

Norwood Township Board of Trustees Meeting
Meeting Minutes
July 15, 2019 Approved Minutes
Norwood Township Hall

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 June 17, 2019 Meeting Minutes, MM by Warner to approve minutes as presented, 2nd by Smolenyak. Motion carried 5-0.

Public Comment related to Agenda –

David Vermeesch stated that Mallory Bower or the Michigan Preservation Society will be speaking at the Historical Society on July 17, 2019 at 7:30pm. There will also be an Ice Cream Social.

David also handed out a Township Hall Preservation article titled “The Downside of Pragmatism” and would like the Board to review it.

Marion Light spoke stating she is opposed to not having the current building as the Township Hall.

David Veermesch, Sr. is opposed to the decommissioning of the current building and building a new township hall. He stated he would like to maintain not replace the current building.

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

Supervisor’s Report –

Supervisor received a call from Richard Hill of the Gaylord DNR office to inform him that the DNR has hired an Engineering Firm to make a proposal for the bike trail and is working with the TART trail on the study. Supervisor asked him about the Holloday property and Mr. Hill said he does not know the status on that.

Supervisor received call from Denny Way on 6/20/19 and he said the dust control was done and followed up with the Charlevoix County Road Commission. The CCRC stated that they found that Gennett Road needs gravel. Supervisor contacted Jim Vanick from CCRC to find out what the cost would be. He stated 6” of gravel for 1.5 miles would be \$120,000 to re-gravel Gennett Rd.

Ridenour received call from Gary Stutzman regarding the condition of Beatty Road and said it is impossible to get a handicap van down because of the condition of the road. Ridenour said he researched if there was any grant funds to help with the road due to that situation and found there were not. He spoke to the CCRC to get costs on updating the road. There were two options. Five sections would be cut out and graveled and that cost would be an estimated \$79,430.00 and to pulverized and smoothed would be an estimated \$35,264.

Based on the costs given by the CCRC the Supervisor researched Warner Road also and to turn Warner back to gravel Road it would be an estimated \$142,000.00. A total cost of doing the roads in question would be an estimated \$395,000.00 with a \$50,000.00 road budget. Supervisor said the road status on all the roads will be discussed at future meetings and there may have to have further discussion to possibly for an increase in the road millage on the next ballot proposal. Supervisor said he will discuss with Beatty Road residences.

Supervisor and Treasurer Smolenyak met with Bryan Graham on 6/26/19 regarding the loan for the new Township Hall and all looks good for the loan process and is working on getting further information.

Ridenour stated there will be an Agenda item on the next Planning Commission Meeting Agenda regarding the Conservation Reserve District.

The American Waste invoice for the trash pick-up was over budget.

Board of Review will meet July 16, 2019 at 8:00 a.m.

City of Charlevoix sent letter thanking for the participation on the renewal of the Ambulance agreement.

Treasurer's Report –

Fund Balances: as of 6/30/2019	General:	\$ 49,460.62 (Chx State Bank)
	Vanguard:	250,626.71
	(Vanguard includes \$50,000 improvements)	
	Total:	\$ 300,087.33
	Road:	31,849.42
	Emergency:	55,990.21
	Phragmites:	7,027.92
	(includes \$180 for Frank Hamilton fund)	
	Tax Fund:	2,799.38

Smolenyak said taxes are out.

Warren Group Report sent request to ask for summer 2019 tax files and Treasurer told them they can get on line or pay \$.50 per parcel.

Clerk's Report

Preapproved:	\$ 163.00 (GLE)
Unapproved:	\$19,426.60
Totals:	\$19,589.26

Clerk stated she paid State of Michigan Withholding Taxes.

MM by Freds to make a budget amendment to transfer funds from Contingency Fund to Garbage Fund in the amount of \$4,990.00, 2nd by Warner. Roll call vote: Warner-aye, Freds-aye, Ridenour-aye, Smolenyak-aye, Spilis-aye. Motion carried 5-0.

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

Trustee's Report –

Warner stated the PC finalized all forms and will have the Zoning Administrator follow up on S.U.P.'s for St. Mary's Cement and AM Manufacturing, LLC.

Spilis reported he had been contacted by four are residents questioning the Fireworks Ordinance, proposed Township Hall questions, complaint on the drainage problem on Lake Shore Drive and the noise ordinance pertaining to construction in the area starting at 5:30a.m.. There were questions on how this worked into the Noise Ordinance. Spilis is going to review Noise Ordinance regarding this.

Spilis also asked the Board to review Connecting Communities for funding proposals to protect and control Evasive Species.

Zoning Administrators report is posted on line.

Old Business –

Update/Status New Town Hall/Morton Buildings Scott Slocum

Review of financing by Charlevoix State Bank for 3.38% for materials.

Discussion on retainer for Morton Buildings to finalize plans. Slocum stated it would take four to six weeks for finalizing bids.

MM by Spilis to pay \$5,000.00 to Morton Builders for a retainer to finalize plans, 2nd by Freds. Discussion to explain to the residents in attendance the reasons of doing the new Township Hall. Roll call vote: Spilis-aye, Smolenyak-aye, Warner-aye, Freds-aye, Ridenour-aye. Motion carried 5-0.

MM by Smolenyak to process check to Morton Builders from improvement fund, 2nd by Spilis. Motion carried 5-0.

Ridenour will meet with Scott Slocum to finalize.

New Business –

Contract with Norwood Historical Society for use of Historical Society building for Township Board, Planning Commission and Board of Review meetings. This pertains to meetings from October 2019 through April 2020.

MM by Warner to go with the contract dates for the use of the Historical Society building from October 2019 through April 2020, 2nd by Freds. Discussion on paying the contract in full even if the Township Hall building is completed prior to April 2020. Motion carried 5-0.

Planner Beckett and Raeder retain as planner source.

Ridenour stated the new Planner will attend meetings at \$75.00/hour and will attend the next four to five meetings to get comfortable with the Planning Commission.

MM by Spilis to retain Beckett and Raeder as the Township Planner starting August 1, 2019, 2nd by Warner. Motion carried 5-0

Announcements & Correspondence –

All correspondence have been emailed out to Board Members.

Next Township Board Meeting will be August 19, 2019 at 7:00pm at the Norwood Township Hall

Public Comment –

David Vermeesch stated Frank Hamilton gave current Planner Leslie Meyers the position and hope Leslie can stay in the PC's back pocket as she has been a tremendous help to the PC.

Vermeesch said he was disappointed on moving ahead with the Township Hall and feels character of a pole building as the Township Hall does not fall into the character of the Township. Vermeesch is also worried about the cost of burdening the community and feels the Township is giving up on current building. He stated he does not feel it is a waste but wants to keep character of Norwood Township and does not want the Historical Society saddled with the costs.

Marion Light wanted to know who did the Wetlands Study for the new Township Hall proposed site. She wanted to know if the public can see the Wetland Study and she requested to see a copy. Light also wanted to know the costs of paying back the loan for the materials and was concerned about where the funds of project come from.

Smolenyak explained the funds come from the General Operating Budget and also explained how it will work.

Light asked how came up with the plans and Smolenyak explained. Light also wondered where the support was coming from and felt the community should decide. Light felt the Township should negotiate with neighbors in order to possibly expand in order to keep the Township Hall in its current building.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:17 p.m.

Submitted by Shari M. Jones, Recording Secretary