

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

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS
February 6, 2019**

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

The monthly meeting was CALLED TO ORDER at 7:00 pm by Chair Jim Ray. Also, present were: Clay Cich, Deb Pawlowicz, Tim Wagner. Walter Rapp was absent. Bill O'Brien, treasurer, Diane Palmstein and Mary Skafte, clerks present. 5 individuals stood with the Board to recite the Pledge of the Allegiance.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: January 2, 2019 Town Board Minutes reviewed by Board, Jim Ray made motion to accept minutes without correction Tim Wagner seconded. **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.** January 2, 2019 Reorganizational Meeting minutes reviewed by Board, Deb Pawlowicz made motion to accept minutes without correction, Clay Cich seconded. **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.** January 16, 2019 second meeting of month reviewed by Board, Clay Cich made motion to accept minutes without correction, Deb Pawlowicz seconded. **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.** January 16, 2019 Board of Audit minutes reviewed by Board, Deb Pawlowicz made motion to accept minutes without correction, Tim Wagner seconded. **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**
2. TREASURER'S REPORT: Presented monthly reconciliation, funds available as of 1/11/19 were \$687,128.56, which includes \$150,000.00 in CDs. Treasurer reviewed 12/31/18 balance sheet, Road & Bridge Fund has all dollars for road improvement projects which will be divided up into "road paving" category. Large portion of dollars will be paid tonight to Northland Constructors.
3. CORRESPONDENCE: 14 total: 4 mail and 10 e-mails were received and reviewed by the Board.
4. REVIEW OF BILLS: No corrections. Jim Ray made motion to accept check #9601 to 9619, totaling \$337,553.29, Deb Pawlowicz seconded. **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.** Check #9511 to Victor Lundeen Company was voided because it had already been paid. Clerk requested clarification of paying mileage and drive time, MAT will be contacted regarding a policy for townships.
5. REPORTS:
Clerk – Recycle Grant and Financial Statement complete and was signed by Deb Pawlowicz, will be submitted before 2/28/19 deadline. All tax reports are completed and were done by Jan. 31, 2019. Refund letters to those assessed on roads and letters to those having County assess were sent by 1/19/19. 3-4 more boxes of record retention to go through and files should be complete. Older meeting minute books will go into retention at the MN Historical Society archives.
Road Report – received call about slippery roads and St. Louis County was called to sand, which they did. North Dike has approval from MN Power to remove 3 pine trees, work will be done in a few months. Resident informed Jim Ray that the first 900ft of Birch Acres Road has some cracking, it will be addressed in Spring and Northland Constructors contacted.
Fire Department – copy of contract for 2019 with Township reviewed Deb Pawlowicz made motion to accept Clay Cich seconded. **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**
Cemetery – now closed
Parks & Rec – Snowblower repaired, a big thanks to Jim Ray. Push shovels that were taken from the rink, were returned in poor condition and generously repaired for free by a local resident, Mike Priola of Mike's Metals. Light at the rink is out but to difficult to replace in the winter, will be done in the Spring. Porta potty at sliding hill installed.
Community Center – exercise room was painted. Clarification on projects done at the Center and authorization to complete discussed. It is requested custodians contact Clay Cich, who oversees this area for 2019 for approval before work begins. Clerks will pass along to custodians.
Recycle Center – **very** cold for attendants, because they assist customers who come. On the frigid days last week, they placed a sign to have customer recycle themselves and stayed inside. Clerks will contact WLSSD about their cold weather closing policy, so the Center can be closed due to weather.
Other Meetings- Clay Cich and Diane Palmstein attended DAT, January meeting. Fredenberg is setting up speakers for March, May and Oct. meetings. Clay Cich and Jim Ray attended January 22, 2019 County Board Meeting, to

insure Fredenberg was included in St. Louis County crack filling and striping program, which was approved and contract now signed.

6. OPEN FORUM: Ann Cich wanted to thank Reservoir Riders for the grooming of trails, which have been excellent.
7. OLD BUSINESS:
 - A. **Birch Acres Roads and Fredenberg Lake Road projects**: Certificate of Indebtedness and loan with National Bank of Commerce signed/completed on January 15, 2019, total amount of financing \$147,309.00. Clerks found an error in Birch Acres Road Assessment by SEH, contacted Matt Bolf and he felt the error dollar amount should be shared with the township, clerks presented his paperwork to Township with assessment totals and numbers and where the error was found, he used 29 properties in one spot and 30 in his final numbers, there were 29 total for Birch Acres. He proposed non-payment of an owning bill for \$1,320.00 to SEH from Township to settle, clerks informed him that assessment total was \$3,147.77 (which is not even half of amount he suggested). The Township cannot recoup these dollars from residents and the mistake is from SEH, whom the Township extended their contract with to provide these professional services at a cost. The Board directed the clerks to contact SEH with decision for payment from them of \$3,147.77 to cover costs of their mistake.
 - B. **Broadband Update**: report read from Michael Coughlin/Century Link (it will also appear in Feb. newsletter). Fiber to home project progressing forward. Weather has been difficult. Continue to splice at the 3-feeder locations as feeder terminals are complete. Market launch still anticipated for this winter and customers will be notified by mail and via notice in township newsletter. Clean up will continue into spring when frost gone.
 - C. **Township Road Request for Amundson/Sunset Ridge**: Clay Cich stated there are problems with how the road was recorded and the Association is working with the County and MN Power currently to resolve.
8. NEW BUSINESS:
 - A. **Donation to Hermantown All Night Grad Party**: information presented regarding donations made in 2015 and prior of \$100.00, no donations in 2016 & 2017. Jim Ray contacted Chair- person of the party and discussed what donations other townships give, ranges varied. Most of monies come from private businesses and individuals. Resolution 19-002 was presented, Jim Ray made a motion to accept Resolution 19-002 with a \$100.00 donation to Hermantown All Night Grad Party, Clay Cich seconded. **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**
 - B. **Census 2020**: Jim Ray and clerks meet with Sarah Priest from US Census Dept. and she made a presentation regarding 2020 upcoming census. The Dept. has a drive to have cities/township become more involved. This information was made available to the Board along with her request to have a Resolution to form a Committee to organize the count, which some townships have done. There are different levels in which the Township can be involved, such as advertising for staff in newsletter, census reminders when the count starts also. The US Census Dept. will complete the 2020 census with or without a Township committee. The Board decided by motion made by Jim Ray to do advertising for Census through newsletter but not form a committee, Clay Cich seconded. **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.** Clerks will respond to Census Dept.

There will be no second meeting of the Board on Feb. 20, 2019 at 7pm. by motion Jim Ray, seconded by Deb Pawlowicz. **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**
9. ADJOURNMENT: Jim Ray made a motion to adjourn meeting, Deb Pawlowicz seconded. **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.** Meeting adjourned at 8:25 pm.
10. ADDENDUM: Fire Department report received late: quiet month with only 1 fire call for power pole arcing. Members remembered Ron Suomela by holding the firefighter bell ceremony during his funeral. Members attended Arrowhead EMS Assoc. conference in Duluth. Training included: explosion injuries, head injury/concussion, trauma, mass shooting, mass casualty, frostbite, bleeding and many other topics. Also attended Lakehead Mutual Aid Assoc. meeting. Reminder to please keep your address signs visible & shovel them out. Also check to make sure you shovel your furnace exhaust and air intakes.

Respectfully submitted,

Clerk

Board Chair/Co-Chair