave an update of how the project is going in Norway Township. He stated that if there were enough people who would sign up for their service in the River Meadows area, they could run lines to those customers. He also said that if there was interest, Highline provides classes on things like streaming services and password usage.
8. Assessor's Time: Due to the passing away of Bob Desjarlais, his son Brent will be the assessor for Norway Township. All contracts in effect will remain unchanged. Brent discussed the upcoming assessing audit of Norway Township. One of the things in the audit is continuing education. Training is available in May in Marquette. As per PA660, the township is required to pay for the assessor's training. Brent has asked each of his customer townships to split the cost of this training. Cost is \$90.00 for 2 days. Motion was made by Solda, second by Byczek, to cover this cost. All ayes. Passed 3-0.
9. OLD BUSINESS:
 - a) Blight issues:
 1. Ordinance violation case – this case went to trial earlier today. Outcome was that the trailer has to be removed from the property in 21 days. If not, a charge of \$50.00 per day will be levied until the trailer is moved. The fine will be added to the summer tax bill.
 2. Jensen/Smith blight issue – the yard has been cleaned up. A buyer was looking at the house today. 2 of the cars that were stored at the cemetery gravel pit have been sold and removed. 1 vehicle remains.

3. Several other residents have been sent letters regarding blight conditions on their property.
- b) Road commission update: the road commission is still working with Rep. Jenn Hill to obtain funding of Cty Rd 573. Additional letters have been sent by the road commission to Ms. Hill.
- c) Industrial Park update: the trucking company that was looking at the DICSA building is no longer interested. The county road commission has determined that Myners Driver is an all-season road and they will maintain it.

10. NEW BUSINESS:

- a) Grant from EGLE for renewable energy resources: Elise from Circle Power is working with the township to apply for a \$250,000 grant from the State of Michigan to jurisdictions having a large solar or wind project in their township. We need to submit an Intended Use Plan for the funds to the state as soon as possible. If we get the grant, half of the money will be delivered upon the materials are at the Groveland Mine Project and the other half will come when the project is brought on line.
- b) Change of township attorney: Supervisor Byczek has asked permission to contact other area attorneys to help work with the blight issues. The board agreed.
- c) UPSET Grant request: board members denied the request from UPSET for money as there is no copy of a contract or description what services we would get from them. This is a group based in Marquette.
- d)
- e) Carney Lake milfoil treatment request: a letter was received from the Carney Lake Board asking for Norway Township to help with the cost of milfoil eradication in Carney Lake. Motion was made by Giuliani, second by Solda, to send \$750.00 from the township to assist in the milfoil eradication program at Carney Lake. All ayes. Passed 3-0.

11. Citizens' Time: None

12. Committee Reports: None

13. Board member comments: **Giuliani** – attended the Upper Peninsula Mail Processing Center meeting in Iron Mountain on April 1st. There are a lot of changes planned by the USPS and if they implement these changes, local mail could take up to 4-5 days to be delivered. This would have a terrible effect on absentee ballots as it would add a significant amount of time between the time they are sent out and the time they are received. It also affects medications that are sent by mail, water samples, hospital specimen testing, and many other items.

14. Adjournment: Being no further business, motion was made by Solda, second by Giulian, to adjourn. All ayes. Passed 3-0. Meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m. Next regular board meeting meeting is on Monday, April 8th at 5:30 p.m,

