

The regular Board meeting of the Town of Fredenberg, Minnesota, St. Louis County was held in the Fredenberg Town Hall on Wednesday, May 15, 2024, at 7:00 PM.

- 1. Board members present:** Chair Tim Wagner, Vice Chair Deb Pawlowicz, Supervisor Jeff Blix, Supervisor Walter Rapp, Clerk Ellen Hanson, and Deputy Clerk Kim Wagner and Treasurer Chelsey Mahr. Absent: Supervisor Clay Cich.
- 2. Others in Attendance:** There were 7 others in attendance.
- 3. Call to order the Regular meeting:** The meeting was called to order by Chair Wagner at 7:00 PM.
- 4. Pledge of allegiance:** All present stood and cited the pledge of allegiance.
- 5. Approval of the Agenda:** There was a motion by Supervisor Blix to approve the agenda and seconded by Chair Wagner. There was a roll call vote and all signified affirmatives. This motion was carried unanimously.
- 6. Open Forum**
  - Randy Doucher asked permission to use the TV and audio system in the community center hall during his rental. The Board granted permission to use the equipment.
  - Jeff Monsaas reported the LRIP grant application was denied.
- 7. Approval of the Minutes**
  - Regular meeting of April 3, 2024: There was a motion by Supervisor Blix to approve the April 3, 2024, Board of Supervisors meeting minutes as amended and seconded by Supervisor Pawlowicz. There was a roll call vote and all signified affirmatives. This motion was carried unanimously. Amendments: change inquiry to inquire.
- 8. Financial Reports**
  - Treasurer Mahr stated she is balanced with the bank and presented the cash control report and the Schedule 1 report which has the investment totals. There was a motion by Supervisor Pawlowicz to approve the treasurer's report and seconded by Supervisor Blix. There was a roll call vote and all signified affirmatives. This motion was carried unanimously. The April 30, 2024, the ending balance in the checking account was \$216,247.99 and the outstanding checks total \$3,895.53.
  - Treasurer Mahr noted the CD was transferred to a special for 12 months at 4.65% plus the savings account was transferred in to it.
- 9. Clerks Report – Ellen Hanson**
  - Clerk Hanson presented the Cash balance statement for Board review. She is balanced with the bank. The cash balance ending balance is \$212,250.53.
  - The Board reviewed the claims list. There was a motion by Supervisor Blix to accept claims 10831-10844 for a total of \$27,677.10 and claim 10830 total of \$1,189.90 and seconded by Supervisor Rapp. There was a roll call vote and all signified affirmatives. This motion was carried unanimously.
  - Hanson stated she had submitted the Presidential Primary (PNP) report for reimbursement. The town will be reimbursed about \$2,500 for expenses spent on the election.
  - ARPA reporting: Hanson submitted the annual ARPA reports.
  - The Joint Powers agreement and Court Data Services have been executed. We are waiting for the FBI to assign a number for the township.
  - There is a draft contract from Overom/Johnson to increase their rates. The current rate is \$90/hour, and they want to increase it to \$150/hour. There was a motion by Supervisor Rapp to accept the contract with Overom/Johnson at \$150/hour and seconded by Supervisor Blix. There was a roll call vote and all signified affirmatives. This motion was carried unanimously.

