

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

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS  
April 6, 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, Clay Cich, Mark Toms and Clerk Sherri Armstrong. Five individuals stood with the Board to recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

- 1) ITEMS FROM THE FLOOR: 2 items were added to the agenda, Fredenberg Lake Rd under Old Business and the 5-year road plan under New Business.
- 2) APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Jeff Blix moved to accept the minutes; Mark Toms seconded; and minutes were approved as read.
- 3) TREASURER'S REPORT: The treasurer presented his monthly reconciliation; as of 10 March, funds available were \$486,385.93, which includes the \$80,000 we have tied up in CD's.
- 4) CORRESPONDENCE: Five (5) total items of correspondence were received during the month and reviewed.
- 5) REVIEW OF BILLS: Liz Blix moved to pay vouchers #8485 – #8504 with the exception of #8496 (To the County Auditor for property taxes, which we are going to check on) in the amount of \$22,293.68, Jeff Blix, seconded and motion PASSED, with Mark Toms abstaining due to his receiving funds for snowplowing.
- 6) REPORTS:

**Clerk** - reported another busy month working with the treasurer to set up the accounts in the new version of CTAS. While all the codes are now in place, she needs to re-input the first three months of the year before issuing a current Schedule 1 for the board.

**Road Report** – reported he had spoken with Minnesota Power on the road restrictions and reminded them that the county restrictions were also in place and we usually follow them. As all roads coming into the township are county roads those limits take precedent while in place. He also received an update on the spillway project the company is working on in that area which lead to the query in the first place. The crazy weather is making roadwork patchy at best. Frost heaving was a major concern this past year. Jeff reported on the road training they received at the recent Short Course. Road restrictions are currently in effect till – depending on the weather- around March 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Fire Department** – no report was received.

**Law Enforcement** - nothing at this time

**Cemetery** – nothing at this time.

**Parks & Rec** - Tom Pawlowcz placed a camera on the trails per board request and reported an incident during the positing. A letter received the day of the meeting indicated that Minnesota Revenue will not be looking into any issues regarding the tract of land currently known as Fredenberg Park until 2018. Both county attorney and Sheriff's offices have said they aren't obligated to enforce our ordinance. Issues of public safety are at the middle of our concerns. We have received a new easement from the Reservoir Riders so they are compliant with their requirements. (An easement was on the land prior to its conveyance to the township and the previous easement still listed the county as owning the property).

**Community Center** – we had an electrician in to run down the problem with the lights that blew. Although we thought it

was the circuit breaker, it turned out that when they installed the current lights in the building, they just put in a dropped down ceiling and left the old fixtures, with all the attending connections in place. It took a while to run down the problem, but was finally attributed to the timer box in the entrance way. The problem was fixed and a new outside light was installed. It is an LED fixture and will be on all the time.

**Old Fire Hall** - Clay was getting estimates from companies for a roof replacement and possibly changing the slope of the roof for this building.

**Recycling Center** – things are going well.

**Other Meetings** - Jeff Blix, Clay Cich and Sherri Armstrong all attended the Short Course. Clay also met with Phil Lockett from the Reservoir Riders and the attorney to correct the easement documents.

7) OLD BUSINESS:

8) **Fredenberg Lake Rd** - the board was presented with a copy of the feasibility study done on this project from SEH. Jeff Blix moved to accept the study and to contract with the company to do the design, engineering and inspection phases of this project with the cost (approximately \$11,400) being included in the overall project cost to the residents; Liz Blix seconded and motion **PASSED**, with Mark Toms abstaining. We are not looking to bond this project out, but to issue a Certificate of Indebtedness through a bank and Clay Cich has been in discussions with them about the best offer. We are looking at a total cost of \$250,000 and would use the CD's as collateral against the Certificate. A Public Hearing was scheduled for Tuesday April 26<sup>th</sup> from 7-8:30 pm in the Community Center.

9) NEW BUSINESS:

a) **Letter of Support for WLSSD Grant for Expansion of Services** - WLSSD was requesting a letter of support in their efforts to receive a grant that would allow them to expand services at the rural sheds to include plastic bags and organic food scraps. The board expressed some concerns about night time marauders if we had food scraps in the building. The concerns will be conveyed to WLSSD along with the letter of support.

b) **National Night Out** - we will again try to get a committee formed for this event. Liz volunteered to be the point of contact.

c) **5-year Road Plan** - Noel Pearman had some questions about the plan, which he thought was a 2-year not a 6-year plan. The plan was developed with the road foreman, Jeff and Lakehead Trucking (as the contractor at that time) and projected an estimated \$20,000 per year beyond the normal maintenance costs that would include ditching, widening and gravel starting on the township roads that are in the poorest condition. The plan had been designed to bring all the gravel roads up to a standard that would, eventually, allow paving. Work will be done – weather permitting, over the next 5 years. Safety issues of all roads will be a priority for work orders.

10) 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