

NORWAY TOWNSHIP BOARD MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES: May 10, 2021

Board members present: Don Byczek, Supervisor; Joyce Giuliani, Clerk; Kristen LaValley, Treasurer; Dave Solda, Trustee; 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 by Solda, second by Steeno, to accept the agenda as presented. All ayes. Passed 5-0.
3. Citizens' Time: None
4. Approve minutes of April 12th meeting: Motion by LaValley, second by Byczek, to approve minutes as presented. All ayes. Passed 5-0.
5. Financial report: reports for April and last fiscal year were reviewed.
6. Bills for approval: list of bills to be paid was discussed. Motion by Steeno, second by Lavalley, to pay bills as presented. All ayes. Passed 5-0.
7. OLD BUSINESS:
 - a. Update on blight properties: there has been an improvement in the blighted properties since the cases were referred to the township lawyer. There are several other different properties that are in need of work. The Zoning Enforcement Officer will be contacting the property owners this week.
 - b. District 5 paving project: the road commission still has not decided if they are going to add 500 ft. to the original project. The cost of doing the additional 500 ft. is \$13,069 more than the original cost estimate. Work should be starting soon.
 - c. Cemetery projects: received 2 estimates for the paving of the cemetery roads. Costs were higher than anticipated. This will be tabled until the next meeting when more information can be obtained. The trees have been removed and clean up is pretty much done. Two more summer workers have been hired and will start at the end of May. Work will begin soon on filling in the sunken graves and power washing the headstones.
 - d. Spring clean-up: will be held beginning Thursday, May 13th through Sunda, May 16th. No information was received regarding the scrap tire grant for 2021 so we will not be collecting scrap tires at the cleanup site this year.
 - e. Fencing at ballpark: a quote was obtained from Northern Landscaping for installation of a fence that would prevent cars from driving on the grass. Cost is estimated at \$1,400.00. Motion was made by Solda, second by Giuliani, to hire Northern Landscaping to install the fence at a cost not to exceed \$1,400.00. All ayes. Passed 5-0.
 - f. Update on Groveland Mine/solar array project; this project is on hold until the ownership of the mineral rights is decided.

8. NEW BUSINESS:

- a. Review FY20 audit: the audit went well. The only deficiencies noted were the lack of trained accounting personnel to prepare financial reports. The remedy for this is to have township personnel work closely with the accountant.
- b. Planning commission review: the Planning Commission met on April 26th. There were no recommendations from them.
- c. Planning for the use of the American Rescue Plan funds: we have not received any funds yet. At this time uses are limited to broadband improvements, water and sewer improvements, and COVID-related business costs.
- d. Drinking fountain at the ballpark: a question has come up regarding opening up the drinking fountain at the ballpark. It is not against any law to open it up. Health department prefers that we do not open it up as is. They would prefer us to alter it so that you can only fill bottles with it and not drink out of it. Consensus of the board was that we will open it up for drinking as usual and if people are uncomfortable with it they don't have to use it.
- e. County-wide GIS mapping - this project was approved by the County. There is no benefit to any of the jurisdictions in the county from this project.

9. Citizens Time None

10. Committee reports: North Alert Ambulance will be getting its new ambulance this month.

11. Board member comments: **Byczek** - it has been brought to our attention that the city of Norway intends to run water and sewer lines along Oak Crest Drive within the next 3 years. This involves tearing up the roadway. Since Oak Crest Drive was one of the top priority road projects for the township we will have to reprioritize our list of road projects to give to the county.

12. Facility Manager Comments: None

13. Adjournment: Being no further business, motion was made by LaValley, second by Giuliani, to adjourn. All ayes. Passed 5-0. Meeting was adjourned at 6:35 p.m. Next meeting will be June 14, 2021 at 5:30 p.m.

Joyce Giuliani