

**SHAMROCK TOWNSHIP  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
Thursday November 10, 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; 5 property owners in person; one property owners via zoom.

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

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

The treasurer reported the following fund balances for the period ending, October 31, 2022: General Revenue Fund, \$33,615.63; Road & Bridge Fund -\$7434.40; Sewer Fund \$13,154.35; Road Repair (blacktop) Fund, \$90,916.88; Fire Fund, \$5,272.93; Building Repair Fund, \$427,608.19; Parks & Rec Fund, \$91,422.94; American Rescue Plan -71,908.79\$; Escrow/Road Vacation \$3,294.38; Road Bond \$0 and the Lease/purchase \$142,410.57; Salt Shed loan -\$87,307.32 – a total in the checking accounts of \$728,352.68. The Blacktop Repair CDs' total \$ 159,628.01; Equipment CD's total 50,578.03 and the Sewer Fund CDs' total \$ 118,169.40. Money market interest received in October 2022 was \$268.59. Receipts for the month were \$11,263.64. October disbursements were \$199,173.61. Motion by Ron Smith, seconded by Allen Eld, to approve the treasurer's report; motion passed unanimously.

Motion made by Ron Smith, seconded by Allen Eld, to approve the November 2022 claims and payroll totaling \$46,787.79; motion passed unanimously. Claims list attached.

**Correspondence** Email from MAT regarding the passing of Executive Director David Fricke; Lake Country Power October 2022 Newslines; Lakes & Pines October 2022 FYI Board and Employee Newsletter; Talon Metals Corp News Release stating that the battery minerals processing will be in North Dakota; Email from Tom Meyers to Ron Smith regarding the proceeding of the October 13<sup>th</sup> Regular Board Meeting; November 2022 Mercury; Email from R&R Landscaping and Construction for the purchase of road salt

**Concerns from residents not on the agenda**

Motion by Ron Smith, seconded by Allen Eld, to approve and sign Resolution No. 2022-15 Issuance of 3.2 Percent Malt Liquor License for 202 Tavern to LuRae L Melaas; motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Allen Eld, seconded by Ron Smith, to approve and sign Resolution No. 2022-14 Issuance of 3.2 Percent Malt Liquor License for Minnewawa Sportsmen's Club; motion passed unanimously.

Bill and Jan Stefano informed the board that they have a lot on Indian Portage; Lot 10 Block 7. They came before the board regarding issues they are having with a neighbor, Tim Schreiber, blocking an unmaintained public road that is used as driveway access to their property. Each time the road is blocked, Mr. Stefano opens it back up. Mr. Schreiber has started utilizing it to enhance his property, making it look like his property. The board was also formed the Stefanos have called the sheriff department out on more than one occasion. The road is also posted "private drive" and "keep out". After further discussion, the board recognized that this is a public road even though it is not township maintained and undeveloped as a road and cannot be kept from public use. Motion made by Ron

Smith, seconded by Allen Eld, to obtain the township attorney to draft a letter to Mr. Schreiber requesting that; all blockage be removed; motion passed unanimously.

Tom Meyers asked the board to explain Urban Township and what the township's intentions regarding this issue are and that the township is still researching the subject. The board stated that "Urban Township" is a township status that allows for five board supervisors rather than three and give the town board some powers and benefits not currently available to the board. The board also stated interest due to the dollar amount of the current levy and growing population of the township. They then informed the attendees that they are would like to form a committee of several citizens to discuss the subject with first and then bring it to the public as a whole for continued input and discussion. In conjunction with the committee, a public meeting involving more knowledgeable individual(s) to help the township as well as the committee understand the characteristics and the pros and cons of becoming an Urban Township rather than just a Township status. If it is decided the township should move forward with the process, the township will hold public hearing prior to a vote at an annual meeting. The clerk will add Tom Meyers and Fred Neumann to the committee list.

