



RESOLUTION # 75 - 2024

Resolution to entertain any unsolicited inquiries for exploration, prospecting, bulk sampling and mining operations on County owned land following procedures set for in Chapter 9, Section 9.61 of the County Ordinance.

Resolution approved for presentation to the Oneida County Board by Supervisor Scott Holewinski.

Resolved by the Board of Supervisors of Oneida County, Wisconsin:

WHEREAS, Prior to June 5, 1987 it was the policy of the Forestry and Outdoor Recreation Committee not to enter into any exploration and mining agreements; and

WHEREAS, Resolution 54-87 offered by the Oneida County Forestry and Outdoor Recreation Committee and passed by the Oneida County Board of Supervisors on June 5, 1987 with an attached Oneida County Metallic Ore Prospecting and Mining Policy, which directed the Forestry and Outdoor Recreation Committee to proceed with implementation of that policy and to report back to the board when a mining and prospecting lease agreement is ready for approval; and

WHEREAS, Joint resolution #94-2009 offered by the Mining Oversight Committee and Forestry, Land and Outdoor Recreation Committee and passed by the Oneida County Board of Supervisors on October 20, 2009 with 17 aye, 0 nay and 3 absente, addressed that the change in the composition of the Board had significantly changed since adoption of Resolution #54-87; and

WHEREAS, The 2009 County Board adopted and endorsed Resolution #54-87 along with the attached policy for Oneida County Forest Lands and directed the Oneida County Mining Oversight Committee to implement this policy and report back to the board when any mining or prospecting lease agreements would be ready for approval; and

WHEREAS, Resolution #59-2012 offered by the Forestry, Land and Outdoor Recreation Committee was defeated by the Oneida County Board of Supervisors on August 12, 2012 with 9 ayes, 12 nays which would have endorsed resolutions # 54-87 and # 94-2009, and also ended the Forestry, Land and Outdoor Recreation Committee from proceeding forward with the process they were working on with the ultimate goal being the leasing of County Forest Lands for the purpose of exploration, with the option for prospecting and mining in the future; and

WHEREAS, Oneida County Board of Supervisors has adopted Chapter 9, Article 6 – Non-Metallic Mining and Metallic Mineral Exploration, Prospecting and Mining Ordinance and addresses metallic mineral exploration, bulk sampling and mining under section 9.61; and

WHEREAS, Under 9.61 of the ordinance, the whole process is detailed out from the purpose and intent to the Oneida County Metallic Mining Local Impact Committee to timing milestones and triggering events; exploration, bulk sampling, notice of intent to collect data or apply for a mine permit, local agreements required, county mining permit required, application requirements for nonferrous metallic mineral mining permit, general requirements for nonferrous metallic mining operations, financial assurances and responsibilities, environmental impact report and statements, inspections and reports, effective date of permit and commencement of mining operations, permit modification, violation and enforcement, penalties for a total of 29

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52 pages of requirements; and

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54 **WHEREAS**, On November 6, 2018, the County Board submitted an advisory, non-binding,  
55 referendum vote which read "after performing their due diligence should Oneida County allow  
56 leasing of County owned lands in the Town of Lynne for the purpose of metallic mineral  
57 exploration, prospecting, bulk sampling and mining?" the vote was 7,129 yes and 11,927 no.  
58 After the advisory vote the County Board at that time did not pursue any discussion of potential  
59 mining leases; and

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61 **WHEREAS**, Resolution #81-2019 offered by Supervisor Alan VanRaalte was defeated by  
62 the Oneida County Board of Supervisors on October 2, 2019 with 8 aye, 11 nay and 2 absentee  
63 which would have prohibited all non-ferrous metallic mining activities including exploration,  
64 prospecting, bulk sampling and mining operation on Oneida County owned land and also  
65 prohibit the sale of Oneida County land for non-ferrous metallic minerals located there; and

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67 **WHEREAS**, It is unclear by Resolution # 81-2019 failing and Resolution # 59-2012 failing  
68 what the position of the County Board was at that time; and

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70 **WHEREAS**, Recently the Oneida County Board Chairman and the Chair of the Forestry,  
71 Land and Outdoor Recreation Committee have received unsolicited inquiries from two different  
72 mining companies which as of August 10, 2024 have not been responded to by the County  
73 Board Chair or Chair of the Forestry, Land and Outdoor Recreation Committee; and

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75 **WHEREAS**, The County Board Chair and Chair of the Forestry, Land and Outdoor  
76 Recreation Committee are looking for direction from the current County Board; and

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78 **THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, That the Oneida County Board of Supervisors delegates  
79 authority to the Forestry, Land and Outdoor Recreation Committee to entertain any unsolicited  
80 inquiries for exploration, prospecting, bulk sampling and mining operation on county owned land  
81 and follow the procedures set in State Statute and Chapter 9, Section 9.61 of the ordinance.

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83 Vote Required: Majority =  2/3 Majority = \_\_\_\_\_ 3/4 Majority = \_\_\_\_\_

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85 The County Board has the legal authority to adopt: Yes  No \_\_\_\_\_ as reviewed  
86 by the Corporation Counsel, \_\_\_\_\_, Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
87 8-9-24

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89 Consent Agenda Item: \_\_\_\_\_ YES  NO

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92 Offered and passage moved by: Antoni Holowinski  
93 Supervisor

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96 Seconded by \_\_\_\_\_

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100 \_\_\_\_\_ Ayes

101 \_\_\_\_\_ Nays  
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104 \_\_\_\_\_ Absent  
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106 \_\_\_\_\_ Abstain  
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108 \_\_\_\_\_ Adopted  
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110 by the County Board of Supervisors this 20<sup>th</sup> day August, 2024.  
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112 \_\_\_\_\_ Defeated  
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114 \_\_\_\_\_  
115 Tracy Hartman, County Clerk                      Scott Holewinski, County Board Chair