

NORWAY TOWNSHIP BOARD MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES: June 11 2018

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 5:00 p.m. by Supervisor Byczek. Pledge was recited.
2. Approve/amend agenda: Motion by Steeno, support by Solda, to approve the agenda as presented.. All ayes. Passed 5-0.
3. Citizens' Time: Jim Harris, DCRC Supervisor - he is making an effort to be more attentive to the townships in the county and will be attending more township meetings in the future.
4. Approve minutes of May 14th meeting: Motion by LaValley, support by Giuliani, to approve minutes as presented. All ayes. Passed 5-0.
5. Financial report: Report of income and expenses for May was reviewed.
6. Bills for approval: list of bills to be paid was discussed. Motion by Steeno, support by LaValley, to approve paying the bills as presented. All ayes. Passed 5-0.
7. OLD BUSINESS:
 - a. Spring Cleanup report: 24 people showed up at the dump site in total. 14 on Friday and 10 on Saturday. We ended up with 2 full dumpsters. The Scrap Tire Grant cleanup is going well. So far township residents have brought in 500 scrap tires. The grant is good for 1500 tires.
 - b. Blight Issues: blight issues in the township are still being monitored continuously. Letters have been sent to several residents regarding cutting of grass, unlicensed, junk vehicles in front yards and general rubbish accumulation in yards. Progress is being made slowly.
 - c. Signs: bids were received from Xcel Graphics and Baker Sign Co to replace the sign in front of the town hall. Motion was made by Giuliani, seconded by LaValley, to award the work to the low bidder, Xcel Graphics. All ayes, except for Byczek who voted nay. Passed 4-1. Giuliani will contact Xcel Graphics to begin work.
 - d. East Vulcan Park/Prosperous Places Mini Grant: still waiting on the work to be done replacing the dirt in the infield of the baseball field. Paperwork for the mini grant was sent in several weeks ago. CUPPAD said the award of the grants should be done mid June and we will be notified of the awards.
 - e. Highway 8 Zoning: a resolution was passed by the Norway Area Planning Commission to create a commercial zoning overlay of 250 ft. on each side of the road along U.S. Highway 8 from Old Pier's Gorge Road to the Wisconsin border.

The resolution will be forwarded to the Norway Township Board and Norway City Council for further action. Currently the commercial overlay runs from Fairview Drive south to the Wisconsin border.

8. NEW BUSINESS:

- a. Small school lot - discussed the pros and cons of selling the piece of land in East Vulcan which is owned by the township. The land is located on the corner of East Main St. and Cedar St. No decisions were made.
 - b. Assessing resolution: the Michigan Township Association has requested townships to pass a resolution opposing House Bill 6049 which would require all jurisdictions in the state to hire Level 3 and Level 4 Assessors. Resolution 2018-8 Opposition to HB6049 was presented for adoption by Giuliani, supported by Steeno. Roll call vote: Ayes: 5; Nays: 0. Resolution was adopted. Copies will be sent to Tom Casperson, Beau LaFave and the Upper Peninsula Assessors Association.
 - c. Food for workers during election: due to state laws that prohibit townships from paying for food or beverages for workers during typical work days, Policy 2018-8 Food & Beverage Policy was proposed to provide food and beverage to employees, board members, volunteer workers and other officials when they are working an extended period of time or while hosting special meetings or training sessions. Motion was made by Byczek, seconded by Solda, to approve Policy 2018-8 Food Beverage Policy as presented. All ayes. Passed 5-0.
 - d. UP North Summit, August 1-2, 2018: information on the upcoming conference hosted by MTA was given to board members. Reservations must be made by July 16 if you wish to attend. Please decide by the next board meeting if you would like to get approval to go.
9. Citizens' Time: J. Harris, DCRC Supervisor - discussed items that the road commission is doing in the township such as drainage work on Boundary Line Road, Cedar St. drainage problem, crack sealing, street sweeping, stabilizing the ditch by Norway Marble and Granite, and repairing the sink hole by the apartment building in central Vulcan. Jim thanked the Board for approving the work to be done on Boundary Line Road.
10. Committee Reports: Steeno - copies of the Dickinson County Michigan Master Plan Survey were distributed at the DCTA meeting in May. The Dickinson County Planning Commission asked each township to distribute copies to members and township residents. Survey's need to be turned in by July 20 to the DCPC. Byczek - attended a Utility Board meeting. Rates are going to be raised on electrical service and cable TV service provided by the city due to costs to maintain the systems.
11. Board member comments:
- a. LaValley - starting to prepare the tax database for summer tax collection which begins on July 2nd. Office hours for tax collection will be from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. on

Wednesdays, beginning July 11th thru September 12th. The MI-Class investment program's interest rate was 2.08% . All funds kept in the U.P. State Credit Union will be transferred this week. We also have another perpetual care CD that has matured and will be deposited with MI-Class this week.

- b. Giuliani - absentee voter applications will be mailed out this week. Ballots for the August 7th primary election will be available to send out on June 23th. Clerk's office hours will be 9-Noon on Mondays and Tuesdays and 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Thursday evenings beginning June 25th thru August 6th. New voting equipment will be here next week and training will begin in July.
 - c. Byczek - township replaced the old window a/c unit in the post office with a new portable unit. Work has begun on verifying addresses of township residents in preparation for the 2020 Census. VanOss Forestry Services has contacted us to let us know that it is a good time to put out the bids for the timber harvest at the cemetery. VanOss gets 10% of the stumpage fee to manage the project. Contract will be signed and sent to VanOss. The Toro grant was received. Awards will be made soon.
12. Facility Manager Comments: the city will take old refrigerators and air conditioners and give customers a rebate on their utility bills. The contractor who was hired to trap skunks at the cemetery was not very successful. He will be removing his traps. He caught one skunk and 1 raccoon. Personnel changes: Mike LaFave accepted a position with Cayemburg Construction as of June 8th. Jacob Hulce will begin work on June 11th. Cemetery is now fully staffed.
13. Adjournment: Being no further business, motion was made by Giuliani, support by Solda, to adjourn the meeting. All ayes. Passed 5-0. Meeting was adjourned at 5:50 p.m. Next meeting will be July 9, 2018 at 5:00 p.m.

Joyce Giuliani