

**SHAMROCK TOWNSHIP
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
Thursday October 12, 2023**

Board Chairman Allen Eld called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Present were: Ron Flatten; Treasurer Jack Brula; Clerk Candace Kral; maintenance Tim Turner; Paul Sandy, WSB engineer, Bret Sample, Aitkin County Commissioner; 30 property owners in person and 20 property owners on Zoom. Ron Smith was not in attendance.

Motion made by Ron Flatten, seconded by Allen Eld, to approve September 20, 2023 Regular Board Meeting minutes; motion passed.

The treasurer reported the following fund balances for the period ending, September, 2023: General Revenue Fund, -\$1,501.08 Road & Bridge Fund -\$40,495.89; Sewer Fund \$18,303.15; Road Repair (blacktop) Fund, \$192,950.11; Fire Fund, \$15,819.46; Building Repair Fund, \$479,880.07; Parks & Rec Fund, -\$332,830.18; Escrow/Road Vacation \$3,202.30; and the Lease/purchase \$165,633.05; Salt Shed loan -\$66,560.07 – a total in the checking accounts of \$500,960.99. The Blacktop Repair CD' total \$162,760.49; Equipment CD's total \$51,587.59 and the Sewer Fund CDs' total \$119,395.53. Money market interest received in September 2023 was \$192.71. Receipts for the month were \$6,976.93. September disbursements were \$192,370.96. Motion by Ron Flatten, seconded by Allen Eld, to approve the treasurer's report; motion passed; absent – Ron Smith.

Motion made by Ron Flatten, seconded by Allen Eld, to approve the October 2023 claims and payroll totaling \$125,474.08; motion passed. Claims list attached.

Jessica Johnson from Talon Metals was not able to be present for the Tamarack mine update. This will be rescheduled for a future meeting.

Resolution No. 2023-13 – Resolution Declaring a Temporary Vacancy in the Office of Town Supervisor – no motion.

Appointment of temporary Town Supervisor - tabled

Correspondence: Elan City radar sign sale flyer; Pipeline Community Awareness Emergency Response flyer; MN LTAP Technology Exchange September 2023 issue; Lake Country Power September 2023 Newsliner; The McGregor Mercury October 2023 issue;

OLD BUSINESS:

Road Report – Tim Turner reported that maintenance has been grading and graveling; cleared and grubbed section of 170th in preparation for plowing; removed sticks and debris from trader's post culvert; mixed winter maintenance salt sand; performed maintenance on truck by welding the cross member and new motor mounts; preparing sanders and plows for winter; getting trucks ready for DOT inspections; clean-up day has all been recycled except for TV's which will be collected next week; called on price of black top and should know more by the end of the month; maintenance department will begin winter hours on Oct. 16th.

The board had a discussion on the times to open the leaf sites and the improvement of commercial dumping. The leaf sites will be open at the end of the work day before the maintenance department leaves.

The bathrooms will be drained and locked up for the winter. The estimated date for winterizing is October 16th due to the temperature dropping below freezing at night.

The board was provided quotes from Martin's Snowplow & Equipment for both a Fisher and Western plow for the pick-up truck. Discussion followed with a decision to be made at a later date after Tim gets more quotes.

Paul Sandy, WSB representative, presented the board with an update on the Bridge Road Project. He explained history of the project; preliminary design and cost of the process of a full reconstruction that will include: full grading, raising the roadway above the 50 year flood elevation of the lake, drain tile, permits and other improvements needed to meet the guidelines of the LRIP grant funding. He answered questions from both the residence and the board. Jean Skinaway was present on zoom and voiced her concerns on Big Sandy Lake being a Cultural Site and protected. Tom Meyer shared some costs of other road improvement projects and voiced his concerns on the cost of the Bridge Road Project. Ron Flatten talked about the concern for emergency services being able to access the roads in the event of a flood and possible solutions.

Paul discussed the expenses of the Bridge Road Project including access issues and confined working conditions from narrow roads and trees. He shared the original project was guided by Ron Smith and designated to resolve the flooding issues and last longer than a reclaim or overlaid road. As an engineer they follow the scope of services they are told to provide. The board asked for clarification of the how the grant money would be affected if the design was changed to a reclaim project. Paul explained the township would be able to apply for grant money as long as WSB could prove the road improvement will meet the grant requirements for the LRIP. Discussion of full reconstruction vs a reclaim with questions from residents about a 5 ton road vs a 9 ton road. Residents would be interested in getting a petition to continue the project to the end of the road past the "Y", with an assessment on the homeowners. The board clarified the people living on the black top portion of Bridge Road would not be paying for the improvements. Funds will come from the township taxes. Homeowners are assessed when the road is paved from a gravel road. In conclusion of the discussion, Paul will work on aligning the project with both a 5 ton and 9 ton reclaim road option with a 22 foot width and the grade of the road raised in specific areas and come back to the board.

