

**SHAMROCK TOWNSHIP
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
Thursday September 8, 2022**

Board Chairman Charles Quale called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Present were Supervisors Allen Eld and Ron Smith; Treasurer Jack Brula; Clerk Candace Kral; maintenance Tim Turner; Brian Napstad, Aitkin County Commissioner and 13 property owners in person; Jason Hill, and five property owners via zoom.

Motion made by Allen Eld, seconded by Ron Smith, to approve the August 11 Regular Board Meeting minutes; motion passed unanimously.

The treasurer reported the following fund balances for the period ending, August 31, 2022: General Revenue Fund, \$48,353.66; Road & Bridge Fund \$80,235.24; Sewer Fund \$13,147.81; Road Repair (blacktop) Fund, \$90,871.68; Fire Fund, \$5,489.23; Building Repair Fund, \$427,395.56; Parks & Rec Fund, \$190,977.02; American Rescue Plan \$31,696.14; Escrow/Road Vacation \$794.38; Road Bond \$0 and the Lease/purchase \$142,339.76; Salt Shed loan \$-91,026.90 – a total in the checking accounts of \$1,031,300.48. The Blacktop Repair CDs' total \$ 159,369.19; Equipment CD's total 50,538.57 and the Sewer Fund CDs' total \$ 118,134.82. Money market interest received in August 2022 was \$232.71. Receipts for the month were \$47,844.20. August disbursements were \$47,844.20. Motion by Allen Eld, seconded by Ron Smith, to approve the treasurer's report; motion passed unanimously.

Tennis/Pickleball Courts – R&R Landscaping and Construction

Motion made by Ron Smith, seconded by Allen Eld, to withhold check #16960 to R&R Construction for the courts' dirt work due to a discrepancy in the construction of the courts and to approve the remainder of the August 2022 claims and payroll totaling \$89,988.74; motion passed unanimously. Claims list attached.

Correspondence Lakes and Pines Community Action Council annual meeting for October 3rd in Braham; Minnesota LTAP upcoming workshops information; Lake County Power August 2022 Newsliner; The Mercury Back to School September 2022 issue; Pipeline Association for Public Awareness letter and pamphlet Volume 17, Summer 2022 issue; Couri & Ruppe Law Office Township Legal Seminar information; 2022 MN Fall Expo Education Session/Curriculum scheduled for October in St. Cloud information;

Concerns from residents not on the agenda

William Smith 50394 214th Place. 214th Place is a dead end and they are getting our lot full of traffic, cars and 4-wheelers alike, of nonresidents up and down the road. He also stated there are parking issues along the road causing unsafe car traffic and emergency vehicle hazards. Also stating that there is a VRBO down the road that does not have a permit. Mr. Smith requested a road sign stating no outlet or dead-end at the beginning of road. The board instructed maintenance to install a sign.

Todd Nutting - 49408 201st Ave. – stated he has an issue with both the county road (Lake Ave.) and township road washing out down his driveway. Maintenance has been good about fixing road but he keeps having to fix his driveway. He stated that the water is washing off of both roads going over his property and washing sand into the lake. He also stated concerns regarding the culvert that runs under County Rd 14 that drains the ditches across his property to the lake is plugged up from an ice heave a couple years ago and again is washing sand into the lake. He is requesting a solution

starting at the top of the hill to help the water run past the end of his driveway towards County Rd 14. The board stated the township would look at it for a possible culvert or redirection correction in the future.

Tom Meyers – lives on 210th place - presented the board with some info obtained from a township south of St. Cloud. He stated that the township has all roads around their lakes paved to prevent dirt from washing into the lakes. He indicated that considering the possible tax revenue of the township, the township should have all township roads paved.

Jason Hill, township attorney, was present via zoom for the township's benefit regarding the dirt work for the courts. The clerk provided a brief overview of the situation of the job seemingly completed R&R Landscaping and Construction of the courts' dirt work. She also informed him the township was presented with an invoice much higher than the quoted amount. The board understands some of the difference; however, does not agree with all of it. Stating that the extra cost/product was incurred/used without any prior notice to or preapproval from the township. Upon having the courts resurveyed, the board then discovered that the contractor did not build the base of the courts according to plans or provided staking at the beginning of the project. The board requested guidance on payment or partial payment to the contractor due to the fact that the contractor did not perform the work according to contract. The attorney referenced a couple different points in the contract regarding the township's rights of withholding payment/partial payment. Mr. Hill instructed the board that our engineer can provide us with information as to the estimated cost of correcting the errors of the construction project. The board will connect with WSB and the contractor before continuing any further in regards to payment.

