

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

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS
May 4, 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. Board members present: Supervisors Liz Blix, Walter Rapp, Mark Toms and Clerk Sherri Armstrong. Twenty-three individuals stood with the Board to recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

- 1) ITEMS FROM THE FLOOR: Before the meeting started the Chairman announced the board would be taking no further comments about the Fredenberg Lake Road from the floor. No decision had been reached, other than to send out a postcard to the affected land owners with a simple “yes” or “no” vote to move further with the project. He then invited everyone to stay but if they had only come to comment on the project they should feel free to leave. One item was added under New Business- big screen TV for the Community Ed group.
- 2) APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Jeff Blix moved to accept the minutes with the correction of March to May 15th in the road report; Mark Toms seconded; and minutes were approved with the correction.
- 3) TREASURER’S REPORT: The treasurer’s monthly reconciliation; as of 12 April, funds available were \$451,663.52, which includes the \$80,000 we have tied up in CD’s.
- 4) CORRESPONDENCE: Twenty-one (21 total items of correspondence, eleven (11) which were emails all concerning the Fredenberg Lake Road, were received during the month and reviewed.
- 5) REVIEW OF BILLS: Liz Blix moved to pay vouchers #8496 and #8515 – #8530 in the amount of \$5,849.94, Walter Rapp, seconded and motion PASSED, with Mark Toms abstaining due to his receiving funds for snowplowing.
- 6) REPORTS:

Clerk - reported another a busy month working to add the previous months finances into the new CTAS program, she had not be able to work to make all the changes with the treasurer yet due to scheduling difficulties. She fielded lots of emails and phone calls about the Public Hearing. She asked if the board wished to act on the gardeners request for funds - they are removing the diseased blue spruce and lower shrubs and doing some other improvements. Jeff Blix moved to appropriate \$400 to the gardeners, Mark Toms Seconded and motion was PASSED.

Road Report – reported the roads aren’t in bad shape despite the crazy winter. All snowfencing has been removed, but there was some concerns over missing fencing that had been stored in the recycling shed. He had some calls from residents on road signs. In speaking with the county, he learned about the reflectivity requirements and was told by the Public Works rep that the county puts up the bare minimum of signs needed for safety, (stops signs for example) and urge townships to do the same. All signs currently order will meet the new reflectivity requirements. There was some concern over speed limits; unposted roads have a speed limit of 55 mph by statute. There were some signs posted as “caution children playing”. These were not put up by the township, but private residents and would need to be replaced by them if so desired. The foreman will remove the dilapidated signs that are township owned. Clean up work clearing trees along the W. Hunter Lake Rd has started. The foreman is trying to get in touch with one of the property owners about removal, but we are looking at improvement work there this season.

Fire Department – no report was received – but the annual pancake breakfast will be held on Saturday. (The clerk apologized for the wrong date in the last newsletter – apparently Minnesota Power – who’s calendar she consulted- didn’t check prior to publication)

Law Enforcement - nothing at this time

Cemetery – the gates have been unlocked and Walter plans on starting the marker project.

Parks & Rec - We haven't had any luck in starting a group to spearhead National Night Out. Marilyn Grondahl said she'd put up a flyer at the Minno-ette and would try to get people interested. Joan Sutlif on behalf of the Ski Club volunteered to do snow cones at the event if the machine could be gotten from the supplier. Liz Blix said she would try and get with a contact in the Fire Department so she could see what had been spent in the past. The tennis net has been installed.

Community Center – the alarm was going off on the sewer system again. If we turned the switch to manual the alarm went off. Greg Kaneski was asked if his employee who inspects those would come and look at it. The clerk mentioned the board can expect a \$300 order for supplies on next month's credit card receipt.

Recycling Center – you can tell spring cleaning is getting under way as business is picking up.

Other Meetings - none

7) OLD BUSINESS:

- a) **Fredenberg Lake Rd** - as reported earlier postcards will be sent out. The board requires a 51% of the vote to make a decision. Minnesota Power, in our previous case with the Bear Island Road paving, had just gone along with the residents' decision and then the surveyor for the project, along with the board and Minnesota Power worked out how many assessments they would be charged with since a large majority of the land was theirs.
- b) **Mowing Contract** – Jeff Blix moved to accept Nick's Lawn Care as the contractor for the coming season, Liz Blix seconded and motion **PASSED**.
- c) **Road Contract** - the clerk mentioned she had other calls about the contract, but they were all from people who thought we were bidding out a single project. In the end we only had one quote. Liz Blix moved to accept Lakehead Trucking as the contractor, Jeff Blix seconded and motion **PASSED** with Mark Toms abstaining.

8) NEW BUSINESS:

- a) **Insurance** - we can cover the old town hall, currently being leased by the Reservoir Riders, but because it is a historical building, the replacement would be based on new building. The garage they have place on the land is their responsibility as it wasn't there when the lease was signed, the land of course is our responsibility. The insurance agent asked me about the building between the hall and garage, which initially through me for a loop, so I drove by to look and I think they are talking about the restroom facilities. Replacement values need to be decided on at the next meeting.
 - b) **Website** - it was talked about at the Annual Meeting and we have a deadline of June 1st on this. .
 - c) **Flat Screen TV** - Community Ed asked if they bought a big flat screen if it could be installed downstairs. The clerk asked about liability issues if something happened to it and pointed out that if the internet was down, which happens frequently, they would not be able to reset the router as it is locked in the boardroom. If the group decides to go ahead with the purchase, it will be donated to the township and it becomes our property, which then adds it to our insurance policy, This means anyone using the facility would also be able to utilize the TV.
- 9) ADJOURNMENT: The board was reminded of all upcoming meetings. Jeff Blix moved to adjourn the meeting; Mark Toms seconded and we adjourned at 8:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Sherri A. Armstrong, Clerk .