

Poland Municipal Forest Board Meeting – Poland Village Hal I- June 23, 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 – absent

BJ Sulka

Mark Thompson

Elinor Zedaker, *Chair*

Quorum: Yes

Approval of February 25, 2020 Forest Board Minutes: Motion to approve was made Thompson and seconded by Sulka, all voted aye.

Financial Report: Elias reported on the Forest Boards financial status. The Forest Board line item in the Village budget shows a \$1,900.00 balance. Note: this represents a Carry Forward of \$10K plus the First Half Levy monies of \$8,000. The Fiscal Officer has been instructed by the Council members on the Finance Committee to encumber Forest Levy monies until the Mauthe Bridge account is paid in full by the Forest Foundation. The Mauthe Bridge estimated total cost is \$86,500, and a check for \$62,400 has been received from the Foundation. The remaining balance due on the Bridge will be covered by the Forest Foundation. Sulka made a motion to accept the finance report, Graff seconded, all said aye.

Forest webmaster, Rob Dunham, announced that a virtual tour of the Mauthe Bridge is posted on the Forest Board website, and more will be added as available.

EnviroScience: Thompson discussed a few areas in the forest along the banks of Bluebell Trail and Thacher Trail that are caving in. A suggestion was made to research grants and funding for mitigation. Also suggested that the Board consider choosing some sites along the creek and making reports.

Dominion Gas Line: We are still waiting for reports to come back from Dominion.

Deer Overpopulation: Nothing to report at this meeting.

Deer Exclosure: Volunteers have reattached the existing exclosure fence but will need more help. Thompson will reach out for volunteer help. The Forest Board has not determined a location for the new exclosure.

Invasive Species: Brammer discussed the possibility of bringing in a contractor to cut and spray a predetermined area of invasive species. The board discussed all aspects of the project and determined there will be may be more information gathered.

Other Business: Thompson spoke about tree related issues near Indian Trail property line encroaching onto the trail. There is a broken rail at the College entrance. Flood water is backing up into a yard along Indian Trail. Webmaster Rob Dunham announced the Mauthe Bridge that is covered on the web site with a virtual tour. Thompson remarked about having saved components of the old bridge to display. Councilwoman Morgan asked Brammer what invasive species he was talking about in the proposed plan for removal.

Public Comment: A resident stated that the brick on the Mauthe Bridge was laid without mortar; had comments about the deer enclosure; commented on the invasive species removal and that it could be done with YSU students helping. A resident stated his opinion about how the water flowed through the forest. A resident brought up a question as to why some trees were taking down near the Mauthe Bridge walkway without discussion.

Adjourn: Since there was no further business to come before the Board, Elias made a motion to adjourn, Sulka seconded, and all said AYE.

Next Forest Board Meeting: Tuesday, August 25, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

