

Ontwa Township Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

December 11, 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 December 11th, 2023.

Pledge of Allegiance:

Roll Call: Supervisor Marchetti, Treasurer Leist, Trustees Stutsman, Christensen, Bolock were present. Trustee Kozinski arrived at 7:18pm, Clerk VanBelle was absent.

Approval of Agenda: Trustee Stutsman made a motion to amend the agenda by adding replacing the generator at C1 as item #6 under new business, second by Treasurer Leist. All in favor, motion passed. Trustee Stutsman made a motion to approve the amended agenda, second by Trustee Christensen. All in favor, motion passed.

Public Comment: Dave Szynski of 70243 Beach Dr. spoke on the building permit process, and Nick Yoder of 69662 Knottingham Lane spoke on Eddies Market.

Approval of Consent Agenda: Trustee Christensen made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda, second by Treasurer Leist. Motion passed on a roll call vote.

Commissioner's Report: Commissioner Marchetti: Items addressed at the last Commissioner's meeting were multiple board appointments, 2024 holiday schedule, body scanners and renovations for the jail, and the award of a \$1.5m grant for courthouse renovations. A drive-up clinic for animal vaccines will be held on December 16th, January 27th, and February 24th from 9am-1pm at Payment is cash only ,,,

Committee Board Reports:

Wastewater: Brigid Forlenza: Annual generator maintenance has been completed. C1 needs to be replaced.

Zoning: Complaint letters are being sent out.

Ambulance: Trustee Stutsman: A couple of part time medics were hired. The ambulance has been ordered but will not be delivered for two years. December's meeting has been cancelled.

Buildings & Grounds: Trustee Stutsman: The audio/visual equipment project is complete.

Planning Commission: Trustee Christensen: At December's meeting the motion for rezoning for Eddies Market was denied by a 5-3 vote.

Township Roads: Trustee Kozinski: New speed limit signs on N. Shore have been posted.

Adamsville Cemetery Board: Trustee Christensen: Checking into having the well at the cemetery operational again. The next meeting will be held in March 2024.

Old Business:

Elkhart Road Project: Trustee Kozinski: Expecting word on the status of the requested grant yet this month.

New Business:

Wastewater – Detection Instruments – Odalogger: Trustee Stutsman made a motion to approve the quote from Detection Instruments Corporation, not to exceed \$6,000 for the purchase of a hydrogen sulfide gas data logger. This instrument will detect what gases are going through the system to Elkhart

and help avoid fines. Motion second by Trustee Kozinski and passed on a roll call vote. 6 ayes 0 nays. Clerk VanBelle was absent.

Cass County Drain Commissioner's Resolution: Trustee Stutsman made a motion to approve the resolution to adopt the Cass County Site Development Rules, second by Trustee Bolock. Motion passed on a roll call vote. 6 ayes 0 nays. Clerk VanBelle was absent.

Pitney Bowes Lease or Purchase Equipment: Treasurer Leist reported that the post office has required the township to replace the postage meter. It is a better option to purchase the meter rather than rent one. She made a motion to approve the purchase of the meter at a cost of \$1,628.02. Motion passed on a roll call vote. 6 ayes 0 nays. Clerk VanBelle was absent.

2024 Ontwa Poverty Guidelines: Trustee Christensen made a motion to approve the Ontwa Township Poverty Guidelines for a one family unit at \$18,580 which is \$4,000 over state requirements. Motion seconded by Trustee Bolock. Motion passed on a roll call vote. 6 ayes 0 nays. Clerk VanBelle was absent.

ZBA and Zoning Appointments: Supervisor Marchetti made a motion to appoint Bruce Cassady to the Zoning Board of Appeals, seconded by Trustee Stutsman. Motion passed on a roll call vote. 6 ayes 0 nays. Clerk VanBelle was absent. Supervisor Marchetti made a motion to appoint Dawn Bolock as Ontwa Township Zoning Administrator, second by Trustee Christensen. Motion passed on a roll call vote. 5 ayes 0 nays. Trustee Bolock abstained. Clerk VanBelle was absent.

Replace Generator at C1: Trustee Stutsman made a motion to accept the bid from Reliable Generator and Electric, LLC, to replace the generator at C1 at a cost not to exceed \$35,000, second by Trustee Kozinski. Motion passed on a roll call vote. 6 ayes 0 nays. Clerk VanBelle was absent.

Announcements: Next regular Township Board meeting will be January 8th, Ambulance Board cancelled for December, Police Board cancelled for December, Wastewater Board cancelled for December, Planning Commission January 3rd.

Adjourn: Trustee Stutsman made a motion to adjourn, second by Treasurer Leist. Meeting adjourned at 7:41

Respectfully submitted:

Tina VanBelle, Ontwa Township Clerk

Date Approved: _____

Linda Weaver, Recording Secretary