

**BOARD MEETING
Town of Fredenberg
ST. LOUIS COUNTY, MN**

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS
August 2021**

**TIME & PLACE: 7:00 pm
Town Hall and via Zoom**

The monthly meeting was CALLED TO ORDER at 7:09 pm by Chair Jim Ray. Also present were Supervisors: Clay Cich, Deb Pawlowicz, Walter Rapp, and Tim Wagner. Monica Bruning, Clerk & Pam Blekestad, Treasurer were present. 15 attended the meeting held initially in the Pavilion and 8 attended via Zoom. Because the Pavilion/hot spot internet connection was unstable for Zoom, the meeting was moved indoors. The Board recited the Pledge of the Allegiance.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: **Corrections: CTAS error amount; Spelling Skogvei Road and note work will be done; Nelson to Anderson; Lakehead Trucking violations were discussed; Substitute Deb for Jim RE Hazardous Waste Day and add Auto Salvage to Chesney notation; Miller Lane mowing clarification; Jim moved to approve minutes with changes. Tim seconded with proposed changes. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**
 2. TREASURER'S REPORT: as of 7/13/ 2021, checking account has not reconciled yet due to a CTAS error of \$12,66.17. Checking account balance is \$352,886.76. Total funds are \$555,804.23, which includes 4 CDs totaling \$202,917.51. Pam reported that she updated contact/signing authority for National Bank of Commerce accounts. Monica and Pam registered for signing authority. Walter made a motion to accept Treasury Report, Clay seconded. **5 YEAS. MOTION PASSED.**
 3. CORRESPONDENCE: 25 total: 1 mail and 24 e-mails were received and reviewed by the Board. Deb questioned the email from attorney Steve Overum. Clerk will watch for charges on billing.
 4. REVIEW OF BILLS: Jim made motion to accept claims #10440 to #10451, totaling \$29,281.91 Lakehead Trucking billing included error. Reduce invoiced amount by \$50. Walter moved to approve with change. Clay seconded. **5 YEAS MOTION PASSED.**
 5. REPORTS:
 - Clerk** – Monica presented new Best Practice guidance from MAT regarding number of signatures. After discussion current procedure will remain (3 signatures on checks). Advisement on monitor, hard drive, and printer discarding. Twp will have a drawing for the monitor and printer. Hard drive will be wiped clean and destroyed. \$150,000 ARPA funds are available to Township. Supplemental pay up to \$13/hour is available for research, application, processing, and accounting. Clay will lead application process.
 - Road Report** – Chloride on roads is done. Residents have complained about excessive speed on paved and unpaved roads. SLC discouraged signage of “Children at Play.” Jim will explore self-contained radar for purchase. E Cook Road solution for challenges (e.g. wash boarding) are sought.
 - Fire Department** – During July, members responded to 13 calls including: 1 Fire; 7 Medical; 1 Mutual Aid–Medical and Fire; 1 Rescue; 1 Motor Vehicle Accident with injuries; 1 Public Assist. Nine members are participating in the 40-hour Emergency Medical Responder class. Members also trained on various equipment and procedures. The Fire Department still has room for more members. Stop by the fire hall on Thursday evenings at 7 pm to find out more.
 - Cemetery** – Resurfacing is expected to be done soon.
 - Parks & Rec** – Pickleball/tennis fencing will be finished next month. Classes are anticipated!
 - Community Center** – New custodian Jenn Nelson. The lock on the front door has been fixed. New vacuums have been purchased. HVAC finish work was completed including a door stopper. Jim will follow-up with electrician to finish work. Batteries for clocks will be replaced. Locked storage for events supplies in the building is needed.
 - Recycle Center** – Melissa Bell has been hired to fill in when needed. Dumpster locks have been replaced.
 - Preparedness Plan Update** – No updates.
 - Other Meetings** – None.
- OPEN FORUM: Patty Wheeler reported on an abundance of ‘burn outs’ on township roads and garbage in the ditches. She thanked Deb for coordinating Neighborhood Night Out – great for our community. Patty voiced concerns about Commissioner Nelson communications and lack thereof. A report is expected next month. Melissa Bell voiced appreciation for Neighborhood Night Out. Melissa requested more protection for the Twp on behalf of the Board of Supervisors (e.g. RE extractive gravel pits). Bruce Anderson voiced gravel pit concerns and reread Exhibit 7 from June 2021 Open Forum; requested more advocacy from supervisors RE gravel pits and possibly taking back zoning responsibilities; more transparency was requested.
- OLD BUSINESS:

- a. FCC – Room 2 ready for use and looks great. Thank you to Vesel Construction.
- b. Playground equipment – Costs started at \$14K but are up to \$28K across vendors now. Clay requests authorization for \$28K for new playground equipment before an 8% increase is added effective September 2021. Deb moved and Jim seconded that Clay have a ceiling of \$28K to order playground equipment. **5 YEAS. MOTION PASSED.**
- c. American Rescue Plan Act – Clay will take lead on completing the application. Jim made a motion to apply for ARPA funding and necessary work involved to apply. Clay seconded. **5 YEAS. MOTION PASSED.**

NEW BUSINESS

- a. Jim made a Motion to advertise for township snowplowing. Clay seconded. **5 YEAS. MOTION PASSED.**
- b. Clay moved to complete SLC permit for Car Show at Eagle's Nest on August 24, 2021. Deb seconded. **5 YEAS. MOTION PASSED.**
- c. Request granted to advertise for recessed Annual Township Meeting on August 24 in DNT and website. **5 YEAS. MOTION PASSED.**
- d. Civility Project and conflict resolution training was revisited resulting in a recommendation for no training at this time but encouraging each supervisor and community members to reflect personally on how to improve civility around township business. Further discussion is tabled for a later date, if needed.
- e. Clay recommended research be done on short term vacation rental homes in the area and what problems have been. Clay will follow-up.
- f. Neighborhood Night Out was well-attended. All extra work was greatly appreciated. Deb will send thank yous. Deb received a round of applause for time and effort put into the event. \$2175.29 was spent on the event.
- g. Newsletter Appreciation/Sightings section recognizing good will efforts among our citizenry will be added to the monthly newsletter. Please send siting entries/notes of appreciation to fredenbergtpw@gmail.com
- h. The Community Gardeners are requesting more land for vegetable gardens. A request was made to better understand needs. A newsletter article could run in the September.
- i. Brainstorming the light at the dam transpired and tabled for more discussion.
- j. Readvertise road mowing as no bids came in -- Newsletter and DNT.

No second meeting in August.

ADJOURNMENT: Chair Jim made a motion to adjourn meeting, Walter seconded. **5 YEAS. MOTION PASSED.**
Meeting adjourned at 9:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Monica Bruning/Clerk



Jim Ray/Board Chair