

ALBORN TOWNSHIP

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December 6, 2021

The meeting was called to order at 6:02 pm by Dale Larson, Chairperson. Present at the meeting were Tarah Vitek, Kurt Johnson, and Dale Larson, Supervisors; Amanda Ellefson, Clerk; Ronda Bernard, Deputy Clerk; Linsey Larson, Deputy Treasurer; John Klassen, John Wolvin, Ben Vitek, Mary Lisic, Stacy Kleinert, Terry Kleiner, Brady Stroschein, and Shaun Niehaus.

Kurt made a motion to approve the November 1, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes. Tarah seconded the motion and it passed unanimously, with corrections.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Christine read the Treasurer's Report. Tarah made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report. Kurt seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Christine indicated that the Township has received half of the ARPA monies, with the second half coming through in August 2022, which will then be over \$50,000. National Night Out monies have been transferred and New Independence has been billed for their portion.

Discussion on ways to use the ARPA monies for the Township. Christine is suggesting a large project, such as accessible doors for the Community Center. Any leftover monies could be used toward smaller purchases, such as hands-free soap dispensers, paper towel dispensers, or air filtration. The Board would like more time to consider the possible projects for the ARPA monies.

BILLS

Amanda read the Claims List. Kurt made a motion to pay the bills, including PERA. Tarah seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

E-MAILS/CORRESPONDENCE

SSD

John presented a report for SSD. In November, the system pumped 50,188 gallons on a 35-day month, which is 1,434 gallons per day. On the 3rd of November, the site was pumped. On the 30th, Chris and his crew member redid the pump at 9184, putting a new check valve underneath the existing ball check valve in the tanks and replaced pipe in stem with stainless steel pipe. John feels that this will be a good test for the system this winter to see if the new valve helps.

Tarah attempted to follow up on the handles for the gate valves with Chris. Chris replied stating that the best option is to replace the gate valve and provided options with pricing. He suggested ordering

the gate valve and the handle. The Board was under the impression that only the handles needed to be ordered. John indicated that he needs 5 of the handles. The Board felt that Spring maintenance would be a good time to cut off the broken handles enabling access with an extended socket in the future and to eliminate breaking handles.

Tarah has not received any information from interested parties regarding the Request for Proposals.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Dale had sent a request for information about the relief association to the Fire Chief, Chris Simons. Kurt forwarded this letter to Chris Virta asking for more information. Chris Virta responded that the general fund is only open to inspection by members of the relief association, not the general public. Chris reference MN Statue 424A.05, subdivision 2.

Dale found information supporting that the Fire Chief may not also serve on the Joint Powers Board. There is an email sent to Chris Virta regarding this information, but a reply to Kurt has not yet been received.

The air compressor has lost a seal and is spewing oil. Kurt is asking for a replacement. Northern Tool has air compressors for \$1600. Additional piping will be necessary for the replacement compressor. Dale made a motion to give Kurt the authority to spend up to \$4000 to purchase the compressor and necessary additional parts for installation. Tarah seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Tarah talked to Fenske regarding the malfeasance statute. Fenske indicated that this does not relate to the situation, but that no Supervisor may make suggestions to members of the Fire Department. All suggestions for the Fire Department should come through Joint Powers. Fenske called this ultra vires – outside of the scope of the person receiving authority.

The initial Joint Powers meeting was not posted and broke a law. Decisions made at that meeting hurt members of the Fire Department, which does follow the malfeasance statute.

Terry asked the Board why his wife was fired and wants the information in writing as to why she was fired from the Fire Department. Kurt indicated that the information is in her personnel file and can ask Chris Simons to access her personnel file. Terry asked that there be a Joint Township Meeting to address questions that he has surrounding this situation. The Board indicated that this would be a Joint Powers meeting for the questions, not a Joint Township meeting, as the Township does not have jurisdiction over the Fire Department. Terry asked to go on record to say that we (he and his wife) had nothing to do with the Dale Larson and Bonnie Bowman interview on KBJR. He went on to say that he is pleased that Dale did this and that he did what was right.

COMMUNITY CENTER

Christine found an opportunity called “Street Scape”, which she felt could be monies toward the playground. Another opportunity for applying for this funding would be in March. Dale suggested calling Tomassoni, who is on the IRRRB.

ROAD AND BRIDGES

OLD BUSINESS

Mary Lisic inquired into the possibility of changing the signage for Berg Lind Road and East Berg Lind Road. Dale indicated that all the residents on the road would need to be in agreement (majority) of the change, which would also result in residents changing their addresses, as well.

NEW BUSINESS

Tarah made a motion to accept Resolution 12062021 for donation of \$30 rental deposit to the community center fund. Kurt seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Tarah made a motion to adjourn. Kurt seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Amanda Ellefson, Clerk