Motion by Ron Flatten, seconded by Allen Eld to approve and sign Resolution No 2023-15 – Supporting Pursuit and Submission of 2023 Local Road Improvement Program (LRIP) From the Minnesota Department of Transportation for the Reconstruction of Long Point Place (Bridge Road) from Minnesota Trunk Highway 65 to 209th Place; motion passed.

The board is continuing to work on obtaining asphaltting quotes for Tom Meyers' road improvement request project.

The board discussed 484th Street Ditch and Ron Flatten will connect with Tim and do a road view.

The board will revisit the option to install bathroom door locks and the door lock quote provided by LVC Protection Integration. Currently the bathrooms will be locked for the season. The board discussed option of leaving the doors unlocked next year.

The board discussed the Social Media Policy. There are pros and cons to having a separate Facebook account. At this time Ron Flatten will continue to use his personal Facebook account to post information.

Clean up day had 137 sign-ins and \$1445.00 was collected in fees. Supervisor Allen Eld and road maintenance men Tim Turner, Marvin Turner and Luke Hausser were assisted by volunteers Percy Eld along with Kevin and Diane Seefeld. Clean up day received 18 TV's and 36 mattresses. There were 4 dumpsters and 1 dumpster for mattresses.

The clerk informed the board, the per correspondence with Troy Gilchrist, the town attorney, the old playground equipment may be sold to the public. The attorney recommended a waiver stating the purchase of playground equipment "as is" and to be signed by all parties purchasing playground equipment. The clerk will obtain said waiver.

Ron Flatten updated the board on the company Fusion Control that provides an alternative to Calcium Chloride. It is an environmentally friendly product. He will be getting more information along with costs.

NEW BUSINESS

Motion by Allen Eld, seconded by Ron Flatten, to approve and sign Resolution 2023-14 Resolution Designating Annual Polling Place; motion passed.

The board reviewed the documents provided by Donald Krieger for a variance request for the installation of a new pretreatment septic system and drain field. The board discussed the drain field location and that it is less than 20' setback from the road right of way. Motion by Ron Fatten, seconded by Allen Eld, to approve the variance request as presented with the condition Mr. Krieger understands that the township is not responsible for any damage due to regular road maintenance and/or snowplowing; motion passed. Town Board of Supervisors has no objections to the requested variance and recommends that all county rules and regulations be followed.

The board reviewed the documents provided by Craig Anderson - CUP for floodproofing an accessory structure. Town Board of Supervisors has no objections to the requested variance and recommends that all county rules and regulations be followed.

The board reviewed the documents provided by the Eagle Nests Townhome Association for bylaw changes. Per the township attorney, it is not necessary to approve changes to HOA bylaws due to the township not being responsible for zoning regulations.

The board reviewed the documents provided by Steven H Olson for an Interim Use Permit to operate a vacation home rental located at 48525 194th Place; motion passed.

Motion by Ron Flatten, seconded by Allen Eld, to approve and sign Resolution No.2023-16 Issuance of Liquor License to Eagle Point; motion passed.

Motion by Ron Flatten, seconded by Allen Eld, to approve and sign Resolution No.2023-17 Issuance of Liquor License to Willey's Sports Shop & Spirits; motion passed.

The board was made aware of an email received from Mark Helm, secretary of Eagle Nests Townhome Association; requiring the need of approval by the township board of their new bylaws, rules and regulations. The clerk contacted the attorney regarding the need for approval and was informed it is not necessary for the town to approve the bylaw changes.

The board further discussed and agreed to have a special meeting consisting of the Appointment Committee with an interview process which will be held November 2nd at 6:00 p.m. The board will hear from residence interested in the appointment of the impending temporary vacancy of the supervisor position. This will be posted and open to the public to attend.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Candace Kral
Clerk

Allen Eld
Board Chairman

MINUTES WERE APPROVED AT THE NOVEMBER 9, 2023, REGULAR BOARD MEETING