

NORWAY TOWNSHIP BOARD MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES: October 11, 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 made by Solda, second by Steeno to approve agenda as presented. All ayes. Passed 5-0.
3. Citizens' Time: None
4. Approve minutes of September 13th meeting: Motion by Steeno, second by LaValley, to approve minutes as presented. All ayes. Passed 5-0.
5. Financial report: reports for September were reviewed.
6. Bills for approval: list of bills to be paid was discussed. Motion by LaValley, second by Steeno, to pay bills as presented. All ayes. Passed 5-0.
7. OLD BUSINESS:
  - a. Tree planting at cemetery - trees will arrive October 13th. Will order bladders for watering the trees next spring as the trees are dormant now.
  - b. Blight Update: progress continues to be made. One resident will be going to court unless they clean up their garbage.
  - c. Cemetery issues:
    - i. Ashes being spread on the ground by family: the cemetery ordinance states that spreading of ashes is prohibited. Notices will be placed in the Lufts Advertiser, the Dickinson County Advertiser and on the website to remind residents of our policy.
    - ii. Headstones being put in by family: the cemetery ordinance states that all headstones placement will be coordinated with the cemetery sexton. A letter will be sent to the family who placed the headstone without consulting the sexton to remedy this situation..
    - iii. Restore the fountain to working order: Steeno will work with the Facility Manager to repair the fountain.
  - d. Solar array project: studies are being done to see if the tailings are strong enough to hold the solar panels and the DNR is still dealing with some of the mineral rights on the property. Solar panels will not be in place until at least 2024.
8. NEW BUSINESS:
  - a. Leased land: a request was received from a resident regarding leasing the land located behind the cemetery to reduce the number of people hunting in the area. After lengthy discussion the board felt that this was not appropriate as the land is public and everyone has a right to use it. The board agreed to install signs saying No Motor Vehicles to see if this alleviates any of the problem.

- b. Housing development: the board discussed the feasibility of selling the land behind the cemetery for housing.
  - c. Assessor visit: Township Assessor Desjarlais explained that the assessed values of township property will be going up by 10% in accordance with the sales prices of land in the county. He is still working on checking out property that had building permits this year. Taxes will be increased by 1.4% this year.
9. Citizens Time Jordan Marchetti - leasing land behind the cemetery
10. Committee reports: None
11. Board member comments: **Steen**: talked about marijuana information and recreation possibilities from the MTA conference he attended **LaValley** - only 184 tax bills are delinquent which is great for this time of the year. Summer taxes can still be paid at the hall until February 14th. **Giuliani** - work is continuing on the cemetery records, the special election ballots are out. Only about half of the av applications that were sent out have been returned so far. The scrap tire grant is almost completed. We are down to less than 500 tires left on the grant. **Byczek** - talked about information regarding township meetings that he learned at the MTA conference. ARPA funds - paperwork had to be resubmitted. City of Norway Manager is still on the job as the applicant they hired decided not to take the job
12. Facility Manager Comments: None
13. Adjournment: Being no further business, motion was made by Steeno, second by Giuliani, to adjourn. All ayes. Passed 5-0. Meeting was adjourned at 6:35 p.m. Next meeting will be November 8,, 2021 at 5:30 p.m. DCTA meeting will be held on October 18th at 6:30 p.m. at Sagola Township Hall.

Joyce Giuliani