

ALCONA TOWNSHIP BOARD MINUTES

October 10, 2023

The Alcona Township regular board meeting was called to order with the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

Roll call: Present: Supervisor Marlena MacNeill, Clerk Dawn LaLonde, Treasurer Tina Gauthier and Trustees Jim Bouchard and Tony Bolanowski.

Motion by Bouchard, seconded by Bolanowski, to approve the minutes from the Sept. 12, 2023 meeting. Passed All in Favor.

Motion by Bolanowski, seconded by Bouchard, to accept the treasurer's report as presented. PASSED All in Favor.

Motion by Gauthier, seconded by Bolanowski, to pay bills as presented. PASSED All in Favor.

Friends of the Park representative Judy Kniffen thanked the board for their support in making improvements to the park. She thanked Trustee Bolanowski for making repairs to the bathrooms and Treasurer Gauthier for picking a new paint color for the bathrooms.

Reports were accepted and filed from the Zoning Administrator. She continues to work on nuisance issues and has a court date of November 8, 2023 concerning a short term rental taking place in a residential area.

Fire Chief Klotz announced his retirement effective October 11, 2023. The board will meet with the fire department to discuss their recommendations for this position.

Dan Gauthier, chairman of the Black River Waterways Committee updated the board on their progress. They plan to have a meeting with Representative Cam Cavitt concerning long term plans. Gauthier encouraged residents to send letters to him concerning the dredging issues and he will forward them onto the right people. Steve Bieszki a committee member gave a report of his correspondence with DNR members as well as Cam Cavitt. It is possible that next year the DNR would dredge further out and dig 8' deep instead of their usual 4'. A permit would be needed to make the change. The committee also plans to look into potential grants to help with a long term solution.

Motion by Bolanowski, seconded by Gauthier, to approve the recommendation of the planning commission for changes to chapter 5 in the recreation plan. PASSED All in Favor. The planning commission is also considering making changes to the blight ordinance and will keep the board informed.

Island View Special Assessment has been put on a temporary hold as advised by the township attorney. The board will keep the Special Assessment committee informed.

Motion by Gauthier, seconded by LaLonde, to approve the Scotts Park Special Assessment as they feel it is reasonable and necessary and fair and feasible. All properties benefitting from the special assessment will be assessed.

Roll Call Vote: MacNeill-Yes, LaLonde-Yes, Gauthier-Yes, Bolanowski-Yes, Bouchard-Yes
PASSED All in Favor.

Motion by LaLonde, seconded by Gauthier, to accept the bid received for snow plowing the 2023—24 season from Stouts Plowing. PASSED All in Favor.

Motion by Gauthier, seconded by Bouchard, to adopt Clerk's revised Per Diem for Reimbursed Elections. (The amount was raised from \$450.00 to \$800.00.)

Roll Call Vote: Bouchard-Yes, Bolanowski-Yes, MacNeill-Yes, Gauthier-Yes, LaLonde-Abstain.

Motion PASSED.

Motion by Bolanowski, seconded by Gauthier, to enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement with the county to allow the county to consolidate election activity for the nine consecutive days of early voting. PASSED All in Favor.

Supervisor MacNeill met with the contractors concerning renovations to the hall and kitchen. Things are moving forward.

Supervisor MacNeill reported that the SPARKS grant application the township applied for was not successful. The board will be discussing if and how to move forward.

Supervisor MacNeill reported that the Kayak Launch has been removed. She thanked all the volunteers who assisted in this.

Motion by Gauthier, seconded by Bouchard, to go into closed session at 6:45p.m. to discuss pending litigation in the fact it is necessary to avoid financial consequences to the township.

Vote on Motion: Bolanowski-Yes, Gauthier-Yes, MacNeill-Yes, LaLonde-Yes Bouchard-Yes

PASSED All in Favor.

Resumed in opens session at 7:12p.m.

Motion by Bolanowski, seconded by Bouchard, to move that the township authorize our attorney Dan White to respond to the offer of Settlement in this matter in the manner that was discussed in our closed session and that any potential settlement be presented to the board for the final decision

Vote on Motion: Gauthier-Yes, LaLonde-Yes, Bouchard-Yes, Bolanowski-Yes, MacNeill-Yes

PASSED All in Favor

Meeting adjourned at 7:17

Respectfully Submitted,

Dawn LaLonde

Alcona Township Clerk