

**OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPT OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE GRANT VALLEY
TOWN BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING OF THURSDAY
AUGUST 8, 2019 AT THE GRANT VALLEY TOWN HALL.**

The Grant Valley Town Board of Supervisors met for their regularly scheduled monthly business meeting on Thursday, August 8, 2019, at the Grant Valley Town Hall.

Board members present were Chairman Hiltz, Supervisor Shanahan, Treasurer Saiger, and Deputy Clerk Eckman. There were no visitors present.

Chairman Hiltz called the meeting to order with the pledge to the flag at 7:00 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion to approve the July 13, 2019 meeting minutes as submitted, was offered by Hiltz, seconded by Shanahan and approved on voice call vote.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Saiger reported the following fund balances: General: \$139,487.16; Road & Bridge: \$704,193.84, and Fire Fund \$44,304.10. She also reported there were 2 outstanding checks totaling \$184.70. Total Ending Fund Balance is \$888,205.80. Supervisor Shanahan offered a motion to accept the report, subject to audit. Chairman Hiltz seconded the motion which was carried by unanimous roll call vote.

PAYMENT OF BILLS

The bills were reviewed and discussed, after which a motion to pay the bills as presented was offered by Hiltz, seconded by Shanahan, and approved by unanimous roll call vote.

Discussion was held regarding the method that should be in place should the need to handle last minute payments arise. It was agreed to check with the former treasurer so that a policy could be in place if such a need arises..

NEW BUSINESS

Town Hall Vandalism

Chairman Hiltz reported on the recent instances of vandalism to the town hall, including prior broken windows, and now an additional broken window, one electrical meter vandalized and one missing. He reported these instances to the Beltrami County Sheriff and to Beltrami Electric. The meters were repaired and replaced, with Beltrami Electric reporting their system will monitor any new meters being installed within their jurisdiction and the date they are installed and in use.

After some discussion, a motion was offered by Hiltz to continue monitoring existing cameras, however if additional vandalism occurs with no images being realized or identified, authorization be given to proceed with the purchase of an appropriate cell phone App for use by a Board member, up to \$1,000 in cost. The motion was seconded by Shanahan and approved by unanimous roll call vote.

Roadside Mowing

Chairman Hiltz reported he will be contacting Josh Weise regarding the need to begin roadside mowing.

Jade Drive Road Hearing

Chairman Hiltz reported on the Road Hearing of Jade Drive, held prior to this meeting. Because several issues were identified for correction, it was determined to continue said Road hearing to September 12, 2019, at 6:00 p.m. at the entrance of Jade Drive.

Road cracks sealing

Chairman Hiltz reported that he has submitted a list of all roads needing crack filling, to Astec Co. and is waiting for their response as to when said work can begin. He further reported that he has been in contact with firms regarding the need for yellow striping to be done on most existing blacktopped roads, however as of this date, no one has been available.

Roadside Brushing

Chairman Hiltz reported that the needed brushing along the right away in Johnsville Addition has been completed. Brushing along Miller and Stone Lake Roads should be completed soon.

West end of Bootleg Road Work

Chairman Hiltz reported that Gopher One has been called requesting the locating of all underground lines and wires, and that all planned work should be completed within the next two weeks.

Pine Valley Mobile Home Park

Discussion was held relating to ongoing issues occurring at this park and the prior history of issues, regulations violations and the Beltrami County and MN State Dept of Health ordinances in place governing mobile home parks. After Board correspondence was sent to the County Environmental Services Officer Brett Rud, correspondence was received from the Beltrami County Administrator indicated no violations as the County has no existing ordinance pertaining to mobile home parks. Because the Board has much history of issues with this park, and recalling MN Dept of health involvement, a motion was offered by Hiltz to have Supervisor Shanahan contact the MN Dept to Health to discover if such ordinances are still in effect. Motion was seconded by Shanahan and unanimously carried by voice call vote.

Stowbridge Sign for Town Hall

Chairman Hiltz stated that the town hall replacement sign is being addressed. Eckman reported that she had spoken with Jack Stowbridge as to the status of the sign and he expressed his appreciation for their efforts.

Whisperwood Court Additional Driveways

Chairman Hiltz reported that correspondence had been sent to the owner of address 276 in Whisperwood Court, relating to the township requirement of only one driveway per parcel is allowed. Owners of Addresses 452 and 841 in Whisperwood each have two parcels.

Schroeder Road Vacant Buildings, and Calcium Chloride

Chairman Hiltz reported that several buildings and old vacant mobile homes, noted on the recent road tour, and owned by John Conkle, have now been removed.

He also reported that calcium chloride was placed on Schroeder Road last year because of the impact of the increased traffic caused by the detour and construction of the new elementary school, however it will not be used this season.

NEW BUSINESS

Roundabouts and Standing Water on Division Street

Discussion was held on the mutual concerns relating to the tall grasses at the newly designed and placement of Roundabouts which prevent good visual when entering these areas via automobile. The topic of the continuing standing water now created by the newly designed Division Street Construction project was also discussed. Standing water continues to be present in areas that had no prior history which the Board feels is caused by the construction and not recent rainfall. A motion was offered by Shanahan, seconded by Hiltz, and carried, to send a letter to the Beltrami County Highway Dept., noting our concerns relating to the need for mowing of the tall grasses and also of our concerns relating to the standing water, especially with the history of past Grant Valley Township's flooding of homes due to high water tables.

Chairman Hiltz will also contact the City of Bemidji relating to the need to the mowing of the roundabout on Division street that is under their jurisdiction.

Reports

Washout of Fern Lake

Chairman Hiltz reported a washout is on the roadway on the West side of Fern Lake, which is being addressed.

Vagrants Reported

Supervisor Shanahan reported she had received a call indicating that vagrants have been living in empty buildings at the West end of 15th Street.

Beltrami Rural Animal Control Meeting (BRACO)

Supervisor Shanahan reported on the meeting of the Beltrami Rural Animal Control representatives she and Chairman Hiltz attended, and specifically addressed the Report compiled by the Animal Control Officer.

She spoke about concerns she has that there has not been any citations issued since January 2017, in spite of the records of 121 animal related calls, of which 21 were from Grant Valley. Most concerning was a Dangerous Dog complaint was filed on April 16th yet no citation was issued or has yet been filed. She feels there is an issue of the Animal Control Officer not issuing citations. If someone is injured, and goes to court, that person has no proof or record of the matter due to no citation being issued.

She further reported that she intends to compile a list verifying existing issues yet no citations, to bring to the attention of the BRACO Board.

Supervisor Shanahan also reported that BRACO Member Bemidji Township has refused to pay a \$350 fee, and that they are recommending that a certain dollar amount be set aside by each BRACO member, which would be used solely for the payment of fees incurred by the Animal Clinic related to the housing of bound or unclaimed animals.

Animal Control Additional Fee

A motion was offered by Hiltz, seconded by Shanahan and duly carried on voice call vote, authorizing a \$100 annual fee be paid to the Beltrami Rural Animal Control Organization, solely for this purpose.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business or discussion coming before the Board, a motion to adjourn was offered by Chairman Hiltz, seconded by Supervisor Shanahan and duly carried and the Board meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Marlys Eckman, Deputy Clerk