

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

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS
October 7, 2015

**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, Clay Cich, Walter Rapp, Mark Toms and Clerk Sherri Armstrong. Seven residents and 6 guests stood with the Board to recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

- 1) ITEMS FROM THE FLOOR: The chair announced that there would be a time limit of 5 minutes for individuals who wished to address the board.
- 2) APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Mark Toms moved to accept the minutes, Jeff Blix seconded. Minutes were approved as written.
- 3) TREASURER'S REPORT: The treasurer gave an accounting of the funds and indicated he would have a formal version of that at each meeting from now on. He indicated he would speak more on the meeting with the CPA when it came up on the agenda. Otherwise, there was not a lot of action in the account
- 4) CORRESPONDENCE: Ten (10) total items of correspondence were received during the month and reviewed.
- 5) REVIEW OF BILLS: Jeff Blix moved to pay vouchers #8327 – 8343 in the amount of \$15, 962.72, Liz Blix, seconded and motion passed.
- 6) REPORTS:

The Clerk reported receiving an email from a resident whose garbage hauler wouldn't pick up at his house anymore and wondered what he should do. She recommended trying a different company. She also talked about the school board election which would be November 3rd at the hall.

Road Report -The Road Foreman reported the recent heavy rain caused washouts on several road edges. Areas in most dire need have already been repaired. Several areas seem to be prone to repetitive damage and should be considered for reshaping. Grading is scheduled for rough roads, but the board asked that all roads be included prior to the winter season. The area near 2nd Ave on Bear Island Road is scheduled for repair later this month. Contact names were given to the foreman for help in placing the snow fence and plans were made to order new fencing to replace last year's worn out fences.

Fire Department – responded to 8 medical calls last month. The calls included 1 mutual aid and a motor vehicle accident. Members trained on personal safety, synthetic drugs, vehicle accident scene procedures, driving and pumping. The Department reminded everyone to check your smoke alarms. Every bedroom and every floor in your home should have a working smoke alarm. The report included several factoids about fires in homes and the clerk was asked to include the information in the newsletter.

Law Enforcement - nothing at this time

Cemetery – Walter went out and re-marked graves. He is researching permanent row markers to help with gravesite locations.

Parks & Rec - we received a donation of basketball nets because ours are currently metal nets. These were chosen specifically so they would not be damaged, but there were some apparent complaints that fingers could get entangled in the mesh. It was noted that if no one is hanging from the hoop they won't get their fingers caught in the metal mesh of the net. We will advertise for a rink attendant for the season. Duties would include a 4 hour period of time when the warming shack will be manned for open skating. This could be on either a Friday or Saturday evening.

Community Center – the custodians have reported that the lights are not working in the back stairwell off the kitchen.

They also report that some of the ballasts in the lights in the main section of the basement should be looked at/replaced.

Recycling Center – the grant was received minus any payment for the roof. The clerk will check the reimbursement rate versus what was submitted.

7) OLD BUSINESS:

- a) **Datka Road Park Update** – committee met again to come up with some rules for this area. A resolution of park rules was presented and read at the meeting. Some suggestions were made and the resolution will be re-drafted with them and it will come back before the board at next month's meeting. Rex Greenwell asked if the board would entertain a special vote petition to return the parcel and was told "no". It was also mentioned that the county would extend the time we have to get things going if need be. There were several questions from a land owner whose land is crossed for access to the area about parking and liability issues. It was suggested that perhaps some type of financial arrangement could be agreed upon. The board refused that suggestion as well, but the liability issues will be researched further.
- b) **Independent Auditor Review** – the treasurer and clerk met with the CPA and went over his findings and then ran through some reports. It was determined that the main problems with deposits came when the state went paperless and we were not getting the notifications. The CPA volunteered to get back in touch with the state auditor's department to find the right steps to make the corrections needed and a date was set to complete the process after the quarterly tax deadline. The goal is to have it all done NLT the November meeting. The treasurer indicated that as his job isn't a simple 9-5 he may not always be available for the meeting and would be happy to step down from the position if the board wanted. Mark Toms thanked him for his integrity and the board declined his offer, but we will again try for a deputy.

8) NEW BUSINESS:

- a) **Plowing Contract** - Mark Toms excused himself from the meeting during this time. Only one quote was received from – Mark's Snowplowing. Clay Cich moved to accept the quote, Jeff Blix seconded and motion PASSED with Mark Toms abstaining from the vote. The clerk will prepare a resolution to cover the conflict of interest issue for next meeting.
 - b) **Township Attorney** – Clay Cich moved to replace the township attorney; motion died on the floor. The clerk mentioned that is always on the agenda for the reorg meeting and if the board would like to revisit the issue then they could. With the new election schedule that meeting will now be in January.
- 9) ADJOURNMENT: The board was reminded of all upcoming meetings. Jeff Blix moved to adjourn the meeting; Mark Toms seconded and we adjourned at 8:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Sherri A. Armstrong, Clerk