

Clear Lake Township

Board Meeting Minutes

September 21, 2021

Approved minutes of the September 21, 2021 Clear Lake Township Board meeting held at the Clear Lake Township Hall.

Members present were: Chairman: Gary Gray, Supervisors: Bud Stimmler and Ross Imholte, Treasurer: Paul Goenner, Road Engineer: T. Vander Eyk and Interim-Clerk: Gary Anderson.

Others present were: Penny Leuthard, Tim Jeanetta, Melissa Wolf, Dan Weber, Felix Schmiesing

The meeting was called to order at 7 p.m. by Chairman Gary Gray.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The Supervisors reviewed the minutes of the regular township board meeting held on August 17, 2021 with no changes. Gary Gray requested a motion to approve the minutes. The motion made by Bud Stimmler. Second by Ross Imholte. Motion carried.

After reviewing the bills presented, Bud Stimmler motioned to pay the bills with a second made by Ross Imholte. Motion carried. Bills were paid.

SHERIFF'S REPORT:

The Sheriff's report for August-2021, showing a total of 121 calls for service compared to 110 calls in August-2020. For August of 2021 calls included 2 DWIs and 50 traffic stops.

LIBRARY BOARD ADVISORY GROUP: No meeting held.

WATER ADVISORY GROUP: No meeting held.

FIRE DEPARTMENT ADVISORY BOARD: No meeting held. The Clear Lake Township will host this meeting in October.

PARK & TRAILS REPORT:

Bud reported he received a seed mix at a cost of \$3,750. This cost will be paid for through funds received from the Park Dedication Fund.

ROAD REPORT:

Eyk reported in 2019 the Township applied to Great River Greening for adding a pollinator garden on 1.5 acres in the NW corner of the township park. A grant in the amount of \$9,275 was recently approved. Eyk and Bud will prepare the area this Fall and Great River Greening will organize the new planting of the pollinator garden in the Fall of 2022.

OLD BUSINESS:

ARPA Funds - Melissa Wolf, MIDCO plans for broadband in Clear Lake Township.

Melissa Wolf, Government Relations Manager for Midco Communications gave an overview of their existing broadband services within the Township and their plans for the future. The board identified areas that are underserved in the Township where Midco and the Township might share the cost of adding broadband. The Township is looking into using ARPA funds for their portion of the cost. The Township asked that Midco research the number of homes in underserved areas and meet with Township staff at a later date.

NEW BUSINESS:

Township Hall Property Valuation/Replacement Cost. The Township board signed a Resolution to accept the replacement cost of the Town Hall. The Chairman asked for motion to accept the replacement cost in the amount of \$705,000. Ross made the motion to accept the Resolution. Bud second the motion. Motion carried. Motion passed.

Comment Letter to the Public Utilities Commission. A prepared letter by the Township directed to the Public Utilities Commission gave positive remarks for an August meeting held at the Becker High School. As discussed at that August meeting, the Township supports Xcel Energy's interest in building a large solar farm near the existing Sherco power plant. Gary asked for a motion to approve sending the letter to the PUC. Gary requested a roll-call vote. Bud approved sending the letter. Gary approved sending the letter. Ross abstained due to a conflict of interest.

Town Levy. The Town board set the Township levy for the year 2022 at \$220,000 for the General Fund and \$240,000 for the Road Fund, with a total levy of \$460,000 which is unchanged from the previous year. Gary asked for a motion to approve. Ross made a motion to approve the 2022 levy. Bud second the motion. The 2022 Levy was approved.

Xcel Solar Farm Project. Bud asked Felix Schmiesing, Sherburne County Commissioner, if he and the Commissioner's approve of the proposed Xcel Solar Farm project. Felix responded that he and other Commissioners are in favor. Gary noted that the Township has always been in favor of all solar farms presented to the Town board in the past.

CHAIRMAN'S UPDATE:

The board approved Gary attending a Public Utilities Commission meeting as requested by National Grid.

Gary will hire a company to wash the Townhall windows and power wash the exterior.

Gary received a letter from the County Attorney regarding enforcing Town Ordinances. The letter will be sent to the Town Attorney for review.

Gary Anderson will define Town Hall technology items for payment through ARPA funding.

The security system company gave instruction how to review history of recorded activity from security cameras.

The fall road tour is scheduled for October 19, 2021, 4:00 PM. Gary Anderson will rent a van.

Haven Township will be contacted asking for past due payment for their portion of 2020 snow plowing.

Gary Gray asked for a motion to adjourn. Ross made the motion. Second by Bud. Motion carried. Meeting ended at 8:40 PM. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 19, 2021 at 7:00 pm at the Clear Lake Town Hall.

**Respectfully Submitted,
Gary Anderson Township Interim-Clerk**