

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

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS  
September 13, 2017**

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

The monthly meeting was CALLED TO ORDER at 7:02 pm by Vice Chairman Walter Rapp. Jeff Blix, Deb Pawlowicz & Jim Ray. Both clerks were present, treasurer was not. 18 individuals stood with the Board to recite the Pledge of the Allegiance.

- 1) APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Jeff Blix moved to accept minutes without corrections. Jim Ray seconded. **PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**
- 2) TREASURER'S REPORT: Treasurer had provided Board with monthly reconciliation of Township Funds and Schedule 1 (statement of receipts, disbursements & balance) for review. Township accounts available totaled \$506,140.33.
- 3) CORRESPONDENCE: 14 items received and reviewed: 4 mail and 10 e-mail
- 4) REVIEW OF BILL: No corrections, Jeff Blix made motion to accept checks #9016 to 9031, totaling \$41,211.05 for payment, Deb Pawlowicz seconded. **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**
- 5) Reports:  
**Clerks** - Walter Rapp and clerks made change to meeting agenda, adding OPEN FORUM to monthly meeting. This will allow residents to have opportunity to present issues/voice concerns, each speaker will be given 3 minutes to speak at podium during this time. Fredenberg Township is now current with MN UC Fund. P.E.R.A participation is being worked on as the township has not paid into this for several years and only account for James Armstrong on record. Mary attended St. Louis County Comprehensive Plan Meeting with Deb. Pawlowicz and Clay Cich, previous members of township committee were contacted to review and complete previous plan which was formulated but never presented and approved by St. Louis County, sign up for community participation will be on Township Marque, web site & in monthly newsletter. Diane attended the District 10 MAT meeting with Walter Rapp, update of legislative work by MAT presented. Diane is trying to get a webinar on MAT Civility Seminar for Town Board to view, which was approved at April Board Meeting. Contacted Highland Beauty Floors again and they are waiting for special glue and applicator to repair kitchen flooring. Report from Ehlers on Township bonding provided to Board. Quote for PA system from DAD's present, clerks contacted Target, Best Buy, Sam's, Walmart and 1 Twin Cities company for quotes also but systems these companies have use computers and are not free standing. Jim Ray made a motion to accept the quote from DAD's for \$1119.95, Deb Pawlowicz seconded, with the condition that Jeff Blix contact DAD's for clarification on system price. **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.** Costs/prices for fire proof/locking file cabinet and locking lateral file cabinet provided, will explore items on auction sites and business close outs for better pricing and present at next meeting. Township received from PEO: certificate of insurance liability with correct limits, user fee payment for \$750.00 and dismissal order from courts. Board would like 2018 and future user fee bills issued in June of each year, with due date of July 5<sup>th</sup>. Also requested that custodians provide clerks with list of supplies needed monthly. Clerks received phone call from Grand Lake township manager regarding dumping of garbage on their township roads by a Fredenberg resident, they did contact St. Louis County sheriff also.

**Road Report** – Usiak Road work being done: widened, ditched, culverts and sightlines improved. There was an issue with subcontractor being rude to residents that was resolved by Jim Ray/Lakehead Trucking. Mowing on township roads completed. Turnarounds on Bergstrand and West Cook Lake Roads improved with permission from land owners.

**Fire Department** – 4 medical calls and 1 public assist call. Members participated in activities in August: water drone emergency training, National Night Out, provided safety/traffic control for bike portion of Fitger's Triathlon. Members joined other departments in funeral procession for retired Lakewood Township Fire Chief, Ray Impola. Firefighters installed smoke alarms and fire truck pumps were tested in accordance with NFPA and ISO standards. Fire Chief provided quotes for emergency generator for department, 2 were

provided (as she contacted several companies who were unable to provide quote because of their workload) and reviewed by Board, Jim Ray had questions regarding concrete pad for unit, he will contact Fire Chief and clarify. Walter Rapp made a motion to accept Simco quote for \$8,995.00, Jeff Blix seconded. **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**Law Enforcement** – nothing

**Cemetery** -nothing

**Parks & Rec** – Board requested clerks contact Steve Overom/township attorney regarding what was follow-up with PEO violation/notification and what is the process to be followed. Hockey boards are done and base being leveled.

**Community Center** – there is a leak in roof in Town Board room, Walter has sealed and will check vent pipe for possible leaking. Musty odor remains in basement level, board requested that fans be left on for 1 week to see if circulating air helps, clerks will inform custodians. Changing out lighting to LED progressing but not complete yet.

**Recycle Center** – very busy month, required 3 pick ups to empty bins, Deb recommended attendants set up 3 pickups for each August with WLLSD for future as August is a busy month with summer ending and seasonal usage.

**Other Meetings** – Mary Skafta and Deb Pawlowicz attended St. Louis County Comprehensive Plan Meeting, Walter Rapp and Diane Palmstein attended District 10 MAT meeting.

6) OPEN FORUM FOR PUBLIC: no one

7) OLD BUSINESS:

A. Broadband Update: Century Link has taken the lead on doing grant, currently 2 finalists: Fredenberg & Gnesen being considered as 1 entity and a township near Cambridge. Township application was endorsed by local businesses and Hermantown schools, resident petitions and local elected officials. Will know by Mid October if Fredenberg/Gnesen has the grant.

B. Usiak/Birch Acres/North Birch Acres and Fredenberg Lake Road Public Hearings: Clerk contacted SEH for information on feasibility studies, Usiak /Birch Acres/North Birch Acres has not been completed, a map to designate which roads & fire numbers to be included was not returned to them and they cannot proceed without that information. Also, a public hearing cannot be set until the feasibility study is complete in accordance with State Law. Clay Cich asked that F. I. Salter (Ann Heimbach) be contacted to forward this to SEH as she formulated this information. SEH will be notified to proceed with feasibility study once they receive this information. Clerks will contact both F.I.Salter and SEH.

8) NEW BUSINESS:

A. Town Board Supervisor Temporary Vacancy: 3 candidates presented (4<sup>th</sup> person withdrew name): Ed Proetz, Fran Williams & Darrin Wixo. Ed Proetz was unable to attend tonight, his wife was present and provided board with brief bio. information, Fran provided her bio. information & Darrin provided written bio. information. Board asked questions to candidates present also. Vote taken: Ed Proetz: 0 votes, Fran Williams: 1 vote, Darrin Wixo: 3 votes, town clerk abstained. Darrin Wixo appointed to fill Vacancy.

B. New Town Chair: in accordance with Statues will be done with full Town Board at October meeting.

C. Hot Spot for Township from Century Link: proposal from Century Link presented, it will provide a

350ft perimeter around Town Hall for public use to link into internet services. Jim Ray made motion to accept 2-year contract at 40 mbps, auto bill pay for \$89.99/month (cost maybe reduced slightly with auto-pay), Jeff Blix seconded. **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

- D. Clerks contacted MAT regarding auto-paying township bills, MAT stated that once monthly bills are reviewed and approved by the Town Board that they can be paid using any method (on-line, auto-pay or by check). Town supervisors had no concerns regarding this.
- E. Anonymous Donation: Town Clerk read a Thank You received from Fredenberg resident which included a donation to next year's National Night Out or Santa Breakfast. Resolution #17-004 presented and read, Jeff Blix made motion to accept donation for next year's National Night Out event, Walter Rapp seconded. **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

ADJOURNMENT: Jeff Blix made motion to adjourn meeting, Walter Rapp seconded. **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.** Meeting adjourned at 8:45pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

Town Clerk

Town Supervisory Chair and/or Vice Chair