

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

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS
May 6, 2020**

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

This meeting was held via telephone conference in accordance with MN Statute.

The monthly meeting was CALLED TO ORDER at 7:03 pm by Chair Clay Cich. Also, present were: Deb Pawlowicz, Walter Rapp, Jim Ray, Tim Wagner. Mary Skafte & Diane Palmstein/clerks present, Bill O'Brien, Treasurer present. Meeting held via telephone conference call. 19 individuals participated with the Board to recite the Pledge of the Allegiance.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: April 1, 2020 meeting minutes reviewed by the Board, Jim Ray made motion to accept with correction under Old Business B. Conditional Us should be Use, Deb Pawlowicz seconded. **5 YEAS MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**
2. TREASURER'S REPORT: Monthly reconciliation for township completed, checking balance as of 4/10/2020 is \$294,221.43. Total funds including 4 CD's is \$487,546.08. All 3 CD's were renewed for 11 months at 1.25%. Bill O'Brien spoke with 3 of 4 applicants for Treasurer position (1 did not return call), all are interested, and he informed them that when Pandemic over and restrictions lifted, they will be interviewed. Salary was stated between \$12.00 to \$15.00/extra hours worked.
3. CORRESPONDENCE: 36 total: 3 mail and 33 e-mails were received and reviewed by the Board.
4. REVIEW OF BILLS: Mary Skafte/clerk informed Board that payment was made to Geek Squad for 1-year tech service and MAT Insurance cost for commercial package was the same as last year. No corrections. Jim Ray made motion to accept check # 9981 to 9999, totaling \$43,077.58, Clay Cich seconded. **5 YEAS. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**
5. REPORTS:

Clerk – contacted Phil Chapman regarding upcoming elections, St. Louis County will have in person voting unless legislation changes. Will be asking for elections judges in the newsletter as training is in June & July. Many calls regarding the Recycle Center opening. Clerks had cancellation of 1 event in June and contacted the other as it is a graduation party, renter will probably reschedule for later in summer but waiting for new rules after May 18, 2020, from State of MN offices. Clerks provided each supervisor with COVID 19 preparedness packet as the Town Hall/office would need it completed and approved to reopen, clerks asked for 1 or 2 supervisor to work with them on procedures especially if outside cleaning service is suggested, Clay Cich, Jim Ray and Deb Pawlowicz will work with clerks on plan. Griddles & table have not been ordered yet because office hasn't received complete quote and Jim Ray stated he spoke with rep. from company to verify voltage issues. Reminded supervisors that payroll period is only for 1 calendar month. Clarified with Steve Fenske/MAT attorney that no supervisor has authority to spend a set dollar amount without Board approval.

Road Report – 2020 Road Review was provided to the Board prior to the meeting, completed by Jim Ray & Greg Kaniski (road contractor for 2020). There are no "date to be completed" on items as it is dependent on when equipment available. Jim Ray is looking into hiring a contractor to fill cracks on Fredenberg Lake Road, Usiak & Birch Acres Roads.

Fire Department- roof completed. Members responded to 4 calls, included 2 medical and 2 grass/brush fires. Department holding business meetings via zoom and working on equipment & training through social distancing & online opportunities. Due to COVID 19 Annual Fishing Opening Pancake Breakfast fundraiser cancelled this year. As everyone gets their homes & cabins ready for summer, please be aware that we are in wildfire season. Everything is very dry & fires can spread very quickly. Burning is not allowed without a special permit from DNR. At the time of this writing, campfires are still allowed but must be in a fire ring & follow all the suggestions listed on the MN DNR forestry website. Also included was a flyer on Staying Fire Safe which will go in the newsletter. Tim Wagner checked with Linda Bergstrand, the Department currently has enough PPE as St. Louis County donated some but can use more masks.

Cemetery – Gate is open

Parks & Rec – Nets are up on tennis courts, pickle ball nets won't be put out until Stay at Home restrictions are over. Jim Ray had a concern about playground equipment and hoped parents are using proper precautions but has not seen large groups gather in pavilion and township may have to post if that happens. Clay Cich informed the Board that 2 roads have been cut into the bog in the Park and St. Louis County Sheriff Dept. has been notified and he will meet

with them at the Park.

