

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

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS  
July 1, 2020**

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

The monthly meeting was CALLED TO ORDER at 7 pm by Chair, Clay Cich. Also, present were: Deb Pawlowicz, Walter Rapp, Jim Ray, Tim Wagner. Mary Skafte & Diane Palmstein/clerks & Bill O'Brien, Treasurer were present. 9 individuals stood with the Board to recite the Pledge of the Allegiance.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: June 3, 2020 meeting minutes reviewed by the Board, Jim Ray made motion to accept without corrections, Clay Cich seconded. **5 YEAS. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**
2. TREASURER'S REPORT: As of June 10, 2020, total township funds available was \$351,556.65, which includes 4 CD's totaling \$202,917.51. Information received from Ehlers regarding debt services savings: rebonding will provide savings of approximately \$3,400 for the Fire Hall Bond but must be done in Nov. or 90 days before Feb. 1, 2021. Clerks will contact local banks and Ehlers for more information to possibly finance locally rather than bonds. Treasurer position: Bill O'Brien suggested a couple supervisors and clerks complete an interview with applicants, he has already spoken to 3 that responded and feels all are qualified. He may not be available for interviews because of work. Clay Cich, Walter Rapp, and Jim Ray would be available, clerks will provide supervisors with resumes and then set up interviews. Walter Rapp noticed that the cemetery wasn't on the Schedule 1, there was a new CTA's update last week and that report must have changed, Bill O'Brien and Mary Skafte will be find out what happened.
3. CORRESPONDENCE: 20 total: 2 mail and 18 e-mails were received and reviewed by the Board.
4. REVIEW OF BILLS: Mary Skafte/ clerks stated that there was a reissue check to Sherrie Armstrong, Bill O'Brien informed the Board he had contacted our bank and there wasn't a need to Stop Payment on the lost check she had been issued because our checks state "void after 90 days" and if the bank cashes it after 90 days, they would be responsible and a stop payment isn't a guarantee if the check isn't cashed locally. Also, the office did not receive invoices until today for 2 vendors who will have to wait until August for payment. No corrections. Jim Ray made motion to accept check #10036 to 10049, totaling \$34,988.26, Tim Wagner seconded. **5 YEAS. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**
5. REPORTS:

**Clerk** – there have been calls to reserve the Town Hall, the Board decided the Town Hall will remain closed, the August 5, 2020 Board Meeting will be in the Pavilion at the Town Hall at 7:00pm, (no teleconference). Jim Ray made a motion for the hall to be open for the Public Testing of our election machine and August 10 & 11, 2020 for the Primary Election, Walter Rapp seconded. **5 YEAS. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.** There is a request for a 2-day rummage sale in Sept., but the Board does not want to confirm a reservation at this time. Clerks requested to advertise for annual roadside mowing in the Township, Clay Cich made a motion to advertise for Annual Township Road Mowing, Jim Ray seconded. **5 YEAS. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.** Clerks will place an ad in Duluth News Tribune. Walter Rapp made a motion to sell township snow fence, Clay Cich seconded. **5 YEAS. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.** Clerks will place in Township Newsletter, highest offer will be accepted.

**Road Report** – Chloride is hard to get this year, most roads are done but a few of the smaller ones are not done yet. 2 road signs were ordered for ones that were damaged/worn.

**Fire Department**- no report available. Tim Wagner did inform the Board that the Fire Department is having a Badge Pinning Ceremony on Thursday, July 2, 2020 at 7pm. at the Fire Hall.

**Cemetery** – Walter Rapp would like to seal coat the blacktop next year. Walter Rapp made a motion to accept the sale of 4 cemetery lots: Block 3, Lot 32 & 33 to Don & Karen Olson and Block 3, Lot 22 & 23 to Gordy, Rita & Ken Jensen, Deb Pawlowicz seconded. **5 YEAS. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**Parks & Rec** – Ball field looks neglected but isn't getting much use, may have to work on in the future. Jim Ray contacted an electrician about converting rink lights to LED and will get costs. With current COVID-19 pandemic, 2020 NEIGHBORHOOD NIGHT OUT is cancelled.

**Community Center**- carts and wheels but not griddles arrived, serving table also arrived but was damaged and sent back for replacement. Jim Ray suggested purchasing de-icing cable to prevent leaks in the metal roof joints and will use this winter. Connie and Mort Moriarity have resigned as custodians and are retiring, there is one application already. Clay Cich will contact Sell Hardware about the doors in the Community Center. Walter Rapp brought in a dehumidifier for the basement because of dampness but it is not big enough, before considering anything further,

another one will be brought in to try to dry it out. Blocking off stairway with doors may be considered in the future. With the Center closed, there has been very little air flow.

**Recycle Center** – Deb Pawlowicz informed the Board that our Grant was \$8,908.00 from WLSSD for 2020. There have been a few pickup issues that were resolved. Connie Moriarity/ attendant has resigned & retired, Fran is going to take over Wednesday shift and a new attendant will be hired. There is one application in already, Deb Pawlowicz will handle the hiring process.

