

# **Poland Municipal Forest Board**

## **Board Meeting - Poland Village Hall - January 22, 2019**

Meeting called to order at 7:32 by the chair.

### **Board Members Present:**

James Brammer

Bob Elias

Chris Graff

Sam Moffie, Council Representative

Ian Renne

Mark Thompson

Elinor Zedaker, Chair

Quorum present - yes

### **Approval of November 22, 2019 Forest Board Minutes:**

A motion to approve was made by Chris Graff and a second by Sam Moffie. All voting aye. (The Forest Board did not meet in December.)

### **Business:**

- Sam Moffie reported the Village Council has approved the Forest Board's operating budget and will include it in the CY2019 Village budget.
- Mark Thompson stated that MS Consultants have completed the inspection of the Mauthe Bridge towers. They have determined the four towers and the anchorages can be reused.
- A discussion followed about MS Consultants, currently the Village engineer of record, possible role as the Forest Board considers a the proposal for a bridge restoration/rebuild plans in keeping with the iconic appearance of the Mauthe Bridge. An overview of the opinions presented by several engineers in reference to this project were included in this discussion.
- A motion was made by Mark Thompson for the Forest Board to recommend to Village Council acceptance of the proposal by MS Consultants as the design engineer for the Mauthe Bridge project not to exceed \$15,000 contingent upon securing funding; seconded by James Brammer. The vote was unanimous to approve. Sam Moffie will Present this to council.
- Chris Graff brought up the disregard for the closing of the Mauthe Bridge by the Village several months ago, and yet, the disregard for its safety as some continue to cross it. Discussion as to what can be done since vandals have continually dismantled every form of barricade used so far. A more vandal resistant barricade will be implemented.
- EnviroScience data and report is forthcoming and will be discussed upon receipt.
- Two estimates for the Butler Trail culvert work were presented by Mark Thompson: Jet Excavating for \$56,000 and Centofanti Concrete for \$44,000. At this time, the cost is higher than anticipated and approaches to solve this issue vary. Ian Renne asked about the use by emergency vehicles of this trail. During discussion, it was noted that an alternate ingress to the forest can be accessed, but the culvert impasse still needs to be pursued as the water flow continues to severely erode this area.
- The gas company buried a line under the culvert, and this should also be of concern to them as it was covered by the culvert.
- Mark Thompson praised a committed group of forest volunteers who have stepped forward week after week to address many issues. There is work yet to be addressed.

**Public Comment:**

- There were no comments.

**Other Business:**

- Bob Elias pressed the issue of a proper gateway at the College Lane entrance to Gutknecht Trail. There remains a village temporary wooden horse which is not even serving as a temporary gate. We need to move the issue forward. Village Council had agreed to provide up to \$250 toward a gate.
- Ian Renne agreed to coordinate the Forest Board's annual Garlic Mustard Pull and Clean Up in April.
- Chris Graff and Becker Funeral Home will donate water for the volunteers.
- The Poland Manor Bridge, aka "Graffiti Bridge", was missing part of the side rail. It has been repaired.
- The ODNR Forester Ryan Clester, assigned to this region, is interested to help regarding our concerns but is limited by the number of site visits he is permitted.
- A discussion ensued about the destruction by the overpopulation of the white tail deer. They are causing extraordinary damage to the forest vegetation and to that of properties throughout the village.

**Adjourn:**

Sam Moffie moved to adjourn the meeting and Chris Graff seconded. All voted aye to adjourn at 9:10p.m.

**Next Forest Board Meeting, Tuesday, February 26,2019**