

Ontwa Township Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

June 14, 2021

Minutes

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Call to Order: The regular monthly meeting of the Ontwa Township Board was called to order by Supervisor Jerry Marchetti at 7:01pm on June 14th, 2021.

Pledge of Allegiance:

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

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

Public Comment: Tim Leman of 24267 High Street, Brock Squire of 68645 Oak Spring, Jim Solarek of 26654 Deer Path, Chad Hahn of 68983 Eagle Cove, Tony Gaipa of 68914 Eagle Lake Rd, Tim Buss of 68970 Eagle Cove, and Jordon Florian all addressed the issue of the Short-Term Rental Ordinance that is up for vote at the meeting. Christine Grove of 69326 Sundance Dr., Justin Sebesta of 69447 Sundance Dr., and Lisa Lacopo of 69275 Sundance Dr. all spoke about the condition of Sundance Drive and their efforts to get the situation taken care of.

Approval of Consent Agenda: Trustee Bolock made a motion to approve the consent agenda second by Trustee Stutsman. Motion passed on a roll call vote, 7 ayes 0 nays.

Commissioner's Report: Commissioner Roseann Marchetti: The Law and Courts opened to the public June 1st and jury trials resumed on June 7th. A resolution was passed opposing the license bureau being open by appointment only. The second free of charge used tire drop hazardous waste, and electronic drop off is being planned for August 21 at the Cass County Road Commission on O'Keef Street from 9am to 12pm. COVID vaccinations are still available by contacting vbcassdhd.org

Committee Board Reports:

Zoning Administrator: LeRoy Krempec: Presented the Grass and Weed Mowing Agreement with McCall's Outside Chores. This agreement will allow the company to mow and trim properties that are in violation of Section 3.01 of the IPMC when authorized by the Township.

Wastewater: Brigid Forlenza: C1 modification will begin this week. C4 fence has been repaired.

Ambulance: Trustee Stutsman: Ambulance meeting will be held Wednesday June 9. The department is running under budget.

Police: Trustee Christensen: A donation from Dr. A's Releaf Center and NOBO will be used to buy new body and car cameras. A donation from Starboard Choice Marine will be used to purchase software used for ticketing.

Buildings & Grounds: Trustee Christensen: No report

Planning Commission: Trustee Bolock: Accessory dwell units will be addressed by the Commission at the next meeting.

Township Roads: Trustee Kozinski: Will contact Joe Bellina and go to Sundance Drive to assess the condition of the road.

Fire Board: There have been 97 fire runs year to date and that is a 40% increase from this time last year. The dry hydrant at Christiana Creek is being repaired.

Old Business: Short Term Rentals: Trustee Bolock reviewed the process that has been ongoing which resulted in Ordinance 2021-06-14.2 being presented tonight for Board approval. She made a motion to approve the ordinance, second by Trustee Christensen. Discussion followed about some items within the ordinance; quiet hours, noise ordinance, parking ordinance, who is responsible for enforcement of violations, annual inspections of the rental residences, clarification of date in Section 3, and clarification of the number of people who will be allowed to occupy the rental home. Motion passed on a roll call vote 5 ayes (Marchetti, Davis-Leist, Bolock, Christensen, Stutsman, 2 nays (VanBelle, Kozinski)

New Business:

Fireworks Permits: Supervisor Marchetti made a motion to approve permits for Eagle (7/3), Pleasant (7/4), Christiana (7/3), and Garver (7/3) Lakes, second by Trustee Stutsman. Motion passed on a roll call vote, 7 ayes, 0 nays.

Public Hearing on Increasing Property Taxes: Supervisor Marchetti declared the public hearing open. Assessor Gibert explained the 2021 Tax Rate Request form. Questions were accepted. Supervisor Marchetti made a motion to close the public hearing, second by Treasurer Davis-Leist. Motion passed on a roll call vote, 7 ayes, 0 nays. Clerk VanBelle read and made a motion to pass Resolution 2021-06-14.1, second by Trustee Christensen. Motion passed on a roll call vote, 5 ayes, 2 nays (Kozinski, Stutsman).

Violation of Grass and Weed Mowing Agreement: Zoning Administrator Krempec explained that **with** the implementation of the IPMC the township does not have to give notice to property owners who are in violation of the grass and weed mowing ordinance and proper maintenance of such properties is enforceable the year around. However, first and final letters will go out to owners in violation of the ordinance. Property owners will be billed and if not paid a lien will be placed on the property. Trustee Christensen made a motion to accept the Agreement with McCall's Outside Chores at a rate of \$50 per hour, with a minimum charge of \$150 and if trimming is required and additional \$50 will apply. Second by Trustee Stutsman. Motion passed on a roll call vote, 7 ayes, 0 nays. Supervisor Marchetti made a motion to approve McCall's to mow the strip of land running parallel to the RR tracks between US 12 and Elkhart Rd., at the All Aboard beautification site, at a rate of \$60, to be done twice a month, every other month. The Village will mow alternate months. Second by Clerk VanBelle. Motion passed on a roll call vote, 7 ayes, 0 nays.

MACOG Agreement: The traffic count agreement did not go to vote. The Road Commission will absorb the cost.

Announcements: Next regular Township Board meeting will be July 12th, Ambulance Board June 16th, Police Board July 8th, Wastewater Board June 23rd, Planning Commission July 7th.

Adjourn: Trustee Stutsman made a motion to adjourn, second by Trustee Christensen. Meeting adjourned at 8:23 pm.

Respectfully submitted:

Tina VanBelle, Ontwa Township Clerk

Date Approved: _____

Recording Secretary

Linda Weaver, Ontwa Deputy Clerk