

The January 11, 2023, Regular Board Minutes were approved on February 8, 2023.

MARCELL TOWNSHIP
REGULAR BOARD MEETING- IN-PERSON
JANUARY 11, 2023, at 6:00 PM

Diane Coppens, Sandy Lyytinen, and Dennis Korte took the Oath of Office.

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- Domanick David, Commissioner Terry Snyder, Rodney Ernhart

Commissioner Terry Snyder- Commissioner Snyder gave an update on the state of the County. One of the areas of discussion was the long-eared bat and the ramifications of the bat being on the endangered list. The broad impact of this could affect the logging industry, townships, county etc. As of December 8th, Canisteo Mine Pit began having accelerated water removal. Eleven thousand gallons of water per minute is being pumped from the pit. The board has been working with L & M Supply regarding expansion. Mesabi Metallica is a slow-going process. Terry mentioned the Fight Blight campaign. It is a county wide effort. There will not be an increase to the levy this year. This marks the fourth year in a row with zero percent increase. The county-wide sales tax will take effect on April 1, 2023. This tax will help pay for the new jail construction.

December 14, 2022, Regular Board Minutes – Motion to accept the December 14, 2022, minutes was made by Karen Senger and Sandy Lyytinen seconded the motion. MCU-3-0.

Treasurer's Report- December 31, 2022, reconciled bank balance was \$667,386.33. Dennis gave a breakdown of the accounts. There were six outstanding checks. There are 5 outstanding business loans, and Dennis gave a breakdown of the balances. Tracy reached out to DEED to see about restricted fund accrued interest and the interest must stay with the MIF restricted account. Dennis will check with First State Bank of Bigfork regarding CD interest.

Approve & Pay Bills – Motion by Diane Coppens to approve and pay bills with General Checking Account Check #'s 9291- 9305 with check numbers 9297 and 9298 voided. Karen Senger seconded the motion. MCU-3-0. Payroll- \$1,690.79 and Claims- \$11,455.01.

Road Report- Due to the measurable snow fall, there were four rounds of contract snowplowing. Also, there was a need for drift removal due to the winds. The Matt Zimmer and Ridge Roads had tree removal.

Park Report- Making ice for the rink and keeping sidewalks clear of snow kept Domanick busy. The rink was opened December 26th. Karen has been in contact with Sarah Carling regarding the playground and mentioned the potential of purchasing concrete as a group purchase for all entities putting in new playground systems. When it is time to install the new playground equipment, ads will be placed in the newspapers to see about people volunteering their time to help with the installation. Thistledeew will also help with the install.

Hall Report- The dishwasher's install is now complete. There will be a hall clean-up day on February 21st, at 10:00 am.

Cemetery Report- See information in Old Business.

Old Business –

Cemetery Memorial Update- Dennis gave information from Ed Eck Sign Company regarding the memorial. The board reviewed and weighed in on their choices. Dennis will reach out to Ed regarding this latest information.

New Business-

Conflict of Interest- The board completed paperwork regarding any conflicts they may have.

W-4- If there are any changes to a person's withholding allowance, they must fill out a new W-4.

Schedule of Town Meetings- Township meeting dates will be the second Wednesday of the month beginning at 6:00 PM. There are no holidays or elections that will be in conflict of the meeting dates and time.

Division of Duties- The division of duties will remain the same as 2022. 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.

Compensation for Town Officers & Employees- Motion by Sandy Lyytinen and seconded by Karen Senger to increase board/employee hourly rate to \$30.00 per hour. MCU-3-0. Motion by Karen Senger and seconded by Sandy Lyytinen that maintenance personnel will be paid a 2-hour minimum if they do not have additional work in the area. This will be at the discretion of the maintenance employee. MCU-3-0. In addition, if maintenance uses their own equipment, there will be a reimbursement charge for this.

January Budget- At this time, the budget/levy will remain the same for 2024. This recommendation will be brought to the Annual 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 Official Posting Locations- The recommendation was to continue to use the 2022 posting locations- Frontier Sports, Lakeside Lumber, Snowshoe Liquor, Little Turtle Lake Store, and Hayslips 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.

Bridge L3822- The bridge is in compliance.

PERA Report- The report has been completed and submitted.

WC Report- The report has been completed and submitted.

1099's, W-2's- The forms 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.

Committee Reports – Diane attended the Itasca County Association of Townships meeting. Commissioner Snyder gave the updates regarding this meeting in his commentary.

Motion to adjourn at 8:12 PM by Karen Senger and Sandy Lyytinen seconded the motion. MCU-3-0.

Chairperson

Date

Clerk

Date