

Norwood Township Board of Trustees Meeting
Meeting Minutes
December 16, 2019 Approved Minutes
Norwood Township Hall/Historical Society Schoolhouse

Call to Order – Meeting called to order at 7:00 P.M.

Pledge of Allegiance – by all present

Roll Call – Warner-present, Freds-present, Ridenour-present, Smolenyak-present, Spilis-present

Approval of November 18, 2019 Meeting Minutes, MM by Warner to approve minutes as presented, 2nd by Spilis. In discussion Smolenyak stated under Supervisor’s report the name Haloday was spelled incorrectly and also under Announcements and Correspondence it should have stated that Linda Adams took a position with Northland Library Cooperative. Minutes will be correct. **Motion amended by Warner to approve minutes as amended, 2nd by Spilis. Motion carried 5-0.**

Public Comment related to Agenda – None

Approval of Agenda – MM by Warner to approve Agenda, 2nd by Smolenyak. Motion carried to approve agenda 5-0.

Supervisor’s Report –

Supervisor attended the quarterly EMS meeting that took place at the Charlevoix City Hall. There was a tour of the facilities and the new ambulance and equipment. Ridenour explained that the new ambulance was very impressive and explained how when the back door opens the ambulance lowers and when the doors are closed the ambulance rises. Also, the new Stryker cots are hydraulic so there is no lifting to needs to be done by the crew. The quarterly billing was presented and for this quarter the billing was only \$599.15. This was based on Quarterly billing of \$28,500.00 for new ambulance and equipment Norwood portion @ 7% and \$12,750.00 projected 3 months bad debt @ 7%. There was a net prepaid Stryker cost of \$49,727.00 @ 7% credit so total quarterly payment was reduced to \$599.15. Last quarterly payment was for 4 months for \$3,887.34.

Ridenour reported he had meetings with Historical Society, Site Planning and John Campbell on December 3rd and December 12th regarding the Township Hall status.

Supervisor re-signed agreement with the Tip of the Mitt Watershed Council contract that was passed in 2013 which is the Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) with Charlevoix County. This was to help enforce our Storm Water Control Ordinance. Ordinance was drafted by Bryan Graham. When all Charlevoix County signatures are complete this will be posted on the web site.

Ridenour will attend the Charlevoix County Road Commission Annual Meeting on Thursday January 9, 2020. Issues to bring up include: a.) Whitmere Road, b.) 2nd Street, c.) Lake Street going down the hill blind area, d.) Beatty Rd condition, e.) drain on Clipperview, f.) Manthei/US 31/Heise Rd access, g.) Nowood Rd, h.) Township Hall.

Supervisor stated the ZBA Chairman, Chuck Cleland, retired so there is an available position on the ZBA. Ridenour asked Shari Jones, current Recording Secretary for Board of Trustees, Planning Commission and Zoning Board of Appeals and Deputy Clerk was asked to step in to the position and Jones stated she would accept the position if the Board agreed.

MM by Warner to nominate Shari Jones as new Zoning Board of Appeals member, 2nd by Smolenyak. Motion carried 5-0.

Treasurer's Report –

Fund Balances: as of 11/30/2019

General: \$ 48,336.47 (Chx State Bank)
Vanguard: 252,719.53
(Vanguard includes \$45,000 improvements)
Total: \$ 301,056.00

Road: 31,879.49
Emergency: 52,178.14
Phragmites: 8,179.72
(includes \$1,330 for Frank Hamilton fund)
Tax Fund:

Smolenyak reported she got the tax bills out on 12/1/19 and has already done one settlement with the County, Char-Em has been asked to be paid directly and Government and House agreed to budget and PILT money is now available.

Treasurer's office hours will be December 30, 2019 from 9:00am to 5:00pm to those who wish to pay their taxes in person.

Lynn stated she sent a tax bill to the Holodys as the sale has not closed on the property as of the meeting date.

Clerk's Report

Preapproved: \$ 161.00 (GLE)

Unapproved: \$14,569.70

Totals: \$14,730.70

MM by Smolenyak to approve Clerk's Report to pay bills, 2nd by Warner. Motion carried 5-0.

Clerk stated that the March 10, 2020 Primary will be at the Norwood Township Hall, not the Schoolhouse as it was too late to change otherwise all voters would have to receive new voter registrations.

Trustee's Report –

Warner reported the PC was working on zoning for Special Events Barn but the Planner did not attend so there were issues that need to be clarified with the Planner.

