

NORWAY TOWNSHIP BOARD MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES: February 10, 2025

Board members present: Don Byczek, Supervisor; Joyce Giuliani, Clerk; Jeff Edwards, Treasurer; Dave Solda, Trustee, Brian Pellegrini, Trustee.

1. Meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. Pledge was recited.
2. Approve/amend agenda: Byczek requested to add, under New Business, Item d) Assessor's salary and Item e) Taxable SEV value . Motion was made by Giuliani, second by Pellegrini, to approve the agenda with the requested changes. All ayes. Passed 5-0.
3. Citizens' Time: Tony Baciak – road work estimates from the Dickinson County Road Commission
4. Approve minutes for last month's meeting: Motion was made by Pellegrini, second by Solda to approve the minutes from the January 13<sup>th</sup> meeting as presented. All ayes. Passed 5-0.
5. Assessor's Time: Giuliani read a message sent from the assessor who was not able to attend.
6. Financial reports for last month: financial reports were reviewed and discussed.
7. Bills for approval: Bills were reviewed. Motion was made by Solda, second by Pellegrini to approve the bills as presented. All ayes. Passed 5-0.
8. Guest Time: None
9. OLD BUSINESS:
  - a) Budget discussion for next fiscal year:
    1. Updates at rec area: a security camera system, wiring of the new pavilion and replacement of the old flagpole are planned
    2. Trees at cemetery: a \$4000 grant was awarded to the township by the DNR working with DTE for tree replacement/additions. This is a matching funds grant.
    3. Salaries: 5% raises for the clerk and facilities manager are proposed. Zoning Administration \$50. Other board members opted to not get a raise.
    4. Road work: meeting at Breitung Township hall on Tuesday, 2/12 to finalize road work plans this year.. More information at next meeting.
    5. Cemetery rates: motion was made by Edwards, second by Byczek, to increase the cemetery rates by 3% and to add Placement in Coloumbarium to the list of services. All ayes. Passed 5-0.
    6. Music in the Park program: motion was made by Giuliani, seconded by Edwards, to approve a \$500 sponsorship to the music in the park program. All ayes. Passed 5-0.
  - b) Groveland Mine Solar Project state grant: we have been awarded a grant of \$252,000 by the state. The first half of the grant will be awarded when construction begins on the project which is now scheduled for March 2027. The rest of the money will be awarded upon completion of the project.

10. NEW BUSINESS:

- a) Removal of damaged sidewalks: funds are available at the road commission for work on non-motorized infrastructure. Byczek will ask the road commission for funding of damaged sidewalk removal.
  - b) UPSET request: motion was made by Edwards, second by Giuliani, to contract with UPSET, in the amount of \$500, to assist with operating expenses which aid investigative efforts regarding drug enforcement in the township. Vote was 3-2 for approval, with Byczek and Solda voting no. Passed 3-2.
  - c) Budget amendments for 24/25 budget: necessary amendments to the current budget were reviewed. Motion was made by Solda, second by Pellegrini, to adopt the amendments. All ayes. Passed 5-0.
  - d) Assessor's salary: discussion was held on whether to increase the assessor's contract amount for next fiscal year by the CPI amount (which is called for in the contract) or 5%. Motion was made by Edwards to increase the contract amount by 5%. Byczek called for a second 3 times. Motion died for lack of support. The contract will be increased by the CPI (3.19%).
  - e) Taxable (SEV) values: Byczek discussed what the numbers mean and how it affects taxes.
11. Citizens' Time: None
12. Committee Reports: None.
13. Board member comments: **Byczek** –Johnson/Carlson blight case went to court on February 7. Judge ruled in favor of the township. Byczek will work with the defendants on a resolution to the problem. There is another blight case involving shipping containers that will need to be addressed.. Also, it has been proposed by the townships supervisors to have a quarterly meeting to keep informed on issues which affect the townships.
14. Adjournment: Being no further business, motion was made by Giuliani, second by Pellegrini, to adjourn. All ayes. Passed 5-0. Meeting adjourned at 6:40 p.m. Next regular board meeting meeting is on **TUESDAY, MARCH 11th** at 5:30 p.m. due to a scheduling conflict with the Board of Review meeting.

Joyce Giuliani