

**FREDENBERG TOWN BOARD MEETING
ST. LOUIS COUNTY, MN**

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS
November 10, 2020**

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

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 present, Pam Blekestad, Treasurer also present. 19 individuals were present and stood with the Board to recite the Pledge of the Allegiance.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Oct. 7, 2020 meeting minutes reviewed by the Board, Walter made motion to accept with 1 correction, under CARES change foggers to fogger, Jim Ray seconded. **5 YEAS. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.** Oct. 21, 2020 meeting minutes were reviewed by the Board, Deb Pawlowicz made a motion to accept without corrections, Clay Cich seconded. **5 YEAS. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**
2. TREASURER'S REPORT: as of Oct. 13, 2020, reconciled checking account balance is \$332,375.97. Total funds available \$535,293.48, which includes 4 CDs totaling \$202,917.51. Clay Cich made a motion to accept Treasury report, Walter Rapp seconded. **5 YEAS. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**
3. CORRESPONDENCE: 23 total: 2 mail and 21 e-mails were received and reviewed by the Board. Deb Pawlowicz requested that the variance notices be forwarded to the Board when they arrive.
4. REVIEW OF BILLS: Mary Skafte/clerk informed supervisors that checks to Vesel Construction, MN Locksmith and Air Circulation are 2 separate checks, one for a down payment, which will be sent out now and one the final payment which will be sent when the work is complete. This is done to comply with CARES FUNDING requirements to submit payments by Nov. 15. Also check #10203 is amount returned to St. Louis County to use from our CARES distribution that was unused (total of \$1796.65). No corrections. Jim Ray made motion to accept check #10159 to 10203, totaling \$62,262.35, Deb Pawlowicz seconded. **5 YEAS. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**
5. REPORTS:

Clerk – Mary Skafte & Diane Palmstein/clerks read an email received through the Fredenberg Townhall office from Clay Cich regarding mail received through the office, stating Diane Palmstein was discarding documents in the trash can in the office in his presence, the clerks felt the Board should be made aware of the accusation, the clerks wanted to emphatically deny discarding documents or withholding documents from the Board. Clerks requested that more outlets be put in the office area, Jim Ray will check into this. Clerks were very busy with elections and very grateful for all the hard work by the election judges.

Road Report – Wood Duck Lane/NW Island Lake Road intersection had Century Link pedestal moved and the curve work was completed by Lakehead Trucking. Will continue to do grading as needed.

Fire Department- responded to 6 calls: 2 medical calls, a tree on a power line, an equipment problem in a structure & 2 mutual aid calls (1 in Gnesen: cancelled & 1 in Rice Lake, commercial garage fire). Fire Department members would like to congratulate Glen Bergstrand on his 50th anniversary of serving the community through the department. Glen joined the dept. on Nov. 12, 1970. Glen has served in many positions on the department, including 10 years as the Fire Chief. Thank-you Glen for your dedication & service to the Fredenberg Fire Department, residents & visitors of Fredenberg and beyond. The Fredenberg Fire Dept. has a few openings for new members. Please contact any current member to find out more or stop by the fire hall when you see vehicles in the parking lot. You may also email at Fredenbergfd@aol.com. Our expenses this year have been high because of the COVID pandemic. We have had to purchase much more personnel protective equipment than we normally do. We also need to purchase additional equipment to replace some we currently have. Because of COVID we need to purchase more face masks for the SCBA's, but because of the age of the SCBA's, we are unable to purchase just the masks as they are no longer available. We will need to purchase some new SCBA's so we can properly outfit our firefighters. The items are not eligible items for the Assistance to Firefighters COVID grant that we are applying for. Information to go into the newsletter on kitchen safety during the holiday.

Cemetery – Walter Rapp reported there was an issue with a recent burial grave site, and he added/smoothed out topsoil. The cemetery is now closed.

Parks & Rec – Rink lights will be installed this week and outside lights added to the Community Center. Lights at the Recycle Center are complete.

