

NORWAY TOWNSHIP BOARD MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES: March 13, 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 6:30 p.m. by Supervisor Byczek. Pledge was recited.
2. Approve/amend agenda: Motion by Steeno, support by Solda to approve agenda with the addition of item h. under New Business. All ayes. Passed 5-0.
3. Citizen's Time: None
4. Approve minutes of January 9th meeting: Motion by LaValley, support by Solda, to approve minutes as presented. All ayes. Passed 5-0.
5. Financial report: Report for February was reviewed.
6. Bills for approval: List of bills was presented. Motion by Solda, support by LaValley, to approve payment of bills as presented. All ayes. Passed 5-0.
7. OLD BUSINESS:
 - a. Streetlight cost reduction: negotiations with the City of Norway are complete. We have eliminated 25 streetlights and moved others to strategic locations. Citizens having complaints about streetlight positioning will be asked to fill out a form, which will be available at the hall or on-line, and to submit it to the Supervisor for review. Final decisions will be made by the township board. Cost has gone down from \$18.00 per light to \$15.00 per light this year and \$12.00 per light beginning January 2019. Total cost savings per year beginning January 2019 is \$13,032. Byczek has been working with WE Energies and the Michigan Public Service Commission regarding changing our HPS lights to LED lights.
 - b. Timber harvest: proposal from VanOss Forestry Service was reviewed. Motion was made by Steeno, support by Giuliani, to exercise Option 1 to remove all jack pine, aspen and mixed hardwood except red oak from the cemetery property. All ayes. Passed 5-0. No harvest will be done at the Industrial Park site at this time.
 - c. Boundary Line Road work: the road commission presented an updated opinion of cost for Boundary Line Road work. The price is still within our budget. The road commission is also requesting the township to pay for repairing CR 577 from the railroad crossing going south 1350 ft. There will be more information on this at the next meeting.

- d. Spring clean up and tire grant: Norway Township was awarded a scrap tire clean-up grant for 2018 in the amount of \$3,000. We will coordinate with other townships to establish guidelines for use. The spring clean up will be held on May 18th and 19th. Dumpsters will be located at the Norway Township Cemetery. Guidelines will be established and information will be made available to the public as soon as possible.
 - e. Blight issues: follow up letters will be sent to all property owners who have not complied with our earlier requests to clean up their property.
 - f. Post office rent: Byczek is still negotiating with the representatives of the U.S Postal Service regarding rates.
 - g. CLASS investments: LaValley is working on the application for joining the CLASS investment program. No funds will be moved without board approval.
 - h. Voting machine: new voting equipment has been ordered with the HAVA (Helping America Vote Act) funds through the county clerk's office. The county clerk is highly recommending that we purchase an extra voting machine to be used for the AVCB (absentee voter counting board) which is convened for larger elections. Cost of the machine is \$4,500.00. Motion made by Giuliani, support by LaValley, to purchase a voting machine to be used for AVCB purposes. Roll call vote: Ayes: Giuliani, LaValley, Steeno. Nays: Solda, Byczek. Passed 3-2.
8. NEW BUSINESS:
- a. Facilities Manager job description changes: document was reviewed; Motion made by Giuliani, support by Steeno, to accept the updated job description. All ayes. Passed 5-0.
 - b. Signs: quotes for new sign at the town hall and cemetery were reviewed. Board members requested another quote from a different company. Tabled until new quote is received.
 - c. Hannula Insurance: document was reviewed and discussion of number of claims made over the years.. Motion made by Byczek, support by Solda, to exercise Option 1 for renewal which adds \$1000 deductibles for general liability and wrongful acts liability which saves \$198.00 per year. Roll call vote: Ayes: LaValley, Steeno, Solda, Byczek, Giuliani. Nays: None. Passed 5-0.
 - d. Toro grant: Facilities Manager is working on the grant application for a new lawn mower to be awarded in 2019. Deadline for applying is June 1st.
9. Citizens' Time: R. Girardi - voting machine

10. Committee reports: None

11. Board member comments: Byczek - he is now on the Norway Utility Board. Next meeting will be on April 4th at 2:00 p.m. at the Norway Power Dam. Board members are welcome to attend. With monthly meetings moved to Monday, he will now be able to attend the monthly road commission meetings on Tuesdays. The gas company has applied for a zoning permit to make an addition to their monitoring station. He will check into what is happening. Lots of zoning permits coming in. 2 picnic tables were received from the Sheriff's Probation Department for use at the recreation area. LaValley - taxes were turned in to the county. All balanced. Still waiting for the 425 agreement settlement with the city of Norway. Solda - need to inspect playground equipment at recreation area. There was a cracked flange on a railing last year. Giuliani - DCTA meeting on Monday, March 19th, 6:30 p.m. at Breitung Township Hall in Quinnesec.

12. Facilities Manager comments: 4 new bulletin boards were built. 2 inside and 2 outside. Working on Toro grant.

13. Adjournment: Motion by Giuliani, support by Solda, to adjourn. All ayes. Passed 5-0. Meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m. The next meeting will be on April 9th at 5:00 p.m. at the Norway Township Hall.

Joyce Giuliani
Clerk