

## **Poland Municipal Forest Board Meeting – Poland Village Hall – January 28, 2020**

Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm by the chair

### **Board Members Present:**

James Brammer

Bob Elias

Chris Graff, *Council Representative*

Dr. Ian Renne

BJ Sulka

Mark Thompson

Elinor Zedaker, *Chair*

**Quorum:** Yes

**Approval of November 26, 2019 Forest Board Minutes:** Thompson made a motion to approve the minutes, Sulka seconded. All said AYE.

Elias made a motion to pause the order of the normal meeting to elect officers of the Forest Board, Thompson seconded, all said AYE.

### **Election of Officers:**

Elias nominated Zedaker for Chair, Sulka seconded, all said AYE.

Elias nominated Thompson for Vice Chair, Brammer seconded, all said AYE.

Thompson nominated Brammer for Secretary, Sulka seconded. Renne nominated Graff for Secretary, Graff declined the nomination, all said AYE for the nomination of Brammer.

Thompson nominated Elias for Treasurer, Renne seconded, All said AYE.

The terms of elected officers will be for a term of two years.

Graff made a motion to resume the order of the meeting, Elias seconded, all said AYE.

## Reports:

- **Presentation of Proposed Budget for CY2020-** Elias explained the breakdown of the proposed itemized budget for the Poland Municipal Forest 2020. There was a \$4000.00 carry over from last year. The board discussed items on the list. Thompson explained where the money for the trails are spent and described a new walking/biking boardman design. Renne asked if the board has a say on what the street department does with the wood from the forest.
- Graff made a motion to approve the budget as presented, Sulka seconded, all said AYE.
- **Mauthe Bridge-** Thompson reported that Murphy Construction was awarded the job of the restoration of the Mauthe Bridge for roughly \$86,000. Building/demolition will begin in March, completion is hopeful for late spring. Thompson stated that \$61,000 has been raised by the foundation. A continuation of fundraising is ongoing for the cost of construction.
- **EnviroScience-** Thompson reported that there will be dates and a location announced for the end of February.
- **Dominion Gas Line-** Thompson stated that the EPA permit has not been approved or received. Nothing else to report about the project.
- **Invasive Species-** Brammer said that he will reach out to the State Forester and get some information and phone numbers for contractors. A brief discussion was had about the scope of work for combating invasive species.
- **Deer Overpopulation-** Renne spoke about the meeting with ODNR officers and Thompson. A possible field day for educating the community was suggested. A process of a project goal was sent over from the Wildlife Officer to review.
- **Deer Exclosure-** The board discussed the deer exclosure. A location and a construction date are needed. The board discussed making another exclosure after the first one is completed. A meeting in the woods will take place to determine the placement of the exclosure.
- *Renne made a motion to build a second deer exclosure of similar dimensions, Elias seconded, all said AYE*
- **Garlic Mustard Pull-** This annual event is scheduled for Saturday, April 18 from 9-12. Volunteers are needed, notices will be posted. Renne will request volunteers from YSU.

**Other Business:**

- Thompson reported that most trails are in good shape; however, another segment of Blue Bell Trail is caving in due to water erosion.
- Mr. Dunham explained the usage and metrix of the forest web site. The explanation described exactly how long and what people are looking at on the site. The board discussed the web site.

**Public Comment:**

- A resident of Poland speaks about a large tree that fell in the forest and the lore behind it.
- A resident of Poland stated she would like to help with the invasive plant problem.

**Adjourn:**

- Graff made a motion to adjourn, Brammer seconded, all said AYE.

The next Forest Board meeting will be February 25, at 7:00pm.