Community Center- Work has begun on air to air exchangers in the lower level today. There has been a leak in the Community Center roof from around the vents when snow melts, Jim Ray placed deicing cable there but the

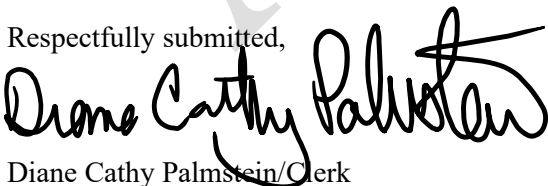
contractor for the air exchanger will look at it and give a recommendation.

Recycle Center – Problems with residents putting clam shells in dumpsters, Deb Pawlowicz will put up more signage to inform patrons. LED lighting and garages doors (installed by Jim Ray & Walter Rapp) are complete.

Other Meetings - None.

6. OPEN FORUM: Mary Skafte/resident requested clarification on unsigned letters/anonymous letters to the Township. Walter Rapp made a motion to not accept unsigned/anonymous letters addressed to the Board, Tim Wagner seconded. **2 YEAS 3 NAYS. MOTION FAILED.** Deb Roach/resident stated she knew Carlton County accepted unsigned letters. Patty Wheeler/resident also stated in her work with St. Louis County that the courts accepted unsigned/anonymous letters. She congratulated Walter Rapp and Deb Pawlowicz on their re-election. Asked that the public be more civil at meetings and on Nextdoor Fredenberg.
7. OLD BUSINESS:
 - A. East Cook Lake Road Paving and Bollig Feasibility Study: Nathan Feist/Bollig Engineering presented the Feasibility Study and outline for the Road Improvement Project. Construction costs are estimated to be \$416,600.00 with 43 parcels assessed, approximately \$9,700.00/parcel. Jim Ray made a motion to accept the Bollig Feasibility Study, Clay Cich seconded. **5 YEAS. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.** Jim Ray made a motion to hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, December 8th at 7:00pm in the Fredenberg Town Hall, Deb Pawlowicz seconded. **5 YEAS. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.** The Board did not approve Bollig Engineering to complete a survey of the road and would address at a later meeting
 - B. Township Moratorium on Gravel Pits & ARDC Study: Justin Otsea/ARDC present and requested direction from the Board on what ARDC would be directed to do to formulate a plan for zoning and a zoning board. Board members discussed clarifying roles for ARDC & Kennedy/Graven Law Firm and decided the township would contact ARDC if any further assistance was needed.
8. NEW BUSINESS:
 - A. Update on Nov. 3, 2020 General Election: clerks reported that 693 voted in person, approximately 355 voters were by absentee ballot. Election Judges were amazing, and everything ran smoothly, and voters had no issues complying with COVID restrictions.
 - B. Gravel Pit Ordinance Study Committee Formation: The Board reviewed packet from Kennedy/Graven. Deb Pawlowicz made a motion to initiate a Study Committee for the Extractive Use Ordinance, not to be limited in number of members, Jim Ray seconded. **3 YEAS 2 NAYS. MOTION PASSED.** Jim Ray made a motion to accept the application for Study Committee members with corrections and advertise in the newsletter, Deb Pawlowicz seconded. **3 YEAS 2 NAYS. MOTION PASSED.** Deadline to submit application for the committee will be on Tuesday, Dec. 1, 2020. Residents can get an application by calling the Town Hall office or email Fredenbergtwp@gmail.com.
 - C. Second Meeting of the Board on Wednesday, November 18, 2020: Jim Ray made a motion to cancel the Wednesday, November 18, 2020 Town Board Meeting at 7:00pm, Walter Rapp seconded. **5 YEAS. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**
9. OTHER MEETINGS: Fredenberg Board of Canvass (to certify election results) in the Fredenberg Town Hall at 7:00pm on Thursday, November 12, 2020
10. ADJOURNMENT: Clay Cich made a motion to adjourn meeting, Walter Rapp seconded. **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.** Meeting adjourned at 9:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted,


Diane Cathy Palmstein/Clerk


Clay Cich/Board Chair