

GENOA CHARTER TOWNSHIP BOARD
Regular Meeting and Public Hearing
Oct. 15, 2012

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 Assistant Manager Kelly VanMarter, Attorney Frank Mancuso and approximately fifty persons in the audience.

A Call to the Public was made with no response.

Approval of Consent Agenda:

Moved by Ledford and supported by Mortensen to approve all items listed under the consent agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

1. Payment of Bills.

2. Request to approve minutes: October 1, 2012.

3. Request for approval for the purchase of Boulevard Banners at a cost not to exceed \$1983.00.

Approval of Regular Agenda:

Moved by Smith and supported by Wildman to approve for action all items listed under the regular agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

4. Call to the public regarding East and West Crooked Lake Aquatic Weed Control Project Special Assessment Project.

McCririe – Petitions have been received from 55% of the parcels in this district. This first meeting is for public comment on the special assessment district. The township is here as a financing mechanism. Your association will contract for this weed control project. Skolarus - Three letters of objection were received from property owners – Yvonne and Michael Balagna, Judith and William Jacobs, Joe Kowalczyk and John and Christine Coddington.

A call to the property owners and the public was made with the following response:

- Yvonne Balagna – My goal is to unite the lake community. There is no lake organization in place and I am against this project. I don't want to see chemicals used in the lake and recommend harvesting.

- Tom Sweder – The application is extremely safe. It may cause some damage to lawn if a person is applying water from the lake to their lawn.
- Jeff Borsveld – Some of us are treating the lake already. We have permits from the DEQ. Weeds are the problem. There is no way to dispose of the weeds.
- Ellen DelaRosa Pearn – Is there data that says this application will damage the lake? We need facts. McCririe – Your association should have that information.
- David Merrion – I have lived 24 years on the lake and am in favor of the weed control program with chemicals. Also, my two neighbors are in favor.
- Tom Rafferty – I have lived on the lake since 1989. We have a lake board and have researched this application. Harvesting only makes matters worse. The fish don't die.
- John Kirsch – I am the Oak Pointe Marina manager. We have been treating the lake since 1985. Harvesting was tried but only made it worse. Spot chemicals didn't solve the problem. Only chemicals eliminated the problem. Please approve this district.
- Joe LaCell – The chemicals used in this application were used in Agent Orange. Lake Tyrone quality is bad now because of chemical use and wells were contaminated.
- David Gaffky – The northeast corner of the lake is very bad. Three or four times a summer my neighbors and I spend a day and a half cleaning up the weeds and then need to dispose of them.
- Susan Krieger – I have done lots of research. Weeds cannot be controlled by harvesting. We have enough signatures to go forward and need your support.
- Tom Crane – We should harvest first and then apply chemicals. Will the DEQ pay any of this cost? McCririe - No
- Jodi Cook – There is opposition to chemical control. Our community is divided. There are many persons who are unaware of petitions being circulated.
- Jim Bright – Fluridone has many negative effects. It kills just about everything. Algae will bloom and could make the lake toxic. There are other alternatives.
- Bill Langhorst – I would like additional information on harvesting. This is not common on E. Crooked Lake.

Skolarus - Pardee Lake has had a weed control project in place for 25 years. Each homeowner is assessed \$500.00 a year. There is not a problem with fish dying or native species of weeds being destroyed. Lake Chemung has had a weed control district in place for ten years and they no longer have any objection to the special assessment district. Todd Smith – I would like to see harvesting and then chemical treatment with Fluridone. Wildman – I was initially against weed control on Lake Chemung. It is the best thing that happened to my lake. The water is crystal clear and all the native weeds are not dead. We use Aqua Weed Control.

No formal action was taken by the board. A second public hearing will be scheduled for the 2nd meeting in December.

5. Consider a request for authorization to proceed with engineering, acquisition, construction and coordination for the Nixon Road Pathway Project at a cost not to exceed \$454,000.

Skolarus asked that the pathway be reduced to eight feet in width. This action would save approximately \$32,000.00 in labor and materials. Moved by Hunt and supported by Smith to proceed with the Nixon Road Pathway Project, reducing the width to eight feet – allowing the walkway to be extended along the frontage of Three Fires School because of the reduction in width. (Note: The cost of this project will be paid out of the Parks and Recreation Budget.) The motion carried unanimously.

6. Consider approval of a construction agreement and reimbursable deposit with CSX Transportation for engineering, construction and flagging services associated with the Nixon Road Pathway Project.

Moved by Skolarus and supported by Wildman to approve the construction agreement and reimbursable deposit in the amount of \$21,182.00 with CSX Transportation, Inc. The agreement and deposit are to be used for engineering, construction and flagging services associated with the Nixon Road Non-Motorized Pathway extension across the CSX Railroad. The motion carried unanimously.

7. Consider request to enter into closed session to discussion pending litigation pursuant to Section 8 (e) of the 1976 Open Meetings Act.

Moved by Ledford and supported by Mortensen to move to closed session to discuss pending litigation at 7:45 p.m. The motion carried by roll call vote as follows: Ayes – Ledford, Smith, Hunt, Wildman, Mortensen and Skolarus. Nays – None.

The regular meeting of the board was reopened and adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Paulette A. Skolarus
Genoa Township Clerk

(Press/argus 10/19/2012)