

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

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS
Nov. 6, 2019**

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

The monthly meeting was CALLED TO ORDER at 7 pm by Chair Jim Ray. Also, present were: Deb Pawlowicz, Walter Rapp, Clay Cich, Tim Wagner. Mary Skafte & Diane Palmstein/clerks present, Bill O'Brien, Treasurer was absent. 27 individuals stood with the Board to recite the Pledge of the Allegiance.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Oct. 2, 2019 meeting minutes reviewed by the Board, Jim Ray requested correction under Road Report: delete "Also, last year Chesney Road snow fence did not work because it got covered by plowed snow and brush. Jim Ray made motion to accept with correction, Tim Wagner seconded. **5 YEAS. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**
2. TREASURER'S REPORT: Clerks presented the Schedule I, statement of Receipts/Disbursements/Balances from 10/12/19.
3. CORRESPONDENCE: 14 total: 7 mail and 7 e-mails were received and reviewed by the Board.
4. REVIEW OF BILLS: No corrections. Jim Ray made motion to accept check #9824 to #9840, totaling \$30,336.37. Clay Cich seconded. **5 YEAS. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**
5. REPORTS:
 - Clerk** – Broadband is out at the Town Hall office, will not be repaired until Tues. Nov. 12. Town Hall Kitchen necessities purchased.
 - Road Report** – A lot of roads in Township were able to be graded before frost. Finishing work on Wood Duck Lane now.
 - Fire Department**- Sept. & Oct. were very busy for the Department. Members participated in their 16-hour Emergency Medical Responder refresher class, the MN State Fire Chiefs education conference, 9-1-1 User board meeting and the 60th Anniversary Open House. Members attended leadership training in Virginia, propane training burn, taught the first aid merit badge to scouts at Webelo's Action Camp at Driftwood Estates. Prepared and held the 4th Annual Halloween Trunk & Treat Fire Prevention open house. The pumps on the fire engines were serviced and tested. Members responded to 9 calls. The Department is holding a fundraiser to purchase a new Thermal Imaging Camera (TIC) to replace our older one. A TIC is a tool to help firefighters find temperature differences when fighting & investigating fires. A TIC is very valuable in helping to search for victims who might be in a burning structure. The department is selling RTIC thermal mugs for \$20 each, please contact any fire department member or drop in on Thursday evenings to purchase your mugs at the Fire Department. Please be aware of the thin ice conditions in all area lakes. Keep your pets and you off the lake. Be sure to call 9-1-1 if rescue is needed for people or pets. The Department requests that signs are posted again to prevent snowmobiling close to property line near Fire hall and private property adjacent (Lee Older) and near Fire Hall septic, Clay Cich will obtain signage and get signs to them to post.
 - Cemetery** – closed 11/5/19
 - Parks & Rec** - skating shack and addition painted, and second coat will be put on in the spring. No word back from company about pump for rink. Jim Ray purchased more hose and connections for flooding. Clerks were directed by the Board to have a porta potty placed at sliding hill in Dec.
 - Community Center**- rentals continue to do well. Clay Cich contacted Schemmers about buying dehumidifier and they decided not to sell, so in spring, Jim Ray will bring in a unit to see how it works before the Board purchases one. Radiators were serviced. Water came in boiler room but was cleaned out.
 - Recycle Center** – Running more smoothly with dumpsters, all signage in place to remind patrons. Fran Williams voiced concerns about heat and temperature in office, not being sufficient. Jim Ray has had electrician in there working but he has not finished. Jim Ray will call and give him an ultimatum to have work finished this week or find another electrician.
 - Other Meetings**- Duluth Area Township Meeting Thurs. Oct. 17 attended by Jim Ray, Diane Palmstein & Mary Skafte.
6. OPEN FORUM: Ben Pearson had concerns about no snow fencing on Beaver River Road & Chesney Road, he felt it was unsafe for residents on those roads, he strongly opposed it. He presented numerous concerns to the Board: road review, snow fencing, adopting new township roads, previous ordinances made in the township. Patty Wheeler

