

NORWAY TOWNSHIP BOARD MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES: January 9, 2023

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

1. Meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Supervisor Byczek. Pledge was recited.
2. Approve/amend agenda: Motion was made by Solda, seconded by LaValley, to approve the agenda as presented. All ayes. Passed 4-0.
3. Citizens' Time: None
4. Approve minutes for last month's meeting: Motion was made by LaValley, seconded by Solda, to approve the minutes from the December 12th meeting. All ayes. Passed 4-0.
5. Financial reports for last month: financial reports were reviewed and discussed.
6. Bills for approval: Bills were reviewed. Motion was made by Solda, seconded by Byczek to pay the bills as presented. All ayes. Passed 4-0.
7. Assessor: Starting work on land values for upcoming tax year. Taxes will be going up 5% this year. The current assessing contract will expire on 4/14/23.
8. OLD BUSINESS:
 - a) Solar project update: petitions were received and are under review at this time.
 - b) Post Office Lease: a letter of negotiation was sent to the agent for the United States Postal Service regarding renewal of the rental agreement.
 - c) Budget for Fy23 – salary raises were discussed. Motion was made by LaValley, seconded by Solda, to increase board members and facilities manager salaries by 5%. Ayes – 3, Nays – 1. Passed 3-1.
 - d) School tax collection fees for 2023: motion was made by Byczek, seconded by Solda, to raise the tax collection fee per parcel for the Norway-Vulcan Area Schools and the Dickinson-Iron Intermediate School district to \$3.50 per parcel per school district. Ayes – 2, Nays – 1, Abstain – 1. Notices of the increase will be sent to both districts.
 - e) Road Commission – Dickinson County Road Commission has changed their plans on road construction work this year. They are going to hold off on Oak Crest Drive until further work is done on the problem area. Spruce St. may be on hold and the work on the north part of Ball Road has been reduced from 7,880 ft to 3,900 feet. Byczek will contact the road commission to find out what is going on.

9. NEW BUSINESS:

- a) Proposed use for Norway Mountain Ski Hill land: project on hold as the group has lost an investor.
- b) Training for Board of Review: mandatory bi-annual training is coming up in February for the Board of Review. The board decided not to send the members this year as they went last year.
- c) Road rally on August 26th: Roger VanDamme, UP Road Rally Club, has asked permission to host a road rally on August 26th using the Norway Truck Trail, Lyons Lake Road , Calumet Mine Road, and the Browns Lake Road. Motion to support the road rally was made by Giuliani, seconded by Solda. All ayes. Mr. VanDamme was referred to the Dickinson County Road Commission to get permission from them.
- d) Summer help: we will be looking to hire 3 full time and 1 part time employee for the summer. Ads will be placed soon.
- e) Guidelines for \$500 bonus: new guidelines were written for summer employees to receive a bonus. Motion was made by Byczek, seconded by Solda, to pay Simon Davey-Farrell, a \$500.00 bonus. Ayes – 3. Nays – 1. Passed 3-1. Simon will be paid on the January 30th payday.
- f) Snow removal rate for this year at the post office: Byczek suggested raising the snow removal rate at the post office from \$25 per removal to \$50 per removal. Byczek will send a letter to the post office regarding the increase.
- g) Appoint representative to the Central Landfill Authority: motion was made by Giuliani, seconded by LaValley, to reappoint Dave Solda to the Central Landfill Authority for this year. Ayes – 3, Nays – 1. Passed 3-1.

10. Citizens' Time: None.

11. Committee Reports: None

12. Board member comments: **Byczek** – John Franczek has offered to sell a 45 acre parcel to the township for \$90,000. Discussion will be held at a later time.

13. Facilities Manager comments: None.

14. Adjournment: Being no further business, motion was made by Solda, support by Giuliani, to adjourn. All ayes. Passed 4-0. Meeting adjourned at 6:40 p.m. Next meeting is on February 14th at 5:30 p.m.