Community Center- Walter Rapp replaced step non skids and installed on back stairs and a new flag.

Recycle Center – WLSSD is gradually opening their facilities but with social distancing & other precautions in place. Our Recycle Center remains closed, but Deb Pawlowicz has a call into Lorilee Blais to discuss opening, extra hours/days will probably be added when it does open. Hazardous Waste Day in June is most likely cancelled.

Other Meetings- MAT telephone conference on April 12, 2020 (Deb Pawlowicz, Clay Cich, Jim Ray, Mary Skafte & Diane Palmstein) and April 30, 2020 (Mary Skafte, Deb Pawlowicz, Clay Cich & Diane Palmstein), phones are muted except for speakers from MAT. Tim Wagner completed webinar for new township officer. April 29, 2020 Local Board of Appeal & Equalization held from 1-2 pm via a virtual meeting, no appeals were presented or heard.

6. OPEN FORUM: no one

7. OLD BUSINESS

A. East Cook Lake Road Paving Request: clerks provided information and forms to residents on West Island Lake Road for petition to become a Fredenberg Township Road, Bob Smith/rep from Association informed the Board that their Association was 17/19 present in favor. He asked what improvements need to be made to have it up to Township standards, Jim Ray stated he will reassess and do accurate measurements and look at a rock in road that may need to be moved. Pete Emerson/rep from East Cook Lake Road also informed the Board that he has meet with MN Power and they maybe in favor of including the paving assessment on leases in Unincorporated Township Parcels. A new petition is on hold until West Island Lake Road is decided on Patty Monson-Geertz/rep from East Cook Lake Road, asked the Board to wait on any decisions regarding East Cook Lake Road until other alternatives are explore and the meeting with Base 1 is held, which may be able to be done virtually.

B. Conditional Use Permit for 6464 Fredenberg Lake Road: WebEx virtual meeting to be held on Thursday, May 14, 2020 at 12 noon, via invitation through St. Louis County, Angela Lepak. Resolution 2020-008 was presented and reviewed by the Board. Clay Cich explained that the moratorium includes a study by ARDC that will inform our community where gravel pits should be. ARDC will provide general information, hold public hearings to inform the residents. Without a plan, St. Louis County has stated the township cannot put any restrictions on gravel pits. The township would take over zoning just for gravel pits (it exempts existing gravel pits). There would be a Township Zoning Board established for gravel pits, but he was unsure who are members of that board but ARDC will guide the township. Deb Pawlowicz made a motion to accept & adopt Resolution #2020-008, Objecting to a Conditional Use Permit for LTI Holding, LLC for a Conditional Use Permit for a General Purpose Borrow Pit, Clay Cich seconded. **5 YEAS. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.** Oly Olson, Bruce Anderson, Kathy Stingl, Patty Wheeler, Deb Roach, Mike Anderson, Ken Johnson, Bob Terry & Janet Olson thanked the Board for their support in favor of the moratorium.

C. Moratorium on Fredenberg Township Gravel Pits: Jim Ray felt this issue was discussed with CUP.

8. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Resolution 2020-006, Beer and Liquor Licenses in Township (Blue Max, Eagles Nest, Hi-Banks, Minnowette): presented and reviewed by the Board, Clay Cich made a motion to adopt Resolution 2020-006 and submit to St. Louis County, Jim Ray seconded. **4 YEAS 0 NAYS 1 (Tim Wagner) ABSTAIN. MOTION PASSED.**

B. Second Meeting of Board on May 20, 2020 at 7pm will be held via Zoom phone conference. Jim Ray made a motion to hold June 3, 2020 Town Board Meeting at 7:00pm via Zoom telephone conference, Deb Pawlowicz seconded. **5 YEAS. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

9. OTHER MEETINGS:

Public Hearing on CUP revision for 6464 Fredenberg Lake Road by LTI LLC. on Thursday, May 14, 2020 at 12 noon via virtual meeting on WebEx. MN Association of Township Zoom telephone conference on May 13, 2020 from 4:30 pm to 5:00pm.

10. ADJOURNMENT: Jim Ray made a motion to adjourn meeting, Clay Cich seconded. **5 YEAS. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.** Meeting adjourned at 8:34 pm.

Respectfully submitted,


Clerk


Board Chair/Co-Chair