

**GENOA CHARTER TOWNSHIP BOARD
Regular Meeting
August 5, 2024**

MINUTES

Supervisor Rogers called the regular meeting of the Genoa Charter Township Board to order at 6:30 pm at the Township Hall. The following members were present constituting a quorum for the transaction of business: Bill Rogers, Paulette Skolarus, Jean Ledford, Terry Croft, Diana Lowe and Jeff Dhaenens. Absent was Robin Hunt. Also present was Township Manager Kelly VanMarter, Township Attorney Joe Seward, and 19 people in the audience.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

A moment of silence was held in memory of Gary Markstrom, who served as the township's engineer for many years.

The call to the public was opened at 6:32 pm.

Ms. Skolarus stated that she has been the Township Clerk for 40 years. She spoke about how she was accused of making duplicate payments to her and Gary McCreary McCririe and getting paid in advance. She did nothing wrong. The Township hired an independent attorney to convict her. There is more to tell, but she is only allowed two minutes so she will continue her story at the next Township Board meeting.

The call to the public was closed at 6:34 pm.

Approval of Consent Agenda:

Moved by Lowe, supported by Croft, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. **The motion carried unanimously.**

- 1. Payment of Bills: August 5, 2024**
- 2. Request to approve the July 15, 2024 regular meeting minutes.**

Approval of Regular Agenda:

Moved by Lowe, supported by Dhaenens, to approve the Regular Agenda as presented. **The motion carried unanimously.**

- 3. Public Hearing on the proposed Milroy Lane and Mystic Lake Drive Road Rehabilitation Special Assessment Project (Winter 2024).**
 - A. Call to the Property Owners**
 - B. Call to the Public**

The call to the property owners was opened at 6:34 pm.

Ms. Suzie Robertson of 5300 Mystic Lake Drive stated that the road project is unnecessary. She walks these roads multiple times per week and these roads are not in need of repair. If they were, the Road Commission would assess them and make the repair. A portion of Mountain Road was repaired in July and that was needed. Mystic Lake has no potholes. This is a public road, and not a private road. She pays to repair roads with her taxes. Yes, 52.4 percent of the residents agreed to the repairs, but 47.8 percent of the residents voted to not repair them. Almost half do not want the repair. She referenced photos that she submitted with her letter.

Mr. Keith Larson of 5488 Mystic Lake Drive is the neighbor who visited the residents and provided the information regarding the road repairs. He is in favor of it. He was only able to obtain 52.4 percent of the residents to sign the petition; however, there are many more who want this road rehabilitation. He disagrees with the resident who spoke this evening. There are portions of the roads that are hazardous. Is there any responsibility of the County or is it only the responsibility of the Township and the residents.

Mr. Bob Assenmacher of 5439 Mystic Lake Drive has lived there since 1990. There are sections of curbing on the roads that are missing. The roads have to be replaced.

The call to the property owners was closed at 6:45 pm.

The call to the public was opened at 6:45 pm with no response.

Mr. Garrett Olsen of the Livingston County Road Commission (LCRC) stated that Milroy and Mystic Lake are past their serviceable lives. They are rated as 1 out of 10, which is the lowest score. He explained how and why the LCRC approved the repair of Mountain Drive in July.

Mr. Dhaenens asked Mr. Olsen what the neighbors should do if the curbs are damaged. Mr. Olsen said that the new style of curbs they would install do not usually get broken by the snow plows. If it does happen, the residents should contact the LCRC.

Ms. Skolarus stated the cost of this project is \$615,000 and the Township is contributing \$63,000 toward it. The Township keeps \$100 per year of the taxes that residents pay. The rest of the taxes go to the schools, the library, etc.

Supervisor Rogers stated that Genoa Township does not have a road millage.