attempted to pay partial payment left for Fredenberg Lake Road Assessment with St. Louis County and was told to make payment to the Township, clerks explained that road assessments put on tax rolls cannot be removed by them and have to be done through St. Louis County, clerks will contact Quinn Carlson at Auditor's office and discuss solution. Patty Monson Geerts requested clarification from previous Board minutes on revised petition for paving request on East Cook Lake (which clerks explained names in question on original petition), questioned if the Board was going to continue to explore paving as she felt it was not being considered any longer. She also wanted to know if Rule 429 was followed for previous paving projects and what was explained at previous meeting. Jim Ray and clerks explained that Rule 429 was followed, and the process takes significant time to comply with, from Public Hearings to Feasibility Studies. Jim Ray also informed her that additional information gathered regarding paving would be provided at the Informational Meeting on Nov. 19, 2019. John Kubow spoke in support of the Township taking over Amundson/Sunset Ridge Road and presented written material about other road/property tax comparisons.

7. OLD BUSINESS

- A. Township Road Request for Amundson/Sunset Ridge: Jim Ray provided a brief history of establishing a new road process, he feels that the road work completed has brought road up to standards in the Township (with additional work to be done in the spring). Town Board supervisors reviewed the Resolution to Accept Amundson/Sunset Ridge Road and the dedication required by MN Power. Chris Vold/Road Association rep. thanked the Board for their work regarding the road establishment, informed the Board that St. Louis County Publics Works was contacted, and the Association can get a refund for snow plowing contract once the Township takes over the road. Jim Ray had concerns if the Township can add to their contract with St. Louis County for plowing, clerks will contact St. Louis County Public Works. Clerks informed supervisors that Dedication must be submitted to our Township 10 days before the next Board meeting to be approved per MN State Statute 164.15 and clerks & township attorney are working with Jim Atkinson at MN Power to do this before the Dec. 4, 2019 meeting. Kathy Pearson inquired if all current township roads are up to standards as that was to happen per an ordinance, Ben Pearson stated that there was an ordinance at some time that stated all township roads were to be brought up to standards and paved. Clerks will look through records, but Jim Ray stated that currently there is a five-year plan for township roads which is near completion.
- B. East Cook Lake Road Paving Request: Jim Ray reviewed request from Pete Emerson/resident in support of paving East Cook Lake Road to have an Informational Meeting regarding the paving, the Board concurred to have a Public Informational Meeting on Tuesday, November 19, 2019 at 7pm in the Fredenberg Town Hall. It will be advertised in the Duluth News Tribune, Township newsletter, township marquee and Road association will post signs and send out emails. Clay Cich made a motion to hold Information meeting on this date/time, Walter Rapp seconded. **5 YEAS. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

8. NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Township Snow Fence: Clerks consulted with MAT attorney and the township cannot give the posts and snow fence away but can advertise to sell. Ben Pearson informed the Board that he won't allow any one on his property until 2020 to get the fencing. Kathy Pearson requested that the township leave the fence and posting in place through the winter and delay selling until spring. The Board discussed and agreed to hold off advertising to sell until spring.
- B. Second Monthly Meeting on Nov. 20, 2019, Clay Cich made a motion to cancel second meeting of Board on Nov. 20, 2019 at 7 pm, Deb Pawlowicz seconded. **5 YEAS. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**
- C. January Monthly Board Meeting: Walter Rapp requested that the Board consider changing the day of the January meeting to Thursday, January 2, 2020, because of the holidays there are several conflicts for supervisors, after discussing options, it was decided to keep the January Monthly Board Meeting on Wednesday, January 8, 2020 at 7 pm, as scheduled, followed by the Reorganizational Meeting.
9. OTHER MEETINGS: A quorum of Town Board Supervisors may be present at the INFORMATIONAL meeting for paving on East Cook Lake Road on Tuesday, Nov. 19, 2019 at 7pm.
10. ADJOURNMENT: Jim Ray made a motion to adjourn meeting, Clay Cich seconded. **5 YEAS. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.** Meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,


Clerk

Attested to:


Board Chair/Co-Chair