

Ontwa Township Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

January 9, 2023

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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 7:00pm on January 9, 2023.

Pledge of Allegiance:

Roll Call: Supervisor Marchetti, Clerk VanBelle, Treasurer Leist, Trustees Stutsman, Christensen, and Kozinski were present. Trustee Bolock was absent.

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

Public Comment: No public comment

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

Commissioner's Report: Commissioner Roseann Marchetti: The Commission elected a Chair and Vice-chair for 2023. In 2022 there were 20,637 emergency calls to 911 and 77,379 non-emergency calls.

Committee Board Reports:

Wastewater: Trustee Stutsman: Repairs to damaged manhole has been completed. Emergency repair to the township's wastewater building completed. Insurance pending.

Zoning: John Hanson: Working on business renewals and short term rentals for 2023. Rezoning request on US12 will go before the Plan Commission.

Ambulance: Trustee Stutsman: Next meeting will be this Wednesday, the 11th.

Police: Trustee Christensen: No report.

Buildings & Grounds: Trustee Stutsman: Looking for bids to repair/replace outside lights on the sign. Discussion on getting quotes to redo and maintain the outside landscaping, and mowing.

Planning Commission: Trustee Bolock: No report.

Township Roads: Trustee Kozinski: Budget meeting scheduled for February 16th.

Fire Board: John Hanson: No report

Parks Board: Trustee Kozinski: Discussion of tree trimming and plantings at Ferndale. Actual removal of trees is not allowed.

Adamsville Cemetery Board: Trustee Christensen: No report.

Old Business: Trustee Kozinski is gathering letters of support for the Elkhart Road bike/pedestrian path. A public hearing will be held on February 13th at 6:30pm.

New Business:

ARPA Funds: Clerk VanBelle gave an overview of distribution of ARPA Funds. There is a balance of \$386,095.78 in the account.

2023 Budget Workshop-February 16th: Trustee Stutsman made a motion to approve a salary increase for township employees as proposed by Supervisor Marchetti, Second by Clerk VanBelle. Motion passed on a roll call vote: 4 ayes, 2 nays, Trustee Bolock was absent.

Wastewater Munibilling: Trustee Stutsman made a motion to approve a quote from Munibilling to continue with the monthly sewer bill creation at a cost of \$335 annually. Second by Trustee Christensen. Motion passed on a roll call vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays, Trustee Bolock was absent.

Trustee Stutsman made a second motion to approve a quote from Munibilling to continue the monthly subscription fee at a cost of \$700. per month. Second by Treasurer Leist. Motion passed on a roll call vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays, Trustee Bolock was absent.

Board Reappointments: Trustee Stutsman made a motion to reappoint Don Delong and Bill Mahaney to the Planning Commission, John Brandt and Dave Stiffler to the Wastewater Board, Judy Kukla and James Forlenza to the Zoning Board of Appeals, second by Trustee Kozinski. All in favor, motion passed.

Trustee Stutsman noted that the Cass County Planning Commission is updating the Master Plan and is requesting input from the public. The Solid Waste Committee needs members. If you are interested contact Trustee Dan Stutsman.

Announcements: Next regular Township Board meeting will be February 13th, Ambulance Board January 11th, Police Board January 12th, Wastewater Board January 25th, Planning Commission February 1st, and the Cemetery Board on February 6th.

A public hearing on the Township Budget will be held at the Township Hall March 20th at 6pm. Ontwa Township trash day will be Saturday April 29th from 9am-3pm.

Adjourn: Trustee Stutsman made a motion to adjourn, second by Treasurer Leist. The meeting adjourned at 7:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted:

Tina VanBelle, Ontwa Township Clerk

Date Approved: _____

Linda Weaver, Recording Secretary