4. Request for approval of Resolution #3 Approving the Project Cost Estimates, Special Assessment District and causing the Special Assessment Roll to be prepared for the Milroy Lane and Mystic Lake Drive Road Rehabilitation Special Assessment Project (Winter 2024). (Roll Call)

Moved by Skolarus, supported by Dhaenens, to approve Resolution #3 approving the Project Cost Estimates, Special Assessment District and causing the Special Assessment Roll to be prepared for the Milroy Lane and Mystic Lake Drive Road Rehabilitation Special Assessment

Project (Winter 2024). **The motion carried with a roll call vote (Ledford - yes, Croft - yes, Lowe - yes, Dhaenens - yes, Skolarus - yes, and Rogers - yes; Hunt - absent).**

5. Request for approval of Resolution #4 Acknowledging the filing of the Special Assessment Roll, Scheduling the Second Hearing for August 19, 2024, and Directing the Issuance of Statutory Notices for the Milroy Lane and Mystic Lake Drive Road Rehabilitation Special Assessment Project (Winter 2024). (Roll Call)

Ms. Skolarus asked Ms. VanMarter to explain the \$4,000 administrative cost. She stated the cost is for the two publications in the newspaper, postage for mailings, and staff time. She noted that after all of the expenses are made for the SAD, if there is more than 5 percent left over, there is an adjustment done and the residents' balances are lowered or refunds are given.

Moved by Ledford, supported by Lowe, to approve Resolution #4 Acknowledging the filing of the Special Assessment Roll, Scheduling the Second Hearing for August 19, 2024, and Directing the Issuance of Statutory Notices for the Milroy Lane and Mystic Lake Drive Road Rehabilitation Special Assessment Project (Winter 2024). **The motion carried with a roll call vote (Ledford - yes, Croft - yes, Lowe - yes, Dhaenens - yes, Skolarus - yes, and Rogers - yes; Hunt - absent).**

6. Public Hearing on the proposed Earl Lake Aquatic Weed Control Special Assessment Project (Winter 2024).
A. Call to the Property Owners
B. Call to the Public

The call to the property owners was opened at 6:54 pm with no response.

The call to the public was opened at 6:54 pm.

Ms. Shawn Bonine of 3216 Golf Club Road stated the residents want to treat the lake for weeds. They have hired a company. There are 45 lake residents who live in Oceola Township and 8 in Genoa. Almost 70 percent of the homeowners in Oceola and five of the residents in Genoa have signed the petition. There is a lot of support for this project from the residents.

The call to the public was closed at 6:56 pm.

7. Request for approval of Resolution #3 Approving the Project Cost Estimates, Special Assessment District and causing the Special Assessment Roll to be prepared for the Earl Lake Aquatic Weed Control Special Assessment Project (Winter 2024). (Roll Call)

Moved by Lowe, supported by Ledford, to approve Resolution #3 approving the Project Cost Estimates, Special Assessment District and causing the Special Assessment Roll to be

prepared for the Earl Lake Aquatic Weed Control Special Assessment Project (Winter 2024). **The motion carried with a roll call vote (Ledford - yes, Croft - yes, Lowe - yes, Dhaenens - yes, Skolarus - yes, and Rogers - yes; Hunt - absent).**

8. Request for approval of Resolution #4 Acknowledging the filing of the Special Assessment Roll, Scheduling the Second Hearing for August 19, 2024, and Directing the Issuance of Statutory Notices for the Earl Lake Aquatic Weed Control Special Assessment Project (Winter 2024). (Roll Call)

Moved by Ledford, supported by Lowe, to approve Resolution #4 acknowledging the filing of the Special Assessment Roll, Scheduling the Second Hearing for August 19, 2024, and Directing the Issuance of Statutory Notices for the Earl Lake Aquatic Weed Control Special Assessment Project (Winter 2024). **The motion carried with a roll call vote (Ledford - yes, Croft - yes, Lowe - yes, Dhaenens - yes, Skolarus - yes, and Rogers - yes; Hunt - absent).**

9. Consideration of a request to approve Emergency Management Resolution 240805A for the Support Emergency Operations Plan used in concurrence with the County Emergency Operations Plan. (Roll Call)

Supervisor Rogers stated this plan has been in place for a long time and must come before the Township Board each year for review and approval. There has been some additional cyber security information added to this year's plan.