Chuck Quale revisited the issue of asphaltting township roads. He talked about the process requirements used for initial blacktopping. It was also explained why engineers are used and why the township has certain spec requirements for a road prior to it being blacktopped.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

Road Report – Tim Turner reported they have been grading and graveling; have mixed up all the winter salt sand; picked up cold mix; it seems as if the leaf sites are being bombarded with grubbing, large stumps, as of lately by large trailers, dump trucks, trailers, etc. – too much and too large to be residents. Tom Meyers suggested the township using cameras at the sites to catch the company's trucks; or have a low entrance so trucks couldn't fit with a back gated entrance for the township to perform maintenance; or to charge a fee to contractors and use the fees to pay for the maintenance. The board stated that it is DNR managed property; discussed difficulties as well as the pros and cons of each options suggested. It was also stated that the possibility of the sites being closed down by the DNR due to the misuse is growing. Put new drive tires on one of the one dump trucks; all the trucks are ready for snow with plow equipment in place; mentioned that Aitkin County purchased a used low hour loader, suggesting this may be an idea for the township to check into. Talked to John Welle, Aitkin County Engineer, stating we can add our road miles for stripping the county bid in the spring, and have the stripping done in conjunctions with the county's; this would save the township on the total cost. Motion made by Allen Eld, seconded by Ron Smith, to the join Aitkin County bid in the spring for the township road stripping; motion passed unanimously.

The board discussed the possibility to begin the preliminary surveying to the Bridge Road Project. Motion by Ron Smith, seconded by Allen Eld, to contact WSB to obtain a proposal in relation to the Bridge Road Project (Long Point Place) from Highway 65 to the "Y" for engineering purposes for the next regular board meeting; motion passed unanimously.

Ron Smith asked the clerk what is required of township meeting minutes. She informed the board that the minutes must contain: • the subject matter of a motion; • The persons making and seconding a motion; • The roll call vote on a motion; • The character of resolutions or ordinances offered, including a brief description of their subject matter; and • Whether the motion to approve a resolution or ordinance was defeated or adopted. Also stated that it is recommended to state reasons for not approving a motion; also, to include list of the claims. Audio and video recordings are not substitutes for minutes.

The Public Hearing regarding Peter Thorson – Maple Ridge Road Vacation was conducted at 10:00 a.m. as published and posted earlier today November 10, 2022. Due to objections and statements

made by the neighbors attending via Zoom the board agreed to a continuation of the hearing requesting neighbors to attend in person at the location of road, the hearing will resume Friday, November 18 at 10:00 a.m. The clerk will post and publish for the convenience of the surrounding property owners.

#### Shamrock Recreation Area Project

- Concrete & Pavilion has been moving along.
- Playground is scheduled to be installed next week, weather permitting.
- VETs Memorial is scheduled to be installed on Monday, weather permitting. The board discussed the lighting for the flags.
- Tennis/Pickleball Courts the clerk informed the board that there is a group of people working to obtain contractors who do tennis and pickleball courts for us to go to when we are ready to publish for the surface to be completed. With this information the clerk can send info directly to specialized companies as well as publishing for bids. Tim Turner talked to Century Fence, they will stop by at some point and give a rough estimate of fencing cost.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

The board acknowledged that Tony Rinta was present at the October Regular Board Meeting regarding the purpose for an after the fact variance request and a letter of approval of Rinta Brothers LLC for said request has already been provided.

Motion by Ron Smith, seconded Allen Eld, to approve and sign the Minnewawa Estates Snowplow Agreement Addendum for the 2022-23 snow season; motion passed unanimously.

Ron Smith informed the board that he had spoken with a gentleman with the last name of Henry. He is tied in with the Amish somehow and is looking to purchase property in the area.

Motion by Ron Smith, seconded by Allen Eld, to approve and sign Frontier – Permission Request to locate, construct, operate and maintain telephone facilities along township road 485<sup>th</sup> Street; motion passed unanimously.

The board was provided with a letter from WSB regarding rate increase by 6.2% on average for their services.

The clerk provided the board with the Aitkin County Forfeited Land information for their review. There are no properties on the current list available that interested the board for township purpose.

The board reviewed the Mississippi River Grand Rapids One Watershed One Plan to consideration of participation of board members for their committee.

At 3:28 p.m. meeting was continued and will reconvene on October 14, 9:00 a.m.

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Candace Kral  
Clerk

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Charles Quale  
Board Chairman