

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

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS
December 2, 2020**

**TIME & PLACE: 7:00 pm
HELD VIA ZOOM IN COMPLIANCE WITH
MN GOVERNOR WALZ EXECUTIVE ORDERS**

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. 26 individuals were present via zoom, the Board recited the Pledge of the Allegiance.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: November 10, 2020 meeting minutes reviewed by the Board, Jim Ray made motion to accept with correction, under Open Forum, Nextdoor Fredenberg, Walter Rapp seconded. **5 YEAS. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.** November 12, 2020 Board of Canvass meeting minutes reviewed by the Board, Deb Pawlowicz made a motion to accept without correction, Clay Cich seconded. **5 YEAS. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**
2. TREASURER'S REPORT: as of 11/12/ 2020, reconciled checking account balance is \$329,565.04. Total funds are \$468,170.78, which includes 4 CDs totaling \$202,917.51. Clay Cich made a motion to accept treasury report, Deb Pawlowicz seconded. **5 YEAS. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.** Treasurer asked the Board to submit items outside normal budget for 2022 for the upcoming meeting. She is also contacting Ehlers regarding re-bonding potential savings for Fire Dept. Bond, to follow up with the recent notice received.
3. CORRESPONDENCE: 22 total: 4 mail and 18 e-mails were received and reviewed by the Board.
4. REVIEW OF BILLS: Mary Skafte/clerk informed Board that claim to St. Louis County is from 2019 work done on Bear Island Road which they never invoiced us for. Clay Cich asked that the ARDC claim not be paid as the charges have not been explained or clarified and he will follow up before it is paid. Jim Ray made motion to accept checks #10216 to 10228, excluding #10225 totaling \$41,383.18, Deb Pawlowicz seconded. **5 YEAS. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**
5. REPORTS:
 - Clerk** – Elections have been certified and candidate finance reports are on our website. Complied with all deadlines for mailing/publications for Public Hearing on Road Improvement for Cook Lake Road. Mary Skafte/clerk provided report of moratorium costs as of Nov. 30, 2020: \$29,184.21. She stated at the 9/16/2020 Board Meeting that the Board decided that each supervisor contacting the outside attorney would send an accounting to the clerks so that costs can be tracked. This is not being done and she requested the Board comply. Walter Rapp also asked that on that accounting, the supervisor add what was discussed so the rest of the Board would remain informed.
 - Road Report** – There has been issues with township turnarounds: End of Birch Acres Road where the school bus and plows couldn't turn around, Jim Ray made a motion for the Board to allow the turnaround to be increased in size (landowner already gave permission), Clay Cich seconded. **5 YEAS. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.** North Sunset Ridge turnaround is 150ft before the actual end of the road, the township is obligated to fix it and the County will not back up plows to plow there. He has a call in MN Power to extend the right of way for making the turnaround larger. Jim Ray made a motion to complete the work necessary on the turnaround (if permission granted from MN Power), Clay Cich seconded. **5 YEAS. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**
 - Fire Department**- Members responded to 8 calls, calls included mutual aid, medical calls, a tree on a powerline, automatic fire alarm calls and a personal injury accident. Please make sure your fire numbers are visible in case of emergency. If you need an address number call: 218-726-2920 or contact St. Louis County 911 Communications Center at 2030 N. Arlington Ave., Duluth. Home fire fatalities increase during the winter, please be fire smart. A flyer on holiday safety was submitted and will appear in the township newsletter, please read, stay safe, wear your mask.
 - Cemetery** – closed
 - Parks & Rec** – Board requested that a porta-potty be ordered for the sliding hill by clerks. Electrician only got 1 light in the skating rink before his lift malfunctioned, he will complete when possible. Deb Pawlowicz asked that clerks look into DNR grants, as applications opened in November.
 - Community Center**- Clay Cich informed the Board that all CARES projects will be completed by Dec. 31, 2020, Clay Cich made a motion to authorized contractors to fix venting in roof, costs approximately \$2,000.00., Walter Rapp seconded. **5 YEAS. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.** Jim Ray checked the office outlets, and the circuits are okay for power bars.
 - Recycle Center** – Meeting on Dec. 10 with WLLSD. New outdoor light installed but no motion sensor yet. Things

are going good.

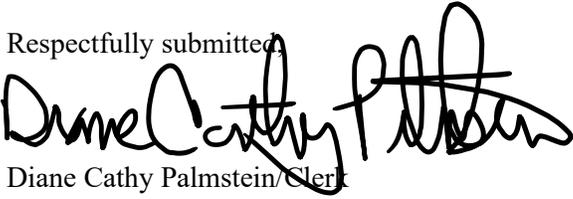
Preparedness Plan Update- Clerks informed the Board that our township plan needs to be updated with new improvements in the Community Center, Clay Cich will update.

