

NORWAY TOWNSHIP BOARD MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES: September 12, 2022

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

1. Meeting was called to order at 5:33 p.m. by Supervisor Byczek. Pledge was recited.
2. Approve/amend agenda: Giuliani asked to add, under New Business, Item F. Approval of L-4029 Tax Rate form. Motion was made LaValley, second by Solda, to approve the agenda as presented with the addition of Item F, Approval of L-4029 Tax Rate form under New Business. All ayes. Passed 5-0.
3. Citizens' Time: Judy ball – Solar Array Project; Andrew Brynn – Solar Array Project; Rene Skrumbellos – Solar Array Project
4. Approve minutes for last month's meeting: Motion was made by Steeno, second by Solda, to approve the minutes from the August 8th meeting. All ayes. Passed 5-0.
5. Financial reports for last month: financial reports were reviewed and discussed.
6. Bills for approval: Bills were reviewed. Motion was made by Steeno, second by LaValley, to pay the bills as presented. All ayes. Passed 5-0.
7. Township Assessor update: address correction work is continuing on the tax roll. New ruling by State Tax Commission will allow for filing of Principal Residency Exemption at any time, not just at Board of Review. Property taxes for 2023 will probably increase by 5%.
8. OLD BUSINESS:
 - a) St. Our land sale: the land sale is complete. We have received a check from the insurance company for the full amount of the reimbursement to Mr. St. Ours. The neighbors of this land have made an offer to purchase it for \$4500.00 Discussion ensued and it was determined that there would always be a problem with the sewer lines on this lot that would involve extensive legal work to solve. Motion was made by Steeno, second by Giuliani, to sell the lot to Roberta & Darren Mastie in the amount of \$4500.00. Roll call vote: Ayes - LaValley, Giuliani, Byczek, Solda, Steeno. Nays – none. Passed 5-0.
 - b) Little League wish list: the netting for the batting cage has been received. Volunteers from Little League will begin demolishing the old dugouts this fall. They will rebuild the dugouts in time for the spring season with the township paying for the materials. A materials list will be sent to the Supervisor for review before any materials are purchased. A proposal for \$1800 was received by the volunteers to do the cement work for the dugouts.
 - c) Marijuana ordinance: will be sent back to the Planning Commission for more information.
 - d) Zoning Ordinance Map amendment: the Planning Commission received a request Kathy Butler, Kyle Butler and Diane Peppler to rezone three parcels of land(22-004-003-009-00, 22-004-002-009-10, and 22-004-02-010-00) from Residential 3 to Agricultural Production

to allow for putting a mobile home on site. The recommendation from the Planning Commission was to allow the rezoning as requested. Motion was made by LaValley, second by Steeno, to rezone parcels 22-004-003-009-00, 22-004-002-009-10, and 22-004-02-010-00 from Residential 3 to Agricultural Production. All ayes. Passed 5-0.

- e) Circle Power – common lawyer for all three townships for solar array project: supervisors from Norway, Sagola and Felch townships met with representatives of Circle Power to discuss hiring a lawyer that is proficient in laws concerning solar power projects in townships. Fahey, Schultz, Burzych and Rhodes of Okemos, MI was suggested to represent the townships. They can also manage the escrow account that will be set up for costs incurred by the townships.

9. NEW BUSINESS:

- a) Training in Marquette October 4th & 5th : motion made by Solda, second by Steeno, to allow board members to attend the annual MTA training in Marquette. All ayes. Passed 5-0. Reservations need to be made by September 20th.
- b) Replace roofs on office and lawn mower shed at cemetery: materials to replace the roofs is estimated at \$800.00. Paul and Simon will do the work.
- c) Purchasing back lots at the cemetery: Supervisor Byczek was approached by Gayle Bettiga regarding purchasing back 12 lots in the cemetery that she inherited from her father at a cost of \$500.00 for all of them. After discussion, a motion was made by Steeno, seconded by Solda, to purchase back the 12 lots for \$500.00 with proof of ownership presented. Passed 4-1 with Giuliani voting no.
- d) Discounted burials at cemetery: Supervisor Byczek received a request to bury a homeless veterans cremains in his family owned grave at a discounted rate. After discussion, a motion was made by Steeno, seconded by Solda, to approve of burying the veteran for \$350.00. Passed 4-1 with Giuliani voting no.
- e) 3-year road project plan: a memo will be sent to the Dickinson County Road Commission stating that Norway Township would like to do north half of Ball Rd to Casmier's Rd, South Spruce Street, and the 1,000 feet of Oak Crest Drive that is in bad shape in 2023 and Palmcook's Rocky Top Rd in 2024. The 2025 project will be determined at a later date.
- f) Approval of L-4029 Tax Rate for 2022: Giuliani presented form L-4029 to the board. Motion was made by Solda, seconded by Steeno, to approve form L-4029 as presented.

10. Citizens' Time: Stacy Sterba – solar array project; Scott Trash – solar array project; Rene Skrubbellos – solar array project; Frank Devine – solar array project; Rachael Hanson – solar array project; Eric Wickman – solar array project; Pam Trask – solar array project; Becky Robere – solar array project; Ed Stedman – solar array project.

11. Committee Reports: None.

12. Board member comments: **LaValley** – holding office hours from 9 – 4 on Wednesday, Sept. 14th. **Byczek** – working on blight again with good success; the trailer on the St. Ours property needs to be moved by October 1st.
13. Facilities Manager comments: new trees are doing well. Only 2 have died. The others that looked dead have revived.
14. Adjournment: Being no further business, motion was made by Steeno, support by Giuliani, to adjourn. All ayes. Passed 5-0. Meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m. Next meeting is on October 10th at 5:30 p.m. DCTA meeting is on October 17th at 6:30 pm at the Breitung Township hall in Quinnesec.

Joyce Giuliani