

Inverness Township  
Minutes of Regular Board Meeting  
January 5, 2021

Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm via GoToMeeting/Conference call with 5 Board Members present; Supervisor Roger Gaynor Jr., Clerk Pam Knaffle, Treasurer Laurie Merchant, Trustee Greg Elliott and Trustee Rod LaHaie.

Open with the Pledge of Allegiance

Absent: N/A

Minutes: Move to approve the minutes of the December 1, 2020 regular meeting by Merchant, second by Elliott. Ayes 5 Nays 0. Motion carried. Move to approve the December 21, 2020 special meeting by LaHaie second by Merchant. Ayes 5 Nays 0. Motion carried.

General Bills: Move to approve the general bills and wages of \$21,553.97 by Elliott, second by LaHaie. Roll call vote: Gaynor, yes; Knaffle, yes; Elliott, yes; LaHaie, yes; Merchant, yes. Motion carried.

Sewer Bills: Clerk Knaffle explained that the \$500.00 sewer bill was approved in October but the vendor never received it so the check was voided and reissued. Knaffle reported that M Bank waved the fee for voiding a check. The Board agreed that the bill was once approved and did not need to be approved again at this meeting. Move to approve the sewer bill of \$31.62 by Knaffle second by Merchant.. Roll call vote: Merchant, yes; Gaynor, yes; Elliott, yes; LaHaie, yes; Knaffle, yes. Motion carried.

Correspondence: None at this time.

Old Business:

Sewer update by Trustee Elliott. The flow numbers were 34,703. Trustee Elliott described the November 5, 2020 draft of the sewer ordinance. Trustee Elliott went through each line item that had changes to it. The changes are as follows: Page 11 item 3.3 talking about Township Engineer and the recommended change is to Sewer Administrator Representative, page 12 item 3.7 changes include payment costs, 3.11 Building Sewer Diameter: putting in the sizes of commercial and residential; page 14 item 3.27 defining if gravity fed, property owners are responsible for costs from their house to the sewer which is out by the road and if grinder pump the property owner is responsible from the house through the connection to the grinder pump and then the township is responsible for the grinder pump and the rest of the way out to the sewer main. The original ordinance stated that the property owner was responsible for costs, but the custom of the Board was paying for repairs and maintenance on the grinder pump, so it has been kept in the ordinance that way. If there is nothing in the grinder pump that is prohibited, the township assumes responsibility for maintenance. If property owner put something prohibited in, then they are responsible for the costs of repairs. There is also clarification regarding the power pole and if the property owner or someone on their property were to damage a power pole,

then the property owner assumes the costs of repair. Page 17 added 'items "cc" and "dd" which provides additional definition of prohibited items. Page 26, if there is an appeal the appeal panel may order the appellant to pay all costs incurred by the Township or by a Constituent Municipality as a result of the appeal. Page 40-41, reference property owners using meters but right now we use REUs and looking at modifying those paragraphs. Page 41 potential to change Township Board to Billing Agent because the city bills for sewer not the Township. Page 43-44 change rates. Page 44 separated debt from RRI (repair, replace and improvement). Page 45 added or her in item 7.13. Tim Purwin, Sewer Emergency Representative, is going to write some examples of situations that have occurred to reference. Mr. Tim MacArthur explained that if there are still changes that need to occur, adopting the ordinance at this time is premature. The ordinance needs to be published once it is adopted, therefore all changes must be made before adopting and publishing. Trustee Elliott will make changes and forward to Mr. MacArthur for review. Trustee Elliott also reported that he contacted Don Bedell, County Plumbing Inspector, and explained that anyone applying for a plumbing permit in the DDA area must apply for a permit from the Township first. Trustee Elliott reported that he is still waiting for Greg Salina's contract with his new fee of service.

Road update by Trustee LaHaie. LaHaie discussed the quotes on the roads which include Mullett Lake Rd., Polish Line Rd, and Laperell Road. LaHaie reported that the county has grants available to townships in the amount of \$25,000 for improvements over \$50,000. Each township is only allocated one grant. Much discussion regarding the roads and the needs. LaHaie recommendation is to move forward with paving Laperell Rd because it has recently been reconstructed, waiting would only increase the cost of paving. LaHaie reported that if there is grant money left over in March, townships can reapply at that time. Discussion of the Polish Line Rd hill would be potential second choice if additional grant monies are available. Elliott made a motion to submit Laperell Rd project out for bids. Knaffle supported. Roll call vote: LaHaie, yes; Merchant, yes, Gaynor, yes, Elliott, yes, Knaffle, yes. All ayes. No nays. Motion carried. LaHaie also reported about a few road signs that are missing and he has spoken to road commission to get costs involved as the township is responsible for the costs of signage. LaHaie discussed speaking with residents of Silver Beach Rd and Hill Rd, who are expressing interest in improving their roads. LaHaie has spoken with County Road Commission in regard to their request. These projects would involve a special assessment to the property owners. Mr. MacArthur reviewed the process of submitting a petition to proceed with a special assessment.

New Business:

FOIA Coordinator – Clerk Knaffle read the Freedom of Information Act Coordinator resolution which was provided by Mr. MacArthur. Elliott made a motion to adopt FOIA resolution and Pam Knaffle as FOIA Coordinantor. Merchant supported. Roll call vote: Gaynor, yes; Knaffle, yes, Merchant, yes. Elliott, yes, LaHaie, yes. All ayes. Motion carried.

Library update: Kay Forester reported that as of Monday, January 4, 2021 the library is open for browsing up to an hour and curb side service is still available.

Fire Board Report: R. LaHaie reported 1 run.

Treasurer Report: Merchant reported that she has received her new computer. Merchant reported that the DDA has a new percentage rate for a CD. Merchant reported that taxes are coming in good.

Citizen Comments: One comment reported that the city has not received any billing updates regarding the parcels in the sewer district. Tim Purwin reported that he was under the impression that the previous clerk had sent some information to Casey Clear but is willing to send information again.

Mr. Williams agreed with the recommendation to move forward with Laperell Rd but as a resident of Polish Line Rd, he would like to keep Polish Line Rd in the front burner because safety is of concern and as a commissioner, he had fielded several concerns about that road.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:51 pm, motion made by LaHaie, second by Elliott. 5 Ayes. 0 Nays.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Pam Knaffle, Inverness Township Clerk