Other Meetings - none

6. OPEN FORUM: Patty Monson-Geertz is opposed to paving project for East Cook Lake Road, cost is too high, stated there were other alternatives and asked the Board not to consider the project. Lynn Svercl wanted a copy of township financials from this meeting, clerks informed her where on website to find. Bruce Anderson submitted his application for the study committee late today, but clerks informed him it was included and in mailboxes of supervisors. Patty Wheeler continued to ask for respect and civility at meetings. Liz Blix asked the Board to review the Code of Conduct and Pledge of Civility, comply with and sign.
7. OLD BUSINESS:
 - a. East Cook Lake Road Paving Request/Public Hearing on Dec. 8, 2020 at 7pm: Board clarified that this is a Public Hearing for a Road Improvement project, not an assessment hearing. Deb Pawlowicz made motion to change the meeting to a zoom meeting and it will be posted on the web site/marque/posting boards, Jim Ray seconded. **5 YEAS. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**
 - b. Township Moratorium on Gravel Pits: no new information presented. Jim Ray stated he was disappointed in the lack of concern from St. Louis Cty, which influenced his decision to support the moratorium. He is concerned that the committee will present zoning language that would be restrictive enough to ban/prevent any new pits in our township. He has reviewed and researched information gathered on the Fish Lake Rd pit and respects the opinion of both sides. The end decision is to focus on zoning for pits in the entire township, explore the whole issue and its impact on Fredenberg, including already incurred costs, anticipated ones and enforcement. As a supervisor, he has to decide the Township's role regarding if he supports adopting any zoning. Clay Cich stated his intention is not to stop all gravel pits but protect our community. Deb Pawlowicz stated she is advocating for residents' concerns.
 - c. Study Committee Applications: Applications received through the office were reviewed by the Board, clerks provided 3 more that were received after the packets were sent today. Walter Rapp questioned if all members needed to be resident but felt it could be left up to the committee. Mary Skafte/clerk pointed out that an applicant pointed out that verbage in other uses should mean only extractive uses. Tim Wagner questioned if a supervisor should be on the committee when they will be voting and making the final decision. Deb Pawlowicz stated that the committee would like to request that they hire a tech to run the zoom meeting at a cost of \$20/hour and record them. Jim Ray made a motion to pay to have outside tech run the zoom meeting, Clay Cich seconded. Clay Cich – yea Deb Pawlowicz – yea Walter Rapp – nay Jim Ray – yea Tim Wagner – nay. **MOTION PASSED.**
8. NEW BUSINESS:
 - a. Town Hall Garden Club Request: Jody Watt/member informed the Board of \$261.97 spent for 2020 on the gardens at the Community Center. She wanted to recognize and thank: Lakehead Trucking and Greg Kaneski for their generous donations and Rice Lake Garden Center, Boyd, for his generous donations. Their plans are to improve the lower level beds and bench area next year and requested \$400 from the township in 2021. She will submit in writing a request to the Board.
 - b. Resolution 2020-017, Designation of Township Polling Place: Resolution was reviewed by the Board, Deb Pawlowicz made a motion to accept Resolution 2020-017 Designating a Township Polling Place, Clay Cich seconded. **5 YEAS. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**
 - c. Request for Liquor License Approval for Jason & Briana Manning, new owner of the Minno-Ette: new owners were present and introduced themselves. Clay Cich made a motion to approve liquor license for the Minno-Ette, Deb Pawlowicz seconded. **5 YEAS. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**
 - d. Rink Attendant Position: no one has been able to get in contact with previous rink attendant, the Board requested that the position be advertised in the newsletter and marque. Clay Cich made a motion to increase hourly pay to \$15/hour, Walter Rapp seconded. **5 YEAS. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**
10. OTHER MEETINGS: East Cook Lake Road Public Hearing on Tuesday, Dec. 8, 2020 at 7pm in the Fredenberg Town Hall via zoom, information will be posted on website and posting boards. Fredenberg Annual Budget Meeting, Wednesday, Dec. 16, 2020 at 7pm, Deb Pawlowicz made a motion to make the Budget meeting a zoom meeting, Clay Cich seconded. **5 YEAS. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

11. ADJOURNMENT: Clay Cich made a motion to adjourn meeting, Deb Pawlowicz seconded. **5 YEAS. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.** Meeting adjourned at 9:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Diane Cathy Palmstein/Clerk



Clay Cich/Board Chair

APPROVED