

**SHAMROCK TOWNSHIP
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
Thursday May 9, 2024**

Board Chairman Ron Flatten called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Present were: Ernie Darlow; Tom Meyer; Treasurer Jack Brula; Clerk Candace Kral; maintenance Tim Turner; County Commissioner Bret Sample; Jessica Johnson, Talon Metals and 20 residents in person; Troy Gilchrist, Town Attorney on Zoom.

Motion made by Tom Meyer, seconded by Ernie Darlow, to approve April 11, 2024 Regular Board Meeting minutes; motion passed unanimously.

Motion made by Tom Meyer, seconded by Ernie Darlow, to approve April 25, 2024 Special Board Meeting minutes; motion passed unanimously.

The treasurer reported the following fund balances for the period ending, April 30, 2024: General Revenue Fund, -\$52,110.16; Road & Bridge Fund -\$66,357.62; Sewer Fund \$20,518.84; Road Repair (blacktop) Fund, \$166,471.53; Fire Fund, \$60,094.82; Building Repair Fund, \$502,322.79; Parks & Rec Fund, -\$308,218.95; Escrow/Road Vacation \$1,979.10; and the Lease/purchase \$166,193.09 Salt Shed loan -\$53,163.34 – a total in the checking accounts of \$490,893.44. The Blacktop Repair CD' total \$166,031.97; Equipment CD's total \$52,624.50 and the Sewer Fund CDs' total \$120,622.21. Money market interest received in April 2024 was \$175.06. Receipts for the month were \$535.35. April disbursements were \$39,893.24.

Motion by Ernie Darlow, seconded by Tom Meyer, to approve the treasurer's report; motion passed unanimously.

Motion made by Ernie Darlow, seconded by Tom Meyer, to approve the May 2024 claims and payroll totaling \$45,378.29; motion passed unanimously. Claims list attached.

Jessica Johnson from Talon Metals gave an update on the Tamarack Nickel Project and explained the two main focus areas which are continuing mineral exploration and the environmental review process with the state. She addressed the process of geophysics and carbon mineralization. Jessica answered questions from the Board about timelines and permitting. She brought handouts to share and invited the public to reach out if interested in a tour or the Board to have her back for future presentations.

Correspondence: Lake Country Power 2023 Annual Report; Lakes and Pines FYI Board & Employee Newsletter Issue: April 2024

OLD BUSINESS:

Road Report – Tim Turner reported they have been lawn mowing, performing equipment maintenance, grading the roads, brush cutting, hauling gravel, sweeping blacktops, regular road

maintenance and gravel the roads for calcium chloride application. Recreational maintenance including the water turned on and bathrooms working for the season. They surveyed the public access and worked on organizing Clean-up Day materials to be removed. There will be a need for a gravel crush within the next year that does involve getting a permit; Tim suggested looking into hiring a youth to mow for the summer. Discussion followed about hiring. 498th has standing water after a rain so Tim will meet with the home owner about drainage. They have been working on public access by straightening out planks on boat landings. The leaf site doesn't want any stumps being dropped off because they are too hard to get rid of.

William Smith (214th) addressed the Board regarding parking on the road and presented a copy of the county ordinance for parking. The township attorney, Troy Gilchrist stated the township cannot enforce a county ordinance, that will need to be enforced by the county.

George Calberg contacted Ron Flatten regarding the driveway situation within his neighborhood. Ron informed him that it is not a township issue but one that would need to go through the courts. George then said he would have to sue the township. The township attorney, Troy Gilchrist stated once there is a statement of a lawsuit it is considered a threat, then there should not be any further communication with the party involved.

Change Road speed limit on Lodge Road – The township attorney, Troy Gilchrist addressed the Board on changing the speed limit on Lodge Road. There are specific criteria that must be met in order to change any speed limit or contact MN DOT. The township does have the authority to put up yellow advisory speed limit signs. These signs will be the first step to reduce speed on Lodge Road.

Ernie Darlow informed the board that residents have brought forth the concern about the dip in the road which was caused by the Lodge putting in a sewer line which has caused the road to settle. The township attorney, Troy Gilchrist recommended contacting the Lodge because the dip in the road is a result of their project. Ernie will contact the owners of the Loge and have a conversation with them about the repair of the road.

