

**SHAMROCK TOWNSHIP  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
Thursday February 9, 2023**

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; one attendee in person; three attendees via zoom.

Motion made by Allen Eld, seconded by Ron Smith, to approve January 12 Regular Board Meeting minutes; motion passed unanimously.

Motion made by Ron Smith, seconded by Allen Eld, to approve January 31 Urban Township Committees Meeting minutes; motion passed unanimously.

The treasurer reported the following fund balances for the period ending, January 31, 2023: General Revenue Fund, \$40,700.88; Road & Bridge Fund \$29,547.81; Sewer Fund \$15,388.92; Road Repair (blacktop) Fund, \$135,590.45; Fire Fund, \$51,816.32; Building Repair Fund, \$450,303.84; Parks & Rec Fund, \$3,992.80; American Rescue Plan 0; Escrow/Road Vacation \$794.38; Road Bond \$0 and the Lease/purchase \$164,856.57; Salt Shed loan -\$81,691.75 – a total in the checking accounts of \$892,991.97. The Blacktop Repair CDs' total \$ 159,881.68; Equipment CD's total 50,614.20 and the Sewer Fund CDs' total \$ 118,330.08. Money market interest received in January 2023 was \$313.61. Receipts for the month were \$29,235.58. January disbursements were \$64,281.28. Motion by Allen Eld, seconded by Ron Smith, to approve the treasurer's report; motion passed unanimously.

Motion made by Allen Eld, seconded by Ron Smith, to approve the February 2023 claims and payroll totaling \$85,491.13; motion passed unanimously. Claims list attached.

**Correspondence:** Lakes & Pines FYI Board & Employee newsletter January 2023 Issue; The Monthly Mercury; Email regarding Community Wildfire Defense Grants; Lake Country Power January 2023 Newsline; Lake Country Power Email Strictly Business January 2023 Issue

**Concerns from residents not on the agenda:**

Tom Meyer was questioning a current condition use permit application request to operate a home rental stating that he believes it has already been operating as a rental. He stated concerns for the number of vehicles that tend to be present at the location and whether approved number individuals staying or visiting as allowed for safety as listed in the applications is being followed. He also asked if the township has any record of the VRBO within the township. The board informed him that we do not, that information is recorded at the county level. The board also reiterated their concerns for the taxation process of VRBOs, stating that resorts are commercial and are paying the higher commercial property taxes, the VRBOs should be treated the same as resorts in the area of taxation stating that if they are renting the property is not being used as a private seasonal recreation cabin/home; It's a short-term rental same as resorts.

Mr. Meyers also asked how the township plans to be transparent in regards to the Bridge Road Project as it continues to move forward. The clerk informed him that she is working on adding a page to the website that would be specific for the Bridge Road Project where she can put all information pertaining to said project and that as the project progresses, the town board would be holding special informational meetings for the public's benefit. It was also stated that the township will have no information of exactly what the project will consist of until the engineer's recommendations for the project is available in late summer early fall of this year.

## **OLD BUSINESS:**

Road Report – Tim Turner reported that they have been plowing, sanding, scaping; cleaning up intersections for safety of road view; tree trimming, mostly branches and limbs that are down from the December snow storm; performed equipment maintenance – both trucks passed annual inspection; installed new digital speed sign back on 188<sup>th</sup> Avenue and suggested moving the sign close to a full-time resident making it more difficult for theft, it was stated that there are issues with the new sign – it has a dead spot (visible at night) on the white reflective surface and have been unable to connect the electronically to the sign to obtain records and adjust setting.

The board continued the discussion of purchasing a new lawn mower that was started last year fall. It was reiterated that a larger mower would better handle the extensive grass area as well as being versatile with attachments to help care for the other surfaces such as the sidewalks and courts would be beneficial for the care and upkeep of the improved recreation area. Due to the current continued construction and landscaping that is yet to be done, the smaller older mower would be sufficient for this coming year. The board will reconsider the purchase of a new mower the following year.

The clerk informed the board that Shamrock Township was approved for State Disaster Public Assistance for expenses in regards to the storms that occurred December 13-16, 2022.

The board stated that the township had a meeting that involved a small working committee and representatives from Minnesota Association of Townships for the purpose of obtaining and discussing the benefits and drawbacks of becoming an urban town

### **Shamrock Recreation Area Project**

Concrete & Pavilion – Building is progressing.

VETs Memorial – The board was presented with a couple choices of benches for the Veteran’s Memorial with some options. The board gave the clerk permission to move forward with the pricing and purchasing of the benches.

Tennis/Pickleball Courts The board discussed the options for the courts fencing and confirmed they were going to leave out the screened fencing at this point in time.

The board is still waiting for the third quote for the purchase and installation of security cameras. was contacted to set up an appointment for a proposal. An appointment with a representative from People’s Security Company for February 15 to view the property and the township’s needs so they can provide a quote.

Scott Turner was not able to attend the meeting to discuss a Handicapped Assessable Fishing Pier being that is desired to be installed within the township.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Motion made by Ron Smith, seconded by Allen Eld, to appoint the election judges as recommended by the clerk; motion passed unanimously.

Motion made by Ron Smith, seconded by Allen Eld, to approve and sign Resolution No. 2023-01 – Appointing the 2023 Absentee Ballot Board; motion passed unanimously.

The town board reviewed the requested Interim use permit requested by Elliot Patterson operate a vacation home rental and has no objections or concerns to the requested permit and recommends that the county rules and regulations be followed. The board reiterated the concern of a resident of

occupancy and visitor count and trespassing through private property to access the lake.

The board was presented with a memo referencing contacting Aitkin County Environmental Services – Planning & Zoning regarding road projects. Informing the township that it needs to work with planning and zoning in all projects that will temporarily or permanently impact wetland prior to project. It was stated that the township always works with the Aitkin County Environmental Services – Planning and Zoning when starting and throughout a project to ensure all County, State and Federal rules and regulation are met. Motion made by Ron Smith, seconded by Allen Eld, to acknowledge and sign said memo; motion passed unanimously.

The township was informed that Cooperative Network Services will be working for Paul Bunyan Communications of Bemidji to install fiberoptics within the township in the next couple years.

The board discussed that there are different options for the township CDs. Motion made by Ron Smith, seconded by Allen Eld, for John Brula, treasurer, to check into the different options, investing in the CD option he deems best for the township with CD investment duration up to two years; motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 2:37 p.m.

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Candace Kral  
Clerk

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Charles Quale  
Board Chairman

**MINUTES WERE APPROVED AT THE MARCH 9, 2023, REGULAR BOARD MEETING**