Mr. Dhaenens asked if the water and wastewater treatment plants are to be repaired first. Ms. VanMarter stated, "yes", but she will confirm and report back to the Board.

Moved by Skolarus, supported by Lowe, to approve Emergency Management Resolution 240805A for the Support Emergency Operations Plan used in concurrence with the County Emergency Operations Plan, adding spaces for signatures and how each member of the Board voted. **The motion carried with a roll call vote (Ledford - yes, Croft - yes, Lowe - yes, Dhaenens - yes, Skolarus - yes, and Rogers - yes; Hunt - absent).**

10. Request for introduction of proposed Ordinance number Z-24-01 regarding text amendments to Article 7, Commercial and Service Districts, Table 7.02 to allow Laundromats as a special land use in the OSD District and to set the meeting date for the purpose of considering the proposed ordinance for adoption before the Township Board on August 19, 2024.

Ms. VanMarter stated this was initiated by Township Staff and the Planning Commission to allow laundromats in the Office Service District (OSD). She quoted part of the OSD ordinance stating that uses in this district can include services that assist residents in the area. Because there are concerns with parking, traffic, and noise with this type of use, it is being proposed to

be allowed as a special use, which will require that each one receive approval from the Township.

Mr. Dhaenens noted that the Livingston County Planning Commission recommended denying the request. Ms. VanMarter stated that they had the same concerns as her and staff, which is why they are requiring it to receive special use approval. She noted the County Planner recommended approval.

Mr. Dhaenens stated the Planning Commission reviewed this and agreed that it makes sense and should require special use approval .

Moved by Dhaenens, supported by Croft, to introduce proposed ordinance number Z-24-01 and to set the meeting date to consider adoption before the Township Board on Monday, August 19, 2024 for the purpose of considering the proposed zoning text amendment. **The motion carried unanimously.**

11. Consideration of a request to approve Resolution 240805B to approve Ballot Language for a voter petition-initiated Marijuana proposal for the November 5, 2024 General Election. (Roll Call)

Ms. VanMarter stated this was submitted last week. There were sufficient signatures in support of a voter petition-initiated proposal to be placed on the ballot to allow for two marijuana establishments. Five percent of the voters in the last gubernatorial election in the township must sign the petition. The clerk's office certified the signatures. She has prepared ballot language, which has been reviewed by the township attorney. The Livingston County Clerk's office also approved the language. Previously, the Township Board decided this is not something that was wanted in the township; however, the residents want this on the ballot.

Moved by Skolarus, supported by Lowe, to approve Resolution 240805B to approve Ballot Language for a voter petition-initiated Marijuana proposal for the November 5, 2024 General Election. **The motion carried with a roll call vote (Ledford - yes, Croft - yes, Lowe - yes, Dhaenens - yes, Skolarus - yes, and Rogers - yes; Hunt - absent).**

Member Discussion

Ms. Skolarus stated that there were nine days of early voting and 198 people voted. There are 17,000 registered voters in the township. The cost was \$49.43 per voter. Absent voter ballots costs \$.63 to mail. Early voting was approved by the voters several years ago. It is a large expense for the township residents.

Ms. VanMarter asked if the County's office can hold a combined election for all of the precincts. Ms. Skolarus stated she can speak to the county clerks at their monthly meeting.

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Approved Minutes

Mr. Dhaenens stated that the primary election is tomorrow. If he is not elected he wants all of the trustees to know that it has been an honor to serve on the board with them.

Adjournment

Moved by Lowe, supported by Ledford, to adjourn the meeting at 7:14 pm. **The motion carried unanimously.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Patty Thomas
Recording Secretary

Approved: Paulette Skolarus, Clerk
Genoa Charter Township

Bill Rogers, Supervisor
Genoa Charter Township