Property Assessment information was presented by, Troy Gilchrist about assessing the property and special assessments. Troy explained that a special assessment tax can only be taxed on the increase of property value. A subordination Service District project can be assessed at the full value. This project does not require an engineer because they are providing a service that community has asked for and are willing to pay. The Board suggested a future special meeting to discuss special assessment of property.

Bridge Road Project and the policy for cutting trees was discussed. Information was provided to the Board about the cutting of trees for their review.

The board reviewed the survey of the Kenneth Ave. Access Survey (public access off of 498th Lane). There is not a lot of room as a right of way access. Ron Flatten will contact Andrew from the DNR to have them make the decision about next steps.

Sale of playground equipment – The board discussed and motion made by Tom Meyer, seconded by Ernie Darlow, to approve the highest offer on the playground equipment; motion passed unanimously.

Resolution and Affidavit of Interest in Claim for Ernie Darlow were discussed so the township can continue to purchase products from his gravel pit as has been done in the

past, while he is a supervisor on the town board. Attorney Troy Gilchrist recommends a price sheet to be attached. The clerk will make necessary changes and have copies available for signatures at the June meeting.

The board discussed the purchase of playground signs for park that will designate the ages of children using the equipment along with requiring adult supervision. The clerk will move forward with purchasing the signs.

Clean up day summary for April 27, 2024: The town hall had 165 sign-ins and \$2037.00 was collected in fees. There were 31 mattresses and 25 TVs. Supervisors Ron Flatten and Tom Meyer along with road maintenance men Tim Turner, Marvin Turner and Luke Hausser were assisted by volunteers Kevin Seefeld, Bruce Johnson, Tyler Kuechle and Ian Darlow. 5 dumpsters were delivered. It was a cool, cloudy overcast day with off and on rain showers.

AED Unit- The board requested reaching out to the company to see if they have a plan for placement of the units and where they would be needed.

Donation Requests- Tabled for next month

Motion made by Tom Meyer, seconded by Ernie Darlow, to approve Resolution No. 11; Resolution Calling a Special Election to Implement Option A; motion passed unanimously. The Board agreed that the Clerk should run the ad for three weeks, instead of the required one week, to increase public awareness of the Special Election.

The board discussed the availability of the recorded meetings. Township attorney, Troy Gilchrist recommended a policy be written so everyone knows expectations for recordings and a timeline followed for how long the recordings will be available.

NEW BUSINESS

Mike Blake explained why he was requesting a road right of way variance for a new septic for the property located at 51506 206th Place. The board discussed the request and a motion was made by Ron Flatten; seconded by Tom Meyer, to approve the requested variance as presented by Mr. Blake; motion passed unanimously. Ernie Darlow abstained as he has an interest in the septic project, causing a conflict of interest. The Clerk will provide a letter stating the Board's approval and the township will not be responsible for any damage caused by routine road maintenance or snowplowing with a recommendation that all county rules and regulations be followed.

The town supervisor reviewed the after the fact variance request for a patio on the property located at 19926 508th Lane. The Board has no objections to the requested variance and recommends that all county rules and regulations be followed.

John Palmer explained his request to have the township assist in repairing 209th Place. It was stated that it is a non-maintained town ship road. The township attorney, Troy Gilchrist did not recommend the township do the work because there is not a statute in place to address summer work on a private road, only snowplowing. The board discussed the requested and due to the road being a non- maintained township road, the request was denied.

The board discussed and approved the purchase of flowers for the front of the townhall.

The board discussed the Annual Township Celebration and possible dates for the month of August. The board approved moving forward with the planning and a date will be decided in the future.

The board discussed the December MAT Convention due to the dates conflicting with the December board meeting. A new date for the board meeting will be set next month.

The board discussed the history of a future Fishing Pier on Big Sandy Lake, located on the SE corner of the bridge. The board discussed possible solutions, one of which being a location near the CYC camp as a public fishing pier. There will be further discussion and a future meeting.

Motion to adjourn by Ernie Darlow, seconded by Tom Meyer; motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned 8:09 p.m.

Candace Kral
Clerk

Ron Flatten
Board Chairman

MINUTES WERE APPROVED AT THE JUNE 13, 2024, REGULAR BOARD MEETING