

**GENOA CHARTER TOWNSHIP  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
REGULAR MEETING  
NOVEMBER 21, 2011  
6:30 p.m.**

**AGENDA**

Call to Order:

Pledge of Allegiance:

Call to the Public:

**Approval of Consent Agenda:**

1. Payment of Bills.
2. Request to approve minutes: November 7, 2011.
3. Request for approval of modifications to the proposed building fee schedule as presented.

**Approval of Regular Agenda:**

4. Consider funding request for SPARK for economic development services.
5. Receive report from the Township Manager regarding recycling and yard waste collection.

Correspondence:

Member Discussion:

Adjournment:

**GENOA CHARTER TOWNSHIP**  
**Board of Trustees**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**November 21, 2011**

**MINUTES**

Supervisor McCririe called the regular meeting of the Genoa Charter Township Board to order at 6:30 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was then said. The following persons were present constituting a quorum for the transaction of business: Gary McCririe, Paulette Skolarus, Robin Hunt, Steve Wildman, Jim Mortensen, Todd Smith and Jean Ledford. Also present were Township Manager Michael Archinal and approximately twenty-five persons in the audience.

A Call to the Public was made with the following response: Nearly all of the audience members addressed the board concerning the township's decision to go forward with a building department.

Boyd Buchanan of the Livingston County Home Builders wanted the Board to be aware that revenues from building permit fees could not be used for other purposes.

Steve Crane noted that Green Oak Township is the only other jurisdiction in the county with a building department. He stated that a recent permit took 32 days to get approved and that the fees are 40% higher and that Livingston County offers an economy of scale because it covers a larger area.

Ron Jones stated that the county is doing a great job and he does not understand why Genoa would want to start its own department when the Governor is asking for consolidation of local government services. No formal complaints have been lodged with the County or the State. Without written complaints there is no reason to go forward.

Diana Rencsak asked what would happen if the Township decided at some future point to get out of the building department business.

Jim Esper stated that the Township's continued pursuit of a building department is a waste of taxpayer dollars.

Steve Moore stated that this is a waste of taxpayer money and something the Township does not need.

Bill Hamway expressed support for the County Building Department and does not support a change.

Linda Rowell asked that the Board members individually express their reasons for supporting the creation of a building department. She stated that the township's pursuit of a department does not make sense and is not something our residents want.

Jim Rowell stated that he does not understand the motivation for a separate building department. The County runs a very efficient department. Genoa would not be able to match these efficiencies. Township fees will be higher than at the County. No formal complaints have been registered with the County and the only motivation upon which he can speculate is the Supervisors's involvement in real estate.

Jeff Dhaenens spoke in favor of the Township's efforts. He had a recent very poor experience as a homeowner pulling a permit.

An audience member requested that the Board pass a resolution stating that the Township's fees will never be more than the County's.

An audience member asked that the agenda item be tabled.

McCririe – Today we are merely seeking a modification to the proposed building fee schedule. The decision to make application to the State was made several months ago. Our goal is to provide the best possible service to our residents. "Turnaround time on permits" is a high priority. It is a question of convenience for township residents.

Skolarus – On Sept. 6, 2011 the board approved the January application to the State. That motion carried with five members in favor and two opposed.

**Approval of Consent Agenda:**

Move by Ledford, supported by Mortensen, to approve all items under the consent agenda with the addition of two checks related to the right-of-way acquisition for First Row and Hampton Ridge at a cost of less than \$24,000.00. The motion carried unanimously.

**1. Payment of Bills.**

**2. Request to approve minutes: November 7, 2011.**

**3. Request for approval of modifications to the proposed building fee schedule as presented.**

**Approval of Regular Agenda:**

Moved by Skolarus, supported by Ledford, to approve for action all items listed under the regular agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

**4. Consider funding request for SPARK for economic development services.**

Moved by Skolarus, supported by Ledford, to agree, in concept, to a three year commitment to SPARK in an annual amount not to exceed \$20,000.00. Further, that this service is subject to submission of an acceptable budget related to salaries and all other expenses to be reviewed by the Administrative Committee and then referred back to the Genoa Township Board for final approval and acceptance. Specific benchmarks will be discussed and established related to this agreement.

**5. Receive report from the Township Manager regarding recycling and yard waste collection.**

Archinal provided the board with a recycling and yard waste update. To date Duncan Disposal has diverted over 440 tons of material from landfills. No formal action was taken by the board,

The regular meeting of the Genoa Charter Township Board was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Paulette A. Skolarus  
Genoa Township Clerk