**Other Meetings-** none

**Township Preparedness Plan-** clerks presented final draft of plan with corrections, Deb Pawlowicz made a motion to accept 2020 COVID-19 Plan for the township, Jim Ray seconded. **5 YEAS. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

6. **OPEN FORUM:** Melissa Bell/resident supports the township taking back Planning and Zoning from St. Louis County, she would like to see more games and activities at the Community Center playground area for children. Oly Olson/resident supports the township taking back Planning and Zoning from St. Louis County. Blake Cazier/resident and co-founder of PEO requested a reduction or forgiveness of the yearly \$750.00 fee (as part of the settlement between the township and PEO). They have been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, school programs and grants. The coming winter activities are questionable and uncertain. PEO is a 90% fee for service program. The Board felt that the settlement agreement was clear about the yearly payment. Clay Cich made a motion the yearly payment from PEO for Datka Park use be made in accordance with the settlement agreement, Deb Pawlowicz seconded. **5 YEAS. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**
7. **OLD BUSINESS:**
  - A. East Cook Lake Road paving request/Base 1 Informational Meeting: Base 1 informational meeting scheduled on Thursday, July 16, 2020 at 7 pm in the Fredenberg Town Hall Pavilion. Pete Emerson/resident presented the Board petitions for paving request for East Cook Lake Road. MN Power has not provided input on requesting payment from parcels outside the township but 5/10 in the unorganized township are willing to pay an assessment. 25/44 or 56.8% on the road signed the petition and are interested in having the Board consider paving if the cost is \$4,000 + or – 15%. Clay Cich made a motion to proceed with contacting Engineering Firms to provide quotes for a feasibility study to pave East Cook Lake Road, Deb Pawlowicz seconded. **5 YEAS. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.** Clerks will contact firms and request information for the Board to consider.
  - B. Township Moratorium on Gravel Pits & ARDC Study: update was read by clerks from ARDC, stating they are nearing completion of Phase 1 and a draft report will be coming and will be made public on our web side for the public to review and comment on for 1 week before Phase 2 will begin. In this phase, public input is gathered through a public meeting or in some fashion to comply with COVID-19, summarized and made part of the report which will be presented to the Board in August. ARDC will expect direction from the Board to pursue ordinance development based on the findings and proceed as directed.
8. **NEW BUSINESS:**
  - A. Petition from West Island Lake Road to become a Township Road: clerks have verified names/addresses on petitions, which all are valid and letter from MN Power, Jim Atkinson received. Jim Ray made a motion to accept the petition and proceed with dedicating West Island Lake Road as a township road, Tim Wagner seconded. **5 YEAS. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.** Clerks will work with township attorney to complete by August 5, 2020 meeting.
  - B. Petition from South Bay Road to become a Township Road: clerk have verified names/addresses on petitions, which all are valid and letter from MN Power, Jim Atkinson received. Jim Ray requested that Walter Rapp confirm that this road measures up to township standards. Clay Cich made a motion to accept the petition and proceed with dedicating South Bay Road as a township road, Tim Wagner seconded. **4 YEAS 1 ABSTAIN. MOTION PASSED.** Clerks will work with township attorney to complete by August 5, 2020 meeting.
  - C. Update on 2020 Primary & General Elections: clerks have completed their training and plan on completing election judge training once it comes out in power point presentation at the Town Hall. We had 4-5 judges opt out but were able to find replacements. State of MN will provide PPE for judges and voters. We will be having voters come in the front door of the center but leave by tennis court door so as not to pass each other, limit number of voters in at one time and practice social distancing. There will be 2 Town Board Supervisor positions up for election (Deb Pawlowicz and Walter Rapp). Filing is **Tuesdays** from 12:30 -5:30pm in the town hall office, you will have to call the office to get in, from July 28 to August 11, 2020. Withdrawal dates are August 12 & 13, 2020 by appointment until 5:30pm on the 13<sup>th</sup>.

- D. Resolution #2020-010, Accepting a Donation for Plaques for Marque Honoring Veterans & 1<sup>st</sup> Responders from Clay & Anne Cich: was read and reviewed by the Board, Deb Pawlowicz made a motion to accept Resolution 2020-010, Jim Ray seconded. **4 YEAS 0 NAYS 1 ABSTAIN, MOTION PASSED.** Plaques will be mounted on the side of the town hall marque. Thank you, Clay & Anne Cich.
- E. Second Meeting of the Board on Wednesday, July 15, 2020 was not cancelled but will be posted in accordance with MN Statute if it is cancelled.

9. OTHER MEETINGS: Base 1 Rep. from Team Lab Informational Meeting at Townhall pavilion, Thursday, July 16, 2020 at 7:00pm.

10. ADJOURNMENT: Deb Pawlowicz made a motion to adjourn meeting, Jim Ray seconded. **5 YEAS. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.** Meeting adjourned at 8:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Clerk

  
Board Chair/Co-Chair

APPROVED