

**FREDENBERG TOWN BOARD
SAINT LOUIS COUNTY, MINNESOTA**

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS
December 7, 2016**

**TIME & PLACE: 7:00 PM
TOWN HALL/COMMUNITY CENTER**

The monthly meeting was CALLED TO ORDER at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman Jeff Blix. Supervisor Toms was absent. Eight individuals stood with the Board to recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

- 1) ITEMS FROM THE FLOOR: No items from the floor.
- 2) APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Jeff Blix moved to accept the minutes, Clay Cich seconded; and minutes were approved as written.
- 3) TREASURER'S REPORT: The treasurer's report stated as of 10 November funds were available in the amount of \$389,885.34, which included the \$80,000 we have tied up in CD's. There were a few small deposits and the tax payment from the county hit our account on the meeting day.
- 4) CORRESPONDENCE: Four (4) total items of correspondence were received during the month and reviewed.
- 5) REVIEW OF BILLS: Walter Rapp moved to pay vouchers #8730 - #8756 in the amount of \$24,843.81, Liz Blix, seconded and motion **PASSED**.
- 6) REPORTS:

Clerk – worked on the election and then started getting ready for the end of year reports.

Road Report – the Road Foreman reported that the roads were in excellent condition until the snow/sleet/rain hit. There were some bad spots along Fredenberg Lake Road that were worked on. There is a new driveway along W. Island Lake Road without a culvert. It is uncertain at this time if that will cause a problem later down the line. The township currently has no policy for culverts, but some of the surrounding townships do and we could take a look at them for adoption here. In the meanwhile, if this particular area becomes a problem we may be able to approach the land owner and ask if he would be willing to put one in.

Fire Department – Fire Department responded to 11 medical calls, 1 fire call and 2 mutual aid calls during October and November. They held their annual Halloween fire safety "Fire Truck or Treat" event at the fire hall – about 45 individuals participated. Several members also traveled to Hibbing to listen to an excellent firefighter safety presentation by national speaker Billy Goldfeder. Thanks to a donation of two vehicles by Chesney's Auto Salvage we were able to practice our vehicle extrication skills first, by removing patients from the cars and then opening doors, and cutting various areas of the cars using our hydraulic rescue tools. They ask that you please remember this time of the year is a particularly dangerous time for house fires. Please be careful.

Law Enforcement - nothing to report

Cemetery – the gates are now locked.

Parks & Rec - **we had one individual who came in about the rink attendant position. He lives right across the street – and was given an application. I have not gotten anything back from him yet.**

Community Center – we had a pump guy working on the outside faucet; but we still need an electrician to come back to jump the pump. We had a problem with bats and someone was out to take care of that problem. We still have a bit of a leaking problem along the back wall of the kitchen, but feel that the installation of gutters on that side of the building will elevate the issue. Miller quoted us \$785. The custodians brought in a quote to have the carpet and tile replaced, both upstairs and down. Due to an overage for a different job, we can get a good deal of the carpet and tile - \$16,267, which

included instillation. Clay Cich wondered what the cost was per square foot. Walter Rapp moved to accept the quote and move forward with the long overdue project; Jeff Blix seconded and motion **PASSED.** It was also thought we should order 3 more tables and more chairs. Walter volunteered to make a half wall where we store the chairs to help with organization. The kitchen needs upgrading, especially the vent system, Walter and Clay will do some research on this project. The custodians also asked if we could order a rug doctor when we have the new carpeting put down.

Recycling Center – changes in the collecting and sorting procedures will take place after the new year.

Other Meetings – Clay and Jim Ray went to the Annual Conference to hear about the Broadband Initiative. Clay was very taken with a company called Paul Bunyan Communications who stated the township was the sort of density they were looking to expand in to. It would probably take a couple of years to get everything in place and would cost approximately \$2500 per linear foot.

7) OLD BUSINESS:

- a) **Skating Rink Attendant** - covered under the parks and rec portion of the meeting.
- b) **Lawsuit** - hearing for motions has been scheduled. This is being handled by an attorney hired by our insurance carrier and he has been in contact with our township attorney as well. It is hoped that the DNR would start ticketing infractions after signs have been posted by the Reservoir Riders Snowmobile Club.

8) NEW BUSINESS:

- a) **Noxious Weeds Report** - there has always been an annual report due by statute, but this has not been enforced. We have a new County Weed Inspector and the report is due by mid-January. Part of that report asks who our weed inspector is, if one is not specifically named, all supervisors act in that capacity. It was suggested that might be a good position for the Road Foreman

- 9) ADJOURNMENT: The board was reminded of all upcoming meetings. Jeff Blix moved to adjourn the meeting; Walter Rapp seconded and we adjourned at 8:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Sherri A. Armstrong, Clerk