## **10. Correspondence**

11. Clerk Hanson read the correspondence. There were 3 mail and 19 emails during the month.

## **12. Reports**

- Fredenberg Law Enforcement statistics:
  - Deputy Sheriff Sergeant Nick Voltzke presented the April 2024 statistics. There were 31 incidents in the township.
- Roads/Bridges report for April 2024:
  - Supervisor Blix reported the roads are in good shape.
  - He had an email from a resident that has Japanese Knotweed on their property. He asked several businesses for a quote to remove the knotweed. There was only one business that responded with a quote of \$13,920. Since the quote amount was high, there was a Board decision to look into getting more quotes and reporting back next month.
  - Calcium chloride for roads: Supervisor Blix estimated the cost for chloride would be around \$22,000.00 for Fredenberg roads. He will place the order early due to the manufacturer not having product available last year.
- Fire Department report for April 2024:
  - Chief Bergstrand reported there were 10 calls in April.
  - Fire wise training is forthcoming.
  - Electrical training with Minnesota Power.
  - Wildfire training burning with DNR.
  - Annual fit testing.
  - There were 276 attendees at the annual pancake breakfast.
  - At the strategic planning meeting they discussed applying for a DNR 50/50 grant and if it was approved, they would replace or add about 100 911 signs and be reimbursed for their time. The application deadline is June 30.
  - Community evacuation plan: They are working on the development of personal/pets' evacuations.
  - They are working with another entity where there would be a site for woody debris disposal.
- Cemetery report for April 2024
  - Supervisor Rapp reported the cemetery has been cleaned up and open for business.
- d. Parks and Recreation and Pavilion for April 2024:
  - Supervisor Rapp reported the updates/repairs to the baseball field are complete.
  - The skating rink boards and posts were removed by Supervisor Rapp and volunteers.
- Community Center report for April 2024
  - Chair Wagner placed a sign near the baseball field for people/organizations to notify others of usage dates/time. The field cannot be permanently reserved.
  - Supervisor Rapp reported the outside building work will consist of putting in a steel beam with concrete, take out the front step, new concrete and asphalt over the areas where it was taken out.
  - Clerk Hanson stated there was 1 rental in March and 4 events.
  - Supervisor Rapp presented an estimate from Bingaman Electrical Specialties for \$1,983 to repair the light fixtures in the board room, install thermostat in women's washroom, and clean up wiring for zone valve for the outdoor rink. There was a motion by Chair Wagner to accept the Bingaman estimate and send a check for the 60% (\$1,189.80) as soon as possible and seconded by Superior Blix. There was a roll call vote and all signified affirmatives. This motion was carried unanimously.

- Recycling report for March 2024:
  - Supervisor Pawlowicz reported the Recycling Center is operating well. There is a new employee for the recycling center.
  - Fran Williams passed away recently. She was a longtime resident and an election judge for Fredenberg.
  - Neighborhood Night Out (NNO) items are being placed on reserve in advance. The vendors will then bill the township.
  - Supervisor Pawlowicz was approached by the owner of a cookie business who wanted to set up a booth during NNO. The Board felt it was not appropriate to have a booth where people had to pay for products and other vendor items are gratis.
- Hanson attended the DAT meeting.

**13. Old Business:**

- No old business to discuss.

**14. New Business:**

- a. Resolution 2024-03: Resolution to Restore Local Powers to the town. There was a motion by Supervisor Pawlowicz to accept Resolution 2024-03 and seconded by Supervisor Blix. There was a roll call vote and all signified affirmatives. This motion was carried unanimously.
- b. Resolution 2024-04: Resolution Establishing West Island Lake Road as a Town Road. There was a motion by Supervisor Blix to accept Resolution 2024-04 and seconded by Chair Wagner. There was a roll call vote and all signified affirmatives. This motion was carried unanimously.
- c. Resolution 2024-05: Resolution Accepting Application for Dedication of West Island Lake Road as a Town Road. There was a motion by Supervisor Blix to accept Resolution 2024-04 and seconded by Chair Wagner. There was a roll call vote and all signified affirmatives. This motion was carried unanimously.
- d. Public use of town property:
  - Pavilion, tennis/pickleball courts and baseball field: No rental for any outdoor use of these areas. They are used on a first come basis.
  - Television, microphone, & speakers: There was a discussion about a possible higher damage deposit fee for use of the equipment. Clerk Hanson will work on revising the current rental agreement and present it for approval at a later meeting.

**15. Adjourn**

- There was a motion by Chair Wagner to adjourn the meeting at 8:08 PM and seconded by Supervisor Blix. There was a roll call vote and all signified affirmatives. This motion was carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen Hanson, Clerk  
Kim Wagner, Deputy Clerk

Tim Wagner  
Board Chair