

The November 9, 2022, Regular Board Minutes were approved on December 14, 2022.

MARCELL TOWNSHIP
REGULAR BOARD MEETING- IN-PERSON
NOVEMBER 9, 2022, at 6:00 PM

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- Rodney Ernhart, Tim Johnson, Mike Boldt, Tracy Boldt, Todd Youngberg, Clif Block, Lisa Knutson, Craig Knutson

Public Input- Rodney Ernhart- Northstar Resort, was the spokesperson for his resort and for a couple of other area resorts: Big Timber Resort and Cedar Point. The group wondered what steps were needed to repeal the 3% lodging tax that their customers pay. The 3% Lodging Tax came into existence at an Annual Township Meeting on March 12, 1996, where the residents voted unanimously to approve it. Edge of the Wilderness Lodging Association resorts collect the tax, and with the help of the NIJPB, the collected money is used for marketing the area. The EOWLA and NIJPB have scheduled a meeting on Monday, December 12th, at 5:00 PM, to discuss the concerns. Tim Johnson shared information about the positive impacts of the tax in terms of the advertising and public relations generated, how it remains locally directed, and the grant money it leverages. There was a discussion on the effectiveness of the tax, the costs of the tax and the benefits of the tax. The EOWLA will be at the regular town board meeting on Wednesday, December 14th, to review the EOWLA and present supportive data.

October 12, 2022, Regular Board Minutes – Motion to accept the October 12, 2022, minutes was made by Sandy Lyytinen and Diane Coppens seconded the motion. MCU-2-0.

Treasurer’s Report- October 31, 2022, reconciled bank balance was \$600,252.99. Dennis gave a breakdown of the accounts. He also updated the board on the loan report he sent to DEED. The outstanding loan balance for the reporting period of October 1, 2021, to September 30, 2022, is \$279,352.28.

Approve & Pay Bills – Motion by Diane Coppens to approve and pay bills with General Checking Account Check #'s 9253- 9273. Karen Senger seconded the motion. MCU-3-0. Payroll- \$2,338.40 and Claims- \$18,947.88.

Road Report- There were two rounds of contract grading. Roads receiving additional work were Becker and Eagle Point. Due to high winds, trees were down on Johnson Lake and Matt Zimmer Roads.

Park Report- T & T did extensive work in the park. This included upgrading the parking areas by removing sod and applying class 5; removing playground equipment, kiosk, and timbers; and removing a brush pile. Domanick re-stained the Marcell sign and took down the tennis/pickle ball nets for the season. Sandy reached out to the Bigfork Fire Department as they have not fixed the fire water supply. She also returned a call regarding Mary Alley.

Hall Report- Domanick put the rock back on the town hall and tightened all loose screws on the roof. Goggeye Electric will be at the hall on Wednesday, November 16th, to update the electrical for the dishwasher.

Cemetery Report- Because there is not enough light to illuminate the flag at night, it needs to be removed. Tracy will reach out to Ronette to do this. Karen still needs to write the article regarding the flag and its back history.

Old Business –

Cemetery Memorial Update-Dennis will reach out to Eck Design regarding the memorial sign. One of the questions the board has is when do Veterans’ names need to be received if we are looking at a Memorial Day 2023 install.

New Business-

Elections/Canvass- Elections went well. There were 215 in person ballots cast. The canvass will take place on November 16th, at 12:00.

Committee Reports – Karen attended the NIJPB meeting. Highlights included resurfacing and sidewalks on Bigfork’s main street and Scenic 7.

Diane attended the Tax and Equalization meeting at the Timberlake Lodge. Karen will do a virtual training for this.

Motion to adjourn at 7:24 PM by Sandy Lyytinen and Karen Senger seconded the motion. MCU-3-0.

Chairperson _____ Date _____

Clerk _____ Date _____