

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

- 1. Board members present:** Chair Tim Wagner, Vice Chair Deb Pawlowicz, Supervisor Jeff Blix, Supervisor Clay Cich, Supervisor Walter Rapp, Clerk Ellen Hanson, Deputy Clerk Kim Wagner and Treasurer Chelsey Mahr.
- 2. Others in Attendance:** There were 11 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 Supervisor Cich. There was a roll call vote and all signified affirmatives. This motion was carried unanimously.
- 6. Open Forum**
  - Joan Sutliff addressed the Fair Campaign Practices Act (FCPA) and the July newsletter ad. She asked the Board and Clerk to follow the FCPA in the town's newsletter and asked the Board to address these issues and publish an apology.
  - Carla Stevenson asked who removes political signs on township property and stated there was a sign on town property for some time. Supervisor Rapp replied he monitors the property when possible. Ms. Stevenson also stated she was disappointed to see a political ad in the newsletter without the acknowledgement of who submitted and paid for it.
- 7. Approval of the Minutes**
  - Regular meeting of July 3, 2024: There was a motion by Supervisor Blix to approve the July 3, 2024, Board of Supervisors meeting minutes as presented and seconded by Supervisor Cich. There was a roll call vote and all signified affirmatives. This motion was carried unanimously.
- 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 Chair Wagner to approve the treasurer's report and seconded by Supervisor Pawlowicz. There was a roll call vote and all signified affirmatives. This motion was carried unanimously. The July 31, 2024 ending balance in the checking account was \$310,623.85 and the outstanding checks total was \$655.68.
- 9. Clerks Report – Ellen Hanson**
  - The first half of property taxes were deposited today into the checking account. The amount is \$221,427.26.
  - Clerk Hanson presented the cash balance statement for Board review. She is balanced with the bank. The cash balance ending balance is \$309,964.21.
  - The Board reviewed the claims list. There was a motion by Supervisor Rapp to accept claims 10870-10885 for a total of \$63,780.71 and seconded by Supervisor Blix. There was a roll call vote and all signified affirmatives. This motion was carried unanimously.
- 10. Correspondence**
  - Clerk Hanson read the correspondence. There were 1 mail and 9 emails during the month.
- 11. Reports 2024 for July**
  - a. Fredenberg Law Enforcement statistics
    - Deputy Sheriff Sergeant Nick Voltzke reported the July 2024 statistics. There were 42 incidents in the township.
  - b. Roads/Bridges report
    - Supervisor Blix reported the roads are in good condition.
    - He has been looking for down trees and marking the trees that need to be cut down.

- Supervisor Blix stated there was a complaint from a resident on E Hunter Lake Road about the crown on the road and the application of calcium chloride. When he spoke with Greg from Lakehead Trucking about these two items Greg took more off the crown and had more chloride applied on the road at his own cost. The Board thanked him for his contributions.
- c. Fire Department report
  - Chief Bergstrand reported there were 12 total calls in July. There were 7 medical calls and 5 fire calls including 3 lines own. They also stood by the fire hall during the 911 outage on July 19<sup>th</sup>.
  - The rescue truck was repaired and is back in service.
- d. Cemetery report
  - Supervisor Rapp reported there were two burials in July.
- e. Parks and Recreation and Pavilion
  - Supervisor Pawlowicz reported Neighborhood Night Out (NNO) was a huge success with many attendees. It was the first waste free night. Plates, napkins, and utensils were all recyclable with little waste.
  - It was noticed at NNO the outdoor grill, when in use, may be a safety hazard for children when they are playing near it. Supervisor Pawlowicz asked if a temporary fence/guard be placed three feet around the hot area. Supervisor Rapp volunteered to build and install one.
- f. Community Center report
  - Supervisor Cich stated it appears there was damage to the carpet in the community room. It was decided to ask the janitor to cut out the snags.
- g. Recycling report
  - Supervisor Pawlowicz reported the Recycling Center is operating well. There has been issues with people dumping dirty recyclables and not listening to the attendant. There was a suggestion to set up an “example/sample” station for people to review what can and cannot be recycled.

## **12. Other Monthly meetings**

- Clerk Hanson and Deputy Clerk Wagner had a virtual meeting with the County to go over the poll pads procedures.

## **13. Old Business**

- Township roadside/ditch mowing quotes: Hanson reported there was one quote received and that was from Rodda. The amount is \$4,100. There was a motion by Supervisor Rapp to approve the quote for \$4,100 and seconded by Supervisor Blix. There was a roll call vote and all signified affirmatives. This motion was carried unanimously.

## **14. New Business**

- Newsletter policy: Clerk Hanson first apologized to the Board and then to the public that she had accepted the political ad and printed it in the July newsletter. She stated she takes full responsibility and the Board did not have anything to do with it. Next, she explained there were several complaints about this ad that it was political and did not include who paid for it. Then she consulted with the attorneys and it was recommended there be a newsletter policy not to accept political ads and to let it be known who placed this particular ad. Also, to print a retraction/clarification in the next newsletter. There was a motion by Supervisor Blix to publish a retraction/clarification in the next newsletter and not to accept or publish any political ads effective immediately except for the submission to respond to this ad and seconded by Supervisor Cich. There was a roll call vote and all signified affirmatives. This motion was carried unanimously.
- Old Fire Hall: Supervisor Rapp wanted an informal poll of the individual Board members about their opinions to continue to rent the old fire hall, to sell it, or raise the rent. The consensus was to keep the building.

- Town property parking lot: Supervisor Rapp talked about vehicles parking in the town's parking lot during the day and overnight with for sale signs on them. There was a motion by Supervisor Rapp to purchase two "no overnight parking" signs and seconded by Supervisor Cich. There was a roll call vote and all signified affirmatives. This motion was carried unanimously.
- Second monthly Board meeting is August 21, 2024: There was a motion by Supervisor Blix not to have a second meeting and seconded by Supervisor Cich. There was a roll call vote and all signified affirmatives. This motion was carried unanimously.

**15. Adjourn**

- There was a motion by Supervisor Blix to adjourn the meeting at 8:12 PM and seconded by Supervisor Cich. 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

DRAFT