

The regular Board meeting of the Town of Fredenberg, Minnesota, St. Louis County was held in the Fredenberg Town Hall on Wednesday, December 1, 2021, at 7:00 PM.

**Board members present:** Chair Jim Ray, Supervisors Clay Cich, Deb Pawlowicz (Zoom), Walter Rapp, and Tim Wagner. Also, Treasurer Pam Blekestad and Clerk Ellen Hanson.

**Others in Attendance:** There were 12 others in attendance and 4 via Zoom.

This meeting was held in-person with a ZOOM connection.

1. **Call to order the Regular meeting at 7:00 PM:** The meeting was called to order by Chair Ray at 7:00 PM.
2. **Pledge of allegiance:** All present stood and cited the pledge of allegiance.
3. **Approval of the Minutes**
  - Regular meeting of November 3, 2021: There was a motion by Chair Ray to accept the November 3, 2021, Board of Supervisors meeting minutes as presented and seconded by Supervisor Cich. Roll call vote, all in favor. This motion carried unanimously.
4. **Treasurers Report – Pam Blekestad**
  - Blekestad reported the bank statement ends as of 11/16/2021. She reports the checking account is reconciled. Checking account balance is \$289,647.55. Total funds are \$490,248.30, which includes 4 Certificates of deposit (CDs) totaling \$202,917.51. The Treasurer received an email from National Bank of Commerce (NBC) asking Fredenberg to bank with them since the CDs are held there. Blekestad plans to meet with them. There was a motion by Supervisor Rapp to approve the treasurers report and seconded by Supervisor Cich. Roll call vote, all in favor. This motion carried unanimously.
5. **Correspondence**
  - The correspondence was read by Chair Ray. There were 16 total received: 1 mail and 15 e-mails. The Board had a discussion on the American Rescue Plan (ARP) funds.
6. **Review of Bills**
  - The Board reviewed the claims list. The Janitor had not submitted her timesheet in a timely manner and therefore was not paid this month. There was motion by Chair Ray and seconded by Supervisor Rapp to pay claims 10578-10586 for a total of \$13,608.20. Roll call vote, all in favor. This motion carried unanimously.
7. **Reports**
  - a. Clerks report for November 2021:
    - The new clerk was given a warm welcome.
  - b. Roads report for November 2021:
    - Chair Ray reported that Stevens Road was the big project for the year. The total cost was \$9,100. People are dumping unwanted items on the intersection of Fredenberg Lake Road and Fish Lake roads. He will order a sign. Supervisor Rapp had picked up the junk and put it in the dumpster.
  - c. Fire Department report for November 2021:
    - There were seven medical calls in November.
  - d. Cemetery report for November 2021:
    - There was nothing new to report.
  - e. Parks and Recreation report for November 2021:
    - The new rink attendant will make an appointment with the Clerk for employment paperwork.
    - The Board had a discussion on the budget and American Rescue Plan funding and also, lighting for outside buildings.

- Other Meetings: There were no new reports.
- f. Community Center & Pavilion report for November 2021:
  - Supervisor Cich reported there was a request to use the upstairs of the town hall including the classrooms for Santa day. The requested was granted by the Board.
  - Chair Ray reported the grills are ready to go. He also replaced all the light bulbs have been replaced with LED lights. There are a few ballasts to be replaced. Supervisor Cich will donate.
  - The pavilion has an enclosure that was located and now is labeled.
- g. Recycling report for November 2021:
  - Supervisor Pawlowicz reported everything is running smoothly. A new fixture had been installed.
- h. Preparedness Plan Update for November 2021:
  - There was nothing new to report.
- i. Other Meetings for November 2021:
  - There were no other meetings in November.

**8. Open Forum**

- Diane Palmstein suggested an electronic marquee replace the current posting board in front of the town hall and use the ARP funds to purchase it. Supervisor Cich will investigate. Dam lighting: Lights at boat launches.
- Patty Wheeler talked about lights at boat launches or the lack of them, and she had a safety and public health concern for people using the launches. She asked the Board members who commented on nuisance and environmental concerns why they did not comment on the health and safety concerns with the lights at the launches. Wheeler compared this issue to the gravel pit issue. The Board had no comment.

**9. Old Business:**

- a. Dam Lighting: Supervisor Pawlowicz continues to research this issue. Chair Ray researched solar lighting with motion detection. There is a need for more research on this subject. It will be left on the agenda under old business. There was a discussion about talking with Minnesota Power to finance this project.
- b. Welcome Signs into Fredenberg Road entrance: Supervisor Cich continues to work on this project with the County.
- c. Conditional Use Permit (CUP) Lee Older Construction: Older gave an update on the application. The application /meeting had been postponed with the County because the application had some misinformation on it. There will be a second letter from the County and at that time the town will review it. Chair Ray suggested when the revised application is submitted then the applicant should return and talk to the Board.

**10. New Business**

- a. Conditional Use Permit (CUP) for 5936 Beaver River Road: The CUP is for a wedding venue/event center as a public/semi-public use. Chair Ray felt it was a reasonable use of the property. Supervisor Cich asked about a sign attached to the road sign. The response was that the sign is a historic sign. Kathryn Pearson gave a presentation about the property and business. They would like to expand their business by offering a wedding venue/event center on their farm. Supervisor Rapp supports the CUP, Supervisor Wagner supports the CUP. Supervisor Pawlowicz had a question about sewage. The response was they will use portable toilets.
- b. Road budget: Chair Ray proposed \$3,500 per mile for 5.2 mile equals \$16,500 that will fit into the budget that will be added to the \$50,000 already in the reserve fund that will help with maintaining and upkeep with paved roads. Further discussion at the budget meeting. There was a motion by Chair Ray designating \$17,000 for future paved roads, repair, replacement, and maintenance fund

- to be transferred out of the Road fund and seconded by Supervisor Cich. Roll call vote, all in favor. This motion carried unanimously.
- c. Portable toilets for sliding hill: Chair Ray will take responsibility for it.
  - d. Second Meeting of Month, December 15, 2021: It was Board consensus to have the second meeting of the month on December 15, 2021.

**11. Adjourn**

- a. There was a motion by Chair Ray to adjourn meeting at 8:41 PM and seconded Supervisor Wagner. All in favor. This motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Ellen Hanson  
Clerk



James Ray  
Board Chair

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