Spilis reported the PILT fund was reinstated and reported on secondary road patrols. Reported on Bill 4095 and it was opposed by the MTA and also reported on a Bill that is being presented to change the option for the Clerk to change the General Elections.

Zoning Administrators report is posted on line.

Old Business –

Historical Society Saving Existing Town Hall Presentation by David Vermeesch, Historical Society President. Vermeesch gave four reasons why the Historical Society would like to address the options for the status of the Township Hall.

1. Renovating Hall
2. Did not like idea of moving Hall to the Schoolhouse location
3. Did not like idea of moving Hall to a different location
4. Moving Hall to lake front location

Vermeesch stated why options two and three were not liked by the Historical Society. The Mission State of Historical Society read. Addressed challenges of current Hall site. Dr. Chuck Cleland spoke regarding the historic significance of the Township Hall and about the need for the historic preservation of the Hall.

Vermeesch spoke of approximate costs for the options, including: Cost for a new hall would be approximately \$420,000, cost to move the hall would be approximately \$366,000 and to renovate the hall where it currently stands would be \$315,000. Vermeesch asked how we can lessen the burden on the Community.

Trustee Spilis was concerned about the access to the proposed basement area and that it should be handicap accessible. Ridenour asked the Historical Society if there were any options brought up on how to raise the income to restore the current hall. Ridenour thanked Vermeesch or presentation and valuable information and stated he will put him on the Agenda for the January meeting to make further presentation.

Continued Discussion on New Township Hall Costs and Options- Supervisor handed out updated figures given to him by Morton Builders. Discussion on using Morton Builders or getting bids for a stick built building and further discussion on moving Hall or maintaining and restoring and going with Historical Society suggestions. Smolenyak explained to the audience how the Board was going to finance the new Hall and what funds were available and Ridenour explained the information for the loan that would be applied for and that it would be for materials only. Further discussion table to January 20, 2020 Board Meeting.

New Business –

Approval of 2020 Board Meeting Dates and Times Resolution.

MM by Freds to pass Resolution to establish Norwood Township Board of Trustee 2020 meeting dates to be third Monday of each month, 2nd by Smolenyak. Roll call vote: Spilis-aye, Smolenyak-aye, Ridenour-aye, Freds-aye, Warner-aye. Motion carried and Resolution passed 5-0.

Cancellation of February 17, 2020 Board of Trustee Meeting due to weather and possible lack of quorum. **MM by Spilis to cancel February 17, 2020 Board of Trustee Meeting, 2nd by Warner. Motion carried 5-0.**

Announcements & Correspondence –

All correspondence has been emailed out to Board Members.

Smolenyak announces that John Deery from Suttons Bay and Allegan is the new Library Director. There will be a going away party for Linda Adams on January 30, 2020.

Next Township Board Meeting will be January 20, 2020 at 7:00pm at the Norwood Historical Society/Schoolhouse

Public Comment –

Bob Groves, friend of Norwood Resident Mark Johnson, stated he has historical building experience from renovating the Dilworth Hotel in Boyne City and is in favor of renovating the current Township Hall and urges the Township to preserve the current Township Hall.

Bill Gnodtke, Norwood resident, thanked the Township Board for their transparency with the new Township Hall plans. Gnodtke also thanked David Vermeesch for his presentation. He stated he loves the historical aspect of the buildings in the Village of Norwood but he does see the problems with the current Hall. He said he would like the community to come together to form a group to save the buildings in the Community. Gnodtke also spoke about the drains in the Village and where they go.

Dana Pajtas, Norwood Township resident and former Township Clerk, said she feels the Board has a fiduciary obligation to look out for the Township and does not feel renovating the current Hall meets that obligation. Pajtas brought up several problems with the current Hall such as parking. Feels best solution is to move Hall and renovate it and put a Historical Marker stating it was the previous site of the original Township Hall.

Wendy Behling, Norwood Township resident, asked what would happen to the current property if the Hall was moved? She said the Hall gives historical value to the Village and loves the historical value. Would like the Board to explore options to preserve or move the Hall but would like the current Hall preserved either way.

Nancy Cleland, Norwood resident, questioned moving Hall to current planned site and if there would be wetland issues. She asked if other sites would be considered. Cleland said she would like to see the Hall in the Village and not at the Park location.

Ridenour thanked all that attended and everyone's input.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Submitted by Shari M. Jones, Recording Secretary