

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

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS  
October 5, 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. All board members were present. Eleven individuals stood with the Board to recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

- 1) ITEMS FROM THE FLOOR: One item from the floor – added later in the meeting under New Business, paving the Birch Acres Rd.
- 2) APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Mark Toms moved to accept the minutes, Walter Rapp seconded; and minutes were approved as written.
- 3) TREASURER'S REPORT: The treasurer's report stated as of 13 September funds were available in the amount of \$491,922.34, which included 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: Jeff Blix moved to pay vouchers #8670 - #8681 in the amount of \$17,662.17, Mark Toms, seconded and motion **PASSED**,
- 6) REPORTS:

**Clerk** - reported it had been a relatively quiet 2 weeks since the last meeting. The hall is seeing several rentals and absentee voting has started. All absentee votes are handled by the county.

**Road Report** – the Road Foreman reported that the Fredenberg Lake Rd had been graded as well as adding gravel in 3 different areas which needed it. The area on Bear Island Lake Rd by Apple Lake has been reshaped to help with the erosion problem, but it will probably still need some work next year. There was some concern over the lack of trees now along W. Hunter Lake Rd since the storm. There was a standing water issue in the cul du sac area of Birch Acres Rd so several loads of gravel were dumped to alleviate the problem.

**Fire Department** – the department responded to 5 medical calls and stood-by for a “fun run” at the Driftwood Estates. Members participated in an Emergency Vehicle Operations Course at the Air National Guard Fire Department which included safety and driving through an approved driving course. The Department participated in a multi-agency emergency drill which included other fire departments as well as Minnesota Power, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission and the DNR at the Island Lake Dam. All departments spent several months in planning for the drill in case of dam failure. The Department also applied for FEMA funds to help with reimbursement after the July 21<sup>st</sup> storm. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Halloween Fire Truck and Treat will be on 29<sup>th</sup> of October from 1-3 pm.

**Law Enforcement** - several cars have been broken into by Island Lake Dam while individuals are out fishing.

**Cemetery** – the gates will be locked when the snow flies.

**Parks & Rec** - after much discussion, it was decided to install a dirt berm at the base of the sledding hill to discourage cars from driving up the hill. Next Spring we will fill in the topsoil and plant to help with erosion on the hill.

**Community Center** – the sign out front is finished, although there is a spelling error on it. Several individuals helped Walter and Clay with the project, and now all it needs is to be wired for electrical.

**Recycling Center** – the new hauler missed the very first pick up with us and left us with no empty bins inside to take in more items, so things were bagged up in black trash bags. There is a rumor going round that we may no longer have to sort out anything in the future.

**Other Meetings** – the clerk attended the legal seminar and thought that perhaps the board could look at establishing a Subordinate Service District to address the Fredenberg Lake Rd – and any future – paving projects.

7) OLD BUSINESS:

- a) **Fredenberg Lake Rd** - Clay Cich suggested that a committee be formed between people on the Fredenberg Lake and Birch Acres Rds to work through the process. The clerk stated that Subordinate Service Districts (SSD) are one way of going through the process in a clear cut manor. It is still driven by a petition from the people and would be paid for by them, but isn't technically listed as a "special assessment" so gives a little more leeway with allowing the project to be repaid.
- b) **Skating Rink** - Mark Toms added some changes to the rink attendant job description. We put the deadline date for this position at the end of this month and so far there has been no interest shown.
- c) **Snow Fencing** - With only one quote received, Jeff Blix moved to accept Beaver River Farms for the job, Mark Toms seconded and motion **PASSED.** It was determined we have more than enough materials for the job.
- d) **Snow Plowing** - Again with only one quote received, Jeff Blix moved to accept Marks Snowplowing, Liz Blix seconded and motion **PASSED** with Mark Toms abstaining.
- e) **Wells Fargo** - the treasurer wanted to re-address an issue about the insurability of funds the township holds. He had been approached by a resident prior to the meeting, so he went over letters he had received directly from our bank. State statute requires that the bank have collateral over the amount insured up to \$500,00 for a government entity. The treasurer also receives a monthly statement that shows which funds are money is collateralized to, which are held at the Federal Reserve Bank. He invited anyone to contact him at any time they have a question about the township's finances. The treasurer had requested, and received, a letter from the Vice President of the bank assuring us that all of our funds are collateralized as required by law.

8) NEW BUSINESS:

**Birch Acres Rd** – Donny Chesney presented the board with a petition for the paving of the Birch Acres Rd. which he stated was signed by all but a few residents of the road. There were 4 people against blacktopping by special assessment and 34 in favor of the project. He also stated he had approached some companies as to pricing estimates.

- 9) ADJOURNMENT: The board was reminded of all upcoming meetings. Jeff Blix moved to adjourn the meeting; Mark Toms seconded and we adjourned at 7:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Sherri A. Armstrong, Clerk