

## NORWAY TOWNSHIP BOARD MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES: January 9, 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 LaValley to approve agenda with the addition of item g under New Business. All ayes. Passed 5-0.
3. Citizen's Time: Paul Casanova - Streetlights turned off by his house and the town hall.
4. Approve minutes of December 12th meeting: Motion by LaValley, support by Solda, to approve minutes as presented. All ayes. Passed 5-0.
5. Financial report: Report for December was reviewed.
6. Bills for approval: List of bills was presented. Motion by Solda, support by Steeno, to approve payment of bills as presented. All ayes. Passed 5-0.
7. OLD BUSINESS:
  - a. Streetlight cost reduction progress: Lights on 80 streetlights have been changed so far. Beginning January 1, 2018 all lights will be billed at \$15 per light. Beginning January 1, 2019 the cost will drop to \$12 per light. 20 streetlights have been removed from service at this time for a cost savings of \$300 per month. The total number of streetlights we are being charged for when all of the work is done should be around 100 or so.
  - b. Timber harvest: representatives of Nickels Logging gave a verbal estimate for cutting off timber at the cemetery. Board members decided to get a different quote from an independent forester and possibly seek bids if there is a big difference in estimates.
  - c. Office furniture for Supervisor and Treasurer: quote of \$200.00 per work unit was received from U. P. Office Furnishings. If we get new furniture we will need GoTech to move some of the computer wires. Motion made by Giuliani, support by Steeno, to purchase 2 work units from U.P. Office Furnishings in the amount of \$400.00 and to have GoTech rewire the office as need. All ayes. Passed 5-0
  - d. Preliminary 2018-2019 budget review: copies of the preliminary proposed budget were given to board members to review for discussion at the February meeting.

- e. Blight issues: Supervisor Byczek will begin writing letters to residents who are not in compliance with our blight ordinance. Some of these are repeat cases that will be taken to the next level of enforcement.

8. NEW BUSINESS:

- a. Amendments to the current budget: Clerk Giuliani requested permission to amend the budget as explained in the attached handout. Motion by Solda, support by LaValley, to amend the budget as requested. All ayes. Passed 5-0
- b. Road commission projects: Supervisor Byczek met with Jim Harris and Todd Roell of the Dickinson County Road Commission to discuss what, if any, projects we could do for the upcoming year. According to Jim Harris, the top priority road is Boundary Line Road between Upper Pine Creek Road and Valley View Road. The board was presented with a preliminary estimate. Board members suggested that we have Harris get a quote for the repair and we can see if we can work it into the upcoming budget. Byczek also reminded Harris that our newly resurfaced roads need to be cracksealed this spring, and next spring also, to prevent as much water damage as we can to the new surface.
- c. Tax collection administration fee: after the winter tax bills were distributed in December it was discovered that the 1% administration fee had not been included on the bills. Byczek and LaValley discussed the problem with MTA who said that the only things we could do are 1) rerun the entire tax roll with only the 1% fee on the new bills or, 2) pass a resolution saying that we would not be collecting the 1% administration fee this year. After much discussion, motion was made by Giuliani, support by Byczek, to draft a resolution to not collect the 1% administrative fee for the 2017 Winter taxes. All ayes. Passed 5-0. Resolution will be ready for signature at next meeting.
- d. WE Energies streetlight reduction: Byczek is checking into the possibility of turning off at least one of the streetlights supplied by WE Energies. It is located on Palmcook's Rocky Top Road.
- e. Spring clean up: discussed whether or not to have a spring clean up this year and if so, when, for how long, location of dumpsters, and overseeing the usage.
- f. GIS mapping: Michigan is doing a GIS mapping project of the entire state.
- g. Tax payment deadline: motion was made by LaValley, support by Steeno, to extend the deadline for paying winter taxes from 2/14/18 to 2/28/18. All ayes. Passed 5-0. No resolution is necessary to make this change, just a vote by the board.

9. Citizens' Time: None

10. Committee reports: None

11. Board member comments: LaValley - tax collection is going well. About half the taxes have been collected so far. Giuliani - DCTA meeting will be held on January 15th at 6:30 p.m. at the Norway Township Hall. Menu was discussed with board members.

12. Facilities Manager comments: working is continuing on town hall upgrades. Motion detector light fixture will be installed this week or early next week. Manager Chartier requested permission to purchase some new battery operated tools. There is already money in the budget for this and permission was granted.

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 8:15 p.m. Next meeting will be February 13, 2018 at 6:30 p.m.

Joyce Giuliani  
Clerk