

Ontwa Township Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

June 13, 2022, Minutes

www.ontwatwp.org

Call to Order: The regular monthly meeting of the Ontwa Township Board was called to order by Supervisor Jerry Marchetti at 7:00pm on June 13, 2022.

Pledge of Allegiance:

Roll Call: Supervisor Jerry Marchetti, Clerk Tina VanBelle, Trustees Meryl Christensen, Dan Stutsman, Dawn Bolock, and Jeff Kozinski were present.

Approval of Agenda: Trustee Stutsman made a motion to approve the agenda, second by Trustee Kozinski. All in favor, motion passed.

Public Comment: Lori Mroczek of 68331 Park Shore addressed the blight at 68545 Eagle Lake Road, Jill Meuninck of 24097 N. Shore requested consideration of No Mow May, a program to encourage habitat of bees and butterflies, Pat Makielski of 24222 High Street requested the noise ordinance on the website be updated, spoke about the township policy of the digital sign at the township hall and follow up on public comments from Board meetings. Jim Ralph of 24333 Sassafras Street spoke about the implication of the grass mowing ordinance. Bob Duram, Director of Cass County Transportation, announced that a new route will be starting in July between Ontwa Township and Mishawaka. For information call 269-445-2455.

Approval of Consent Agenda: Trustee Bolock made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda second by Trustee Christensen. Motion passed on a roll call vote, 6 ayes 0 nays. Treasurer Leist was absent.

Commissioner's Report: Commissioner Roseann Marchetti: A committee to study homelessness in Cass County has been established. The roundabout at the intersection of Redfield and Gumwood has been delayed to resolve right of way issues. A hazardous waste drop off will be held August 27 at the Road Commission on O'Keefe Street. Used electronics and tires will be accepted. There are openings on the Historical Commission and Woodlands Behavioral Health Board. Interested residents can apply online at casscountymi.org.

Committee Board Reports:

Zoning Administrator: LeRoy Krempec: A substantial portion of residents who received letters regarding mowing are meeting due dates to comply with the ordinance. The zoning department is working with some of the elderly or residents who physically are unable to mow to find help to resolve the issue. Eddies Market planned for on US 12 is on hold. Brady Road project continues to be revised.

Wastewater: Brigid Forlenza: No report this month.

Ambulance: Trustee Stutsman: The department has hired a couple medics and is fully staffed now.

Police: The equipment needed to enter a school building in case of emergency have been purchased.

Buildings & Grounds: Trustee Christensen: Concrete work at the entrance to the ambulance bay has been completed. Asphalt will be next.

Planning Commission: Trustee Bolock: Working on issue of 68777 S. Shore encroachment on Ferndale Park and the property to the east.

Township Roads: Trustee Kozinski: Brady Road traffic concerns are being addressed. Repaving of Elkhart Road completed. Suggested the BOT may want to reconsider, for 2023, the grass cutting issues related to the cost of gas.

Fire Board: John Bossler: Budget has been approved. A new pumper truck was purchased that holds 500 gallons of water and has a 1,000-foot hose. A consultant has been hired to do a study on the feasibility of having some paid firefighters verses a totally volunteer department.

Old Business: Trustee Bolock reported that the permit for the previously approved seawall at Ferndale Park was received last week and a start date has yet to be determined.

New Business:

Ambulance Power Loader: Trustee Stutsman made a motion to accept the bid from Stryker not to exceed \$24,000 for this equipment. It permanently attaches to the ambulance and picks up the gurney so the medics can push it into the ambulance rather than physically lifting the gurney up into the back of the ambulance. ARPA funds will be used for the purchase. Second by Trustee Kozinski. Motion passed on a roll call vote, 6 ayes 0 nays. Treasurer Leist was absent.

Adjust/Amend Budget: Clerk VanBelle made a motion to pass Resolution 2202-06-113.1 to decrease Park Maintenance \$1,000 and increase Cemetery \$1,000. Motion passed on a roll call vote; 6 ayes 0 nays Treasurer Leist was absent.

Announcements: Next regular Township Board meeting will be July 11th, Ambulance Board July 13th, Police Board July 14th, Wastewater Board June 22nd, Planning Commission July 6th Trustee Kozinski announced there will be a meeting at the Intermediate school cafeteria on Saturday the 18th to discuss the upcoming school millage request.

Adjourn: Trustee Stutsman made a motion to adjourn, second by Trustee Christensen. Meeting adjourned at 7:54 pm.

Respectfully submitted:

Tina VanBelle, Ontwa Township Clerk

Date Approved: _____

Recording Secretary

Linda Weaver, Recording Secretary