

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

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS
June 3, 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 stood with the Board to recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

- 1) ITEMS FROM THE FLOOR: nothing
- 2) APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Mark Toms moved to accept the minutes with a spelling correction under cemetery and changing 50' to 500' for snow fencing, Liz Blix Toms seconded and minutes from the May 6 meeting were approved.
- 3) TREASURER'S REPORT: nothing
- 4) CORRESPONDENCE: Twelve (12) total items of correspondence were received during the month and reviewed.
- 5) REVIEW OF BILLS: Jeff Blix moved to pay vouchers #8215 – 8227 in the amount of \$61,137.42, Liz Blix, seconded and motion passed.
- 6) REPORTS:

The Clerk indicated rentals for graduations are coming in along with requests for using the tables and chairs, which we no longer do. She is working on the draft ordinance, internet and website issues and found she was not authorized to make changes. She is working with reps to resolve that problem as well. She asked who on the board would be attending Short Course so she could make reservations.

Road Report – the foreman states they have finished clearing the deadfall. Roads have been graded, but will probably need it again prior to chloride application. The board discussed the pros and cons of suppliers. Jeff Blix moved to use Edwards Oil at 83¢ a gallon for the majority of the roads and Dust Doctor at \$1 a gallon for those that Edwards couldn't maneuver. Mark Toms seconded and motion **PASSED**. Jeff Blix moved to have Roger contact Duluth Asphalt to handle the cracks along the Bear Island Road, Clay Cich seconded and motion **PASSED**. The weight limit sign on this road has been removed. The contractor hopes to start the work on Fredenberg Lake Road NLT the beginning of July. It doesn't appear that work along the Emerson/Fish Lake Road will be on the schedule any time soon. In speaking with Jim Faldalsi from the county, he indicated that the \$13 million the county received for road and bridge work has already been allocated. He doesn't see our road project in the near future at all.

Fire Department – had another very busy month. Members responded to 4 fires, 8 medical and one rescue call for a total of 13. They also performed routine maintenance on the hall and equipment. They welcomed Ethan Cole as a new member, who along with Julie Sunnarborg and Ryan O'Rourke completed Firefighter 1 & 2 training along with the state testing to received those certifications. They hosted the Pancake Feed and thanked everyone for coming out.

Law Enforcement - nothing at this time

Cemetery - the clerk sold 2 plots to a couple from Esko. She indicated that the grounds were mowed

prior to Memorial Day.

Parks & Rec - the hockey nets have been ordered. Tennis lessons will commence soon and the net has been installed for that.

Community Center - the clerk heard from the contractor for the ceiling and he will make arrangements with her to come in while working around the board's meeting schedule.

Recycling Center – the clerk attended the meeting at WLSSD and was informed that they were still waiting for 2 townships to send in their grant applications prior to allocating funds. She spoke with Lori from WLSSD about the cost of the roof repairs. Lori said it needed to be done and we would just have to look at it to work it out later. Due to some type of restrictions they won't be able to have any Hazardous Waste Collection Days in the townships, but their facility is still open to accept them. They will be scheduling an attendant's and one more township meeting before Fall. They handed out individual and overall statistics for the townships.

Other Meetings Attended – the clerk also attended the DAT meeting where Commissioner Stauber confirmed the information on the county road spending information as reported above. Rice Lake indicated they were still awaiting the court's ruling on their status for becoming a city. If that goes through we may need to find a different place to hold our DAT meetings.

7) OLD BUSINESS:

- a) **Datka Road Park Update** – the clerk is polishing the draft of the ordinance to submit to the attorney. Once the document is ready, proper posting/publishing requirements will be done to move that along.
- b) **Independent Auditor Review** – the auditor met with the committee last week to give his final recommendations. While the clerk was present at that meeting, she indicated that neither the treasurer nor she had seen any of the findings. She also indicated that to the best of her knowledge, the treasurer had never been contacted at all. There was much discussion from the audience with the board over this process being “an audit” versus “a review”. Six years have been looked at with no indication of fraud or malfeasance occurring. Stephanie Love asked if minutes for those meetings were available and when the next one would be and Clay Cich said he would let her know; but at this time there wasn't one scheduled.
- c) **Resolution #15-004 To Reclaim LBAE** - the questions was posed as to why the board would want to take this meeting back. Although the county will still be doing the assessing, if the board has control of the LBAE meeting, they have the authority to make changes if they see fit within the parameters of the statute. Clay Cich agreed that the model the county is using doesn't make sense and Ed Proetz indicated he would like to be part of the discussion with the county over the model they use. Mark Toms moved to adopt the resolution, Liz Blix seconded and motion **PASSED.**
- d) **Arrowhead Regional Health and Wellness Center** - Mark McShane offered to bring the board up-to-date on this project. The city and school district are close to transferring the property title to make this happen. The committee is working hard to get together the information and documentation ready to apply to the state for funding the project in the Fall. Mac indicated that the local hospitals are looking to become involved with the center.

8) NEW BUSINESS:

- a) **Fish Lake Storage Expansion** – Mark McShane spoke on the need for more buildings for this company. He states that all available storage units are occupied and there is a long waiting list for the units. He pointed out that the units are occupied by individuals who live within 8 miles of the facility. Although the board hasn't received notice from the county about the hearing or application for this project yet, Mac wanted to be proactive in case there were any questions. He indicated that the new building wouldn't make any more of an impact from the road than is currently there, but would still be under security surveillance for customers' protection.
- b) **Fire Department Contract** - Noel Pearman asked if the Fire Hall was leased or rented to the Department. We actually don't have paperwork covering it either way. The building is owned by the township, but all the equipment and furnishings belong to the Department. The department does carry its own liability for anyone who might be hurt while there. It was suggested that we have a separate contract to cover the building and stipulations about alterations done to it. Jeff Blix moved we accept the contract, Mark Toms seconded and the motion **PASSED,** The clerk will look into the building document.

- 9) ADJOURNMENT: The board was reminded of all upcoming meetings. Mark Toms moved to adjourn the meeting; Jeff Blix seconded and we adjourned at 9:30 pm after Ed Proetz stated that signing of the checks constituted as part of the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Sherri A. Armstrong,
Clerk