

Ontwa Township Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

October 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 October 9, 2023.

Pledge of Allegiance:

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

Approval of Agenda: Clerk VanBelle requested amendment to the agenda by adding check numbers 6894 & 6895 to the wastewater fund and approval of the annual financial report to the agenda, as item #7. Trustee Stutsman made a motion to approve the agenda, as amended, second by Trustee Kozinski. All in favor, motion passed unanimously.

Public Comment: Charlie Fish of Brittany Glenn questioned changes to covenants of Michiana Shores, Vicki Lints of 23597 South Shore spoke about enforcement of Ordinance 3.32 (5) regarding docks, Polly Mitchell of 23633 South Shore spoke about issues with docks and the township's balance sheet.

Approval of Consent Agenda: Trustee Kozinski made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda, as amended, second by Trustee Christensen. Motion passed unanimously on a roll call vote.

Commissioner's Report: Commissioner Marchetti: At the last County Commissioners meeting a resolution to approve Operation Green Light was passed and a resolution opposing any legislation preempting local control for solar and wind developments was passed. Jeff VanBelle gave an annual drainage report. The Cass County Transit Authority will have a millage request on the February ballot.

Annual Financial Report: Allison Allman of Kruggel Lawton presented the Ontwa Township Financial Report for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2023. Copies may be viewed at the Township Hall or on the website noted above.

Committee Board Reports:

Wastewater: Brigid Forlenza: On September 23 the EDW4 lift station failed and all repairs were completed by September 27th. The township was out of spec with Elkhart due to an issue with the chemical feed line. The motion to purchase chemical feed pumps is on the agenda for tonight.

Zoning: No report

Fire Board: No report

Ambulance: Trustee Stutsman: All three units running good. There were 100 calls last month. The meeting scheduled for October 11 has been cancelled.

Buildings & Grounds: Trustee Stutsman: Finalized bid for township upgrade to be reviewed under New Business

Planning Commission: Trustee Bolock: No meeting last week.

Township Roads: Trustee Kozinski: Finishing up 2023 projects.

Parks Board: Trustee Kozinski: Will update under Old Business.

Police: Trustee Christensen: The next meeting will be held Thursday October 12 and will be at the Village Hall.

Adamsville Cemetery Board: Trustee Christensen: There was no meeting this month.

Old Business:

Elkhart Road Project: Trustee Kozinski: The Parks and Recreation Committee held a meeting on October 2nd. An update was given on the grant that was applied for this project. A score of 250 out of a possible 500 points was given by the Michigan Natural Resource Trust Fund. Some revisions have been made and resubmitted. The Committee is expecting to hear back in December. The requested amount was \$300,000. and if approved we will have to wait on the state to make its budget.

New Business:

Wastewater Pump Heads C1 & JCP1: Trustee Stutsman made a motion to approve a bid from Kennedy Industries, not to exceed \$650, for the purchase of 2 Marlow pumpheads. These pumpheads will be installed at C1 and JCP1. Motion seconded by Trustee Kozinski and approved on a unanimous roll call vote.

Township Hall Upgrade Quote: Trustee Stutsman presented a quote and made a motion to approve from Lifestyle Consulting not to exceed \$14,500 for the upgrade in audio/visual system at the township hall. \$8,000 was previously approved for the project and Trustee Stutsman is requesting an additional \$6,500 to complete the project. Trustee Bolock second the motion and it was unanimously approved on a roll call vote.

Zoning Administrator: Supervisor Marchetti announced John Hanson resigned as Zoning Administrator and made a motion to appoint Trustee Bolock as interim zoning administrator for 60 days beginning October 10th through December 11, while the township advertises for applicants for the position. Trustee Christensen will represent Trustee Bolock on the Plann Commission during that time. The position will be posted on the website. Motion second by Trustee Kozinski and approved unanimously on a roll call vote.

Trick or Treat Hours: Trustee Kozinski made a motion to set the hours for trick or treat within the township on October 31st from 5:30-7:30pm. Trustee Stutsman second the motion. All in favor motion passed.

Announcements: Next regular Township Board meeting will be November 13th, Ambulance Board for October is cancelled, Police Board October 12th at the Village Hall. Wastewater Board October 25th Planning Commission October 11th. There will be a ZBA meeting October 24th at 6:30pm

Trustee Bolock reminded everyone the Township/Village open house to view the proposed new Master Plan will be held on October 12th from 4-7pm, at the township hall. Citizens are encouraged to fill out a survey that is on the website or a paper copy can be picked up at the township.

Adjourn: Clerk VanBelle made a motion to adjourn, second by Trustee Kozinski. Meeting adjourned at 7:51pm.

Respectfully submitted:

Date Approved: _____

Tina VanBelle, Ontwa Township Clerk

Linda Weaver, Recording Secretary