

OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPT OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE GRANT VALLEY TOWN BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING OF THURSDAY, JANUARY 13, 2022.

The Grant Valley Town Board of Supervisors met for their regularly scheduled monthly business meeting on Thursday January 13, 2022, at the Grant Valley Town Hall.

Board Members present were Chairman Russ Hiltz, Supervisor Eckman, Supervisor Bob Hiltz and Treasurer Slough.

Chairman Hiltz welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order with the pledge to the flag at 7:00 pm. Guests present were Kayley Stevens and Keith Christiansen and Mike Strodtman.

Supervisor Eckman made a motion to appoint Kayley Stevens as a Deputy Clerk. Supervisor Hiltz seconded motion and it carried on unanimous voice call vote.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Supervisor Hiltz made a motion to approve the December 9, 2021, Regular Minutes seconded by Supervisor Eckman and carried on unanimous voice call vote.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Treasurer Slough reported fund balances as General \$131,288.26, Road and Bridge \$861,277.25, Fire Fund \$54,160.40 with outstanding items of \$39,928.50 for a total cash on hand balance of \$1,086,674.41. Supervisor Eckman made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report subject to audit. Supervisor Hiltz seconded motion and it carried on unanimous roll call vote.

PAYMENT OF BILLS:

The bills were reviewed and discussed. Supervisor Hiltz made a motion to pay the bills as presented. Supervisor Eckman seconded motion and it carried on unanimous roll call vote.

NEW BUSINESS:

Supervisor Eckman made a motion to appoint Evelyn Johnson, Joan Miller, Shirley Moe, Marlys Eckman and Clerk Schmidt to serve as election judges for the March election. Supervisor Hiltz seconded motion and it carried on unanimous voice call vote.

Mike Strodtman was present. He bought twenty-two acres from Paul Hoffman. No roads or road names yet. His goal is to create five lots. He has shown Beltrami County his pre-lot plan and they have no issues with it. The county needs a letter from the township indicating we have no issues either. Supervisor Eckman brought up the high-water issues in the past. The board would recommend no basements but technically cannot regulate that. Mike was planning slab on grade if he builds and develops not just sells the lots. Keith Christiansen brought up that each driveway would need a culvert and Chairman Hiltz indicated the culverts need to be 10" with a max length of 24'. Chairman Hiltz made a motion to send Beltrami County a letter indicating the township has no problem with the proposed plat. Supervisor Eckman seconded motion and it carried on unanimous voice call vote. Send a copy to Mike Strodtman and Brent Rude.

Supervisor Eckman made a motion to set the Board of Audit for Thursday February 10, 2022, at 6:30 p.m. at the town hall. Supervisor Hiltz seconded motion and it carried on unanimous voice call vote. Discussion held.

Dick Anderson from Beltrami County contacted Supervisor Eckman regarding appointing the county treasurer instead of electing. There is new legislation that will allow this if the person is a resident of the county and 21 years or older. The county board is having a meeting on Tuesday and is requesting the town board's input. Supervisor Hiltz made a motion to allow Supervisor Eckman to get back to Mr. Anderson and indicate the consensus is that the township would like to see the county treasurer appointed instead of elected. Supervisor Eckman seconded motion and it carried on unanimous voice call vote.

OLD BUSINESS:

Four new tables were approved to purchase, and Keith Christiansen is looking for those.

ARPE funds legislation passed to allow funds to be used for roads, etc. All the funds are in the general fund right now and Chairman Hiltz indicated that we should just leave those funds where they are at the present time. When he attends the January 28th Fire Association meeting, he will find out more what the money can be used for.

Countryside – 33’ road, no easement on driveway. Supervisor Eckman and Keith Christiansen investigated, said the county recorder was helpful. 16-1/2 feet from the center, cartway road. Keith Christiansen would like to cut trees. Follow up and bring to next meeting. Discussion held on if state school tax forfeit land, maintain the road for 7 years, etc. Supervisor Hiltz made a motion to hire Murray Surveying to find the road right of way on both sides. Supervisor Eckman seconded motion and it carried on unanimous voice call vote.

Quotes received for new heating system in town hall. Naylor Heating - \$18,475.00 which is furnace, A/C, purification. Higgins Heating - \$9,171.00 which is furnace, duct, propane, gas line, purification, Wi-Fi thermostat – no A/C. Great North - \$11,721.00 which is furnace, A/C, and air purification. Supervisor Eckman made a motion to accept Great North’s quote. Supervisor Hiltz seconded motion and it carried on unanimous roll call vote.

Supervisor Ekman made a motion to hire Lake Country Electric to take care of the electrical needs for the new furnace not to exceed \$750.00. Supervisor Hiltz seconded motion and it carried on a vote of 2 yes and 1 abstention. Next meeting discuss renting or buying tank, who from, above or below ground.

Nothing back on Rockwood or Bemidji Township Road Agreements so table to next month’s meeting.

REPORTS:

Animal Control – Keith Christiansen discussed Windy Hills Road. Call Mary at Animal Control and see what we can do with this situation. Best thing would be for the Sheriff to see the dogs on the road so they can write a citation for dogs running at large.

Fire Association – Chairman Hiltz indicates that the Association fees will be going up. They need to write a check for \$5,500.00 for the fire truck. Fire hall is taking a loan out for the \$500,000.00 from the city at 1% interest. Fire Chief wants two more full time fire fighters. Will have more information next month.

BATO – None.

ROADS:

Chairman Hiltz made a motion to send a letter to 1267 Averi Circle, 1425 Averi Circle and 1439 Averi Circle stating the state statute that prevents them from plowing across the township road or on the road right of way. If they have questions, they can call Chairman Hiltz. Motion seconded by Supervisor Eckman and carried on unanimous voice call vote. Chairman Hiltz also made a motion to send the county a letter reminding them that residents cannot plow up snow on roads attaching state statute. Supervisor Hiltz seconded motion and it carried on unanimous voice call vote.

Vogt’s were out today to clean up drifts. They were told to go down the East and West roads to clean the drifts.

Garbage cans on roads – the county roads had no policy. Mel is getting Chairman Hiltz a copy of a policy. There is a rumor that Waste Management tells people if there is too much snow to put the cans on the road. Nothing heard from Jon’s.

Dale Vogt would like to attend next meeting and discuss his contract. He would like to extend and raise dollar amount. Bemidji Township is paying \$125.00 an hour and we are paying \$90.00. Discussion held.

Chairman Hiltz made a motion to set the March meeting for March 3, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. Supervisor Hiltz seconded motion and it carried on unanimous voice call vote.

As there was no further business, Chairman Hiltz made a motion to adjourn seconded by Supervisor Hiltz and carried on unanimous voice call vote. Meeting adjourned at 9:16 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kayley Stevens
Deputy Clerk