OLD BUSINESS:

Road Report –Tim Turner reported that they have been grading and graveling; road mowing; and trimming limbs; graveled and rebuilt a turn-around on 487 Lane; fixed the public access on 209th Place, (ruthless point),ordered a “no parking, public access” sign to be installed; performed equipment maintenance as needed; informed the board of a beaver and muskrat problem on south Pukawanna, Round Lake; replaced a mailbox post on 485th Street damaged by the mower; reminded the board of the need for tires on the truck, the backhoe tractor, and the mower; also that the pickup should be replaced

Bridge Rd – It was brought to the town board's attention by the maintenance department that a property owner has installed a sprinkler system in their yard placing sprinkler heads in the road right of way within inches of the asphalt road. The clerk prepared a letter to the individuals for the board's review stating that due to the location of the sprinkler heads, the town is not responsible to damage caused while performing normal road maintenance. The board instructed the clerk to mail the letter.

There is no new information regarding the starting of the engineering for the re-asphalt project

No new information regarding the grader.

The clerk informed the board that she has connected with Steve Fenske, MAT attorney, regarding the approval of the culvert specs and regulations. He stated that the township could make them an ordinance, which involve a resolution, hearing and public posting; or they could make them a policy, which involves a motion to do so and have the information easily available to the public. The board discussed their options. Motion made by Ron Smith, seconded by Allen Eld, to approve the Culvert Specs and regulations as previously approved to be a Township Policy; motion passed unanimously. The clerk will upload the document to the township website.

It was stated that the board together with John Welle, Aitkin County Engineer, and other individuals from his department performed road views at the following water drainage locations: Water drainage – intersection of 482nd Lane & 218th Place; the end of 218th Place; and 493rd Lane (Eklund Saw Mill Road) and 218th Place by Cummings Hill. John Welle will connect with to Sam Seybold, Aitkin County Soil & Water, and get started on the plans that are needed prior to the township to applying for assistance from Soil & Water for these projects.

Shamrock Recreation Area Project:

Concrete & Pavilion – the board was updated that the contractor has applied for the permit, we are waiting to hear back from Kevin Turnock. There may be an impervious coverage issue regarding the permit. The contractor asked the township to approve the purchase of the flag poles. We received an approval and other information from the state regarding the plumbing. This has been forwarded to both Hasskamp (due to the installation of the new well) and to the contractor.

Both the playground and the VETs memorial monument are waiting for the concrete for installation. The board was informed that the township received a \$1,000 donation towards the VETs Memorial from VFW Post Auxiliary.

The clerk informed the board that the township was awarded \$5,000 from the Aitkin County Community Grant Program for the park project – courts.

Clean-Up Day is Saturday, September 10th. The clerk has all the documents ready.

NEW BUSINESS

The township received a letter from Minnesota Association of Townships (MAT) regarding MAT insurance coverage period – Policy Extension. The new coverage period will be March thru February rather than November thru October. There will be no fee for the 4 months gap of coverage in the implementation of the new coverage cycle.

Pete Thorson is requesting a road vacation of Maple Ridge Road between 520th Lane & 521st Lane. The clerk had previously provided Mr. Thorson with the information and sample petition form regarding the township process of vacating a road. A complete petition for the vacation of Maple Ridge Road was presented to the board. It was stated that the clerk has not been able to verify the resident signatures therefore could not confirm it's completeness. The location and purpose for the road vacations were discussed. The board came to agreement to continue the meeting to next week Thursday, September 15th at 10:00 a.m. to allow the clerk to fully review the petition and signatures.

The board reviewed the after the fact variance request applied for by Paul & Remae Bahe – requesting multiple setback variances from the ordinary high water for additions to their residence. The board stated objection to this request and suggests all county rules and regulations be followed.

The board reviewed the requested for an Interim Use Permit to operate a vacation home rental by Jeffrey Gelo. The stated no objection to this request and suggests all county rules and regulations be followed.

The board reviewed a conditional use permit request to operate a storage facility by Keith Koeraj/3K Holdings LLC. The board stated no objection to this request and suggest all county rules and regulations be followed.

George & Deb Carlberg and Scott & Kari Brazinski were both present to discuss with the township their driveway issues in regards to each other and the road right of way. They each argued their case of in this situation. Mr Carlberg provided the board with a written documentation of current and past disputes. The board informed them that where the driveways are installed is only concerns the township when it hinders the road any way or the ability for the township to perform road maintenance as needed. The board provided possible solutions to their issues such as build a sharable driveway. It was further started that the issues between the two parties were personal issues and not that of the township to solve. It was recommended to obtain attorneys if they could not find a solution among each other.

Brian Napstad provided the township an overview of how the property tax rate is figured, all the factors that are used to figure taxes rates and its relation to the property evaluation. He gave an explanation of the cause of the recent increase of property valuations.

At 2:53 p.m. meeting was continued to September 15, 10:00 a.m.

Candace Kral
Clerk

Charles Quale
Board Chairman

MINUTES WERE APPROVED AT THE OCTIBER 13, 2022, REGULAR BOARD MEETING