

January 10, 2024, Regular Board Minutes were approved on February 14, 2024.

MARCELL TOWNSHIP

REGULAR BOARD MEETING- IN-PERSON

JANUARY 10, 2024, at 6:00 PM

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by Diane Coppens.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Present– Chair-Diane Coppens, Supervisor- Sandy Lyytinen, Supervisor- Karen Senger, Treasurer- Dennis Korte, and Clerk-Tracy Chase

Others in Attendance- Tim Hagen, Domanick David, Terry Snyder

Itasca County Commissioner Terry Snyder Update- Terry Snyder gave an update of the County situation. Updates included the following: the approved levy is an increase of 2 ½ %; the jail is approximately 2 million under budget, due to some lighting issues, the estimated opening date is the end of March, there will be a total of 182 available beds, the sales tax is over performing the initial estimates, and the estimated length of the bond will be 20 years instead of 30 years; Katie Benes is the new Itasca County Environmental Services Director; the County is still working with Mesabi Metallics; the Snowmobile and ATV clubs have worked out agreements with insurance companies; and there are additional COVID funds that the townships could possibly tap into for community improvements.

December 13, 2023, Regular Board Minutes – Motion to accept the December 13, 2023, minutes was made by Karen Senger and Sandy Lyytinen seconded the motion. MCU-3-0.

Treasurer’s Report- December 31, 2023, reconciled bank balance was \$516,337.05 with three outstanding checks for \$268.32 from General Checking and two outstanding checks for \$30.00 from the Business One Checking. Dennis gave a breakdown of all accounts. This included \$1,000 being transferred from the General Fund to the Community Garden Fund, CD #10325 will roll over and have an interest rate of 4.1%, and CD #'s 10326 and 10232 were cashed in and a new money market bank account was opened for the Unrestricted Business 1 Funds. The interest rate will be 3.5%.

Approve & Pay Bills – Motion by Diane Coppens to approve and pay bills with General Checking Account Check #'s 9502-9520 and Business One Unrestricted Check # 1001. Sandy Lyytinen seconded the motion. MCU-3-0. Payroll- \$1,676.93 and Claims- \$164,719.31.

Road Report- Due to the rain, there was not an opportunity for brushing to take place or any type of road maintenance. After the first of the year, snowplowing took place one time. If weather allows, the Matt Zimmer Road will be the first road to receive work.

Park Report- Motion by Sandy Lyytinen and seconded by Diane Coppens to not flood the ice rink this year. MCU- 3-0. The warming shack will also not open.

Hall Report- Domanick and Dennis repaired the light fixture in the kitchen. Lens covers need to be purchased to have on hand.

Cemetery Report- None

Old Business – None

New Business-

First State Bank of Bigfork- The board updated signature cards, accounts, etc. to represent 2024 business.

New Year Paperwork- Tracy discussed conflict of interest and withholding changes.

Presidential Primary Resolution-Motion by Karen Senger and seconded by Sandy Lyytinen to approve Appointing Election Judges Resolution as worded. MCU- 3-0.

Division of Duties- Motion by Sandy Lyytinen and seconded by Karen Senger to keep the division of duties the same as 2023. Diane Coppens will continue to be the Marcell Township’s Board Chair; Cemetery, Park, and Community Garden liaison; and be active on the Itasca County Association of Townships Board. Sandy Lyytinen will be active on the Fire Department Board, function as the Noxious Weed supervisor, and be the Road and Bridge liaison. Karen Senger will be on the Highway 38 Leadership Board, NIJPB, Business One and Hall liaison. If a supervisor is not available, the other supervisors will step into the role. MCU- 3-0.

Compensation for Town Officers and Employees- Motion by Sandy Lyytinen and seconded by Karen Senger to keep the compensation for officers and employees the same as 2023. MCU- 3-0.

January Budget Worksheet- Dennis will put together the budget worksheet and email to the board. Discussion will take place at the February meeting.

Official Newspaper- The recommendation was to continue to use the Grand Rapids Herald Review as the legal newspaper. This recommendation will be brought to the Annual Meeting.

Designation of Posting Places- The recommendation was to continue to use the 2022 posting locations- Frontier Sports, Lakeside Lumber, Snowshoe Liquor, Little Turtle Lake Store, and Hayslip’s Corner. www.marcellmn.org and www.edgeofthewilderness.org will be the online sites for posting Board meeting minutes and other pertinent documents. These recommendations will be brought to the Annual Meeting.

1099’s & W-2’s- The 2023 1099’s and W-2’s have been completed and submitted to the Social Security Administration and Minnesota Department of Revenue.

941’s, Unemployment, Dept of Revenue- The 4th quarter Federal 941 and State Unemployment Detail Report have been completed and submitted. The township paid their state withholding tax; they pay annually.

Fire Contract- Tracy will reach out to Melissa Grover, Bigfork City Clerk, to see what the proposed budget amount will be for 2025. This item was tabled until the February meeting when more information will be available.

Mileage Rate- The 2024 mileage rate is \$.67 per mile.

Committee Reports – Because Terry Snyder’s update included information on the Itasca County Jail and that was what the Itasca County Township Association Meeting was about, there were no additional comments from the supervisors.

Motion to adjourn at 7:27 pm by Diane Coppens and Sandy Lyytinen seconded the motion. MCU-3-0.

Chairperson

Date

Clerk

Date