

OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPT OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE GRANT VALLEY TOWN BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING OF THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 14TH.

The Grant Valley Town Board of Supervisors met for their regularly scheduled monthly business meeting on Thursday September, 14 2023.

Board Members present were Chairman Hiltz, Supervisor Hiltz, Supervisor Eckman, Treasurer Slough and Clerk Stevens, Road Supervisor Christianson.

Chairman Hiltz welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order with the pledge to the flag at 7:01 pm.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Supervisor Hiltz made a motion to approve the August 10th, 2023, Regular Meeting, seconded by Supervisor Eckman and carried on unanimous voice call vote.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Treasurer Slough reported fund balances as General \$91,061.67 Road and Bridge \$1,069,350.48, Fire Fund \$44,923.24, Covid Fund of \$194,659.94 with outstanding items of \$0.00 for a total cash on hand balance of \$1,399,995.33. 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:

Supervisor Hiltz made a motion to pay the bills as presented seconded by Supervisor Eckman and carried by unanimous roll call vote.

No bill from Astech yet for the micro solution on the roads. Supervisor Hiltz will get ahold of Astech and ask for a bill of Swedmark Road and Fern Lake Road.

NEW BUSINESS:

Stripping of roads, same outfit (AAA Striping) as 2 years ago, 14 cents a foot for white and yellow and 7 cents for the dotted lines. Price now is 11 cents a foot for solid lines and 8 cents a foot for dotted lines. They will be up here shortly. Cheaper than last time overall, less money, Fern Lake, Swedmark, Archery loop, 15 street and Adams along with the loop back there. Absolutely needs to be done on Fern Lake Road. Supervisor Eckman asked if the cost can come from COVID money? Yes, it can. Astech and stripping payments will come out of Covid fund next month, estimated a little over \$100,000. Discussion about Rockwood and the road work we did with them, can that come out of Covid fund? Not sure about gravel added, but the maintenance, yes. Supervisor Eckman will look into this for next month. Chairman Hiltz made a motion to hire the same outfit as before for striping the 5 tar roads, Supervisor Eckman seconded the motion, it carried on unanimous roll call vote.

Special Election, November 7th from 7:00 AM- 8:00 PM. Clerk Stevens will inform the election judges.

Appoint Election Judges- Joan Miller, Keith Christianson, Les Hiltz Jr, Evie Johnson, Marlys Eckman. Discussion on Head Judge. Chairman Hiltz made motion to appoint election judges, Supervisor Hiltz seconded the motion and it carried on unanimous roll call vote.

Notice of public hearing for the purpose of comments on the variance request of Collin and Suzanne Meier, 1416 Wilton Hill Road NW, Bemidji, MN 56601. The notice was reviewed.

LRIP Funding is available, Chairman Hiltz will reach out to WindSeth and see if we are eligible.

Supervisor Eckman has a flyer from Enbridge, and is questioning why the Red Lake and Cass Lake Fire Department received money.

Carl Sukert is present and asked about Covid funds, what we have been spending it on? Chairman Hiltz explained what we have been spending the money on. \$37,000 (approx.) we had to give back to the County in 2021 and it went to the new license center. Discussion on what we plan to spend the rest of the money on. Discussion on Gary Skime hauling dirt, Carl Sukert would like the dirt that he is digging up, this would save time for Skime and save the Township money on Skime's work bill. Discussion on this, Keith Christianson will touch base with Gary Skime.

OLD BUSINESS:

Countryside- No update

Jason Sanderson is present, he was here last April and requested help with the school district and the route off of Archery/Mid-Valley/Grant Valley Rd NW. We sent a letter last Spring and the response we got was they will evaluate this. Jason is present and requesting help again. Treasure Slough asked if Jason has talked with the Superintendent, yes, he has. The answer ISD#31 is giving him has to do with the budget. A letter readdressing the concerns was discussed. Supervisor Eckman made a motion to add the original letter to the school, suggest that they come to the bus stop and we would like to have a board member of Grant Valley meet with them there, the letter will be sent to School Board members as well. Seconded by Supervisor Hiltz and passed on a unanimous roll call vote. Clerk Stevens will send a copy to Jason Sanderson as well. Supervisor Eckman will do a search if there is any cross arm violations in this area before Clerk Stevens sends the letter.

Administration Policy- was reviewed and Clerk Stevens will get an update to review again at the October meeting.

Flagpole and flag are here. Where do we want it? The flag pole will be located where the camera can see it. The flag pole will be mounted on the East side of the building on the south east corner of the building. Keith Christianson will install the flag pole and the new sign for the backstop. Supervisor Eckman Seconded the motion and it carried on unanimous roll call vote.

Rose Bush is still present, but the fence is moved. The resident did contact Chairman Hiltz but he was not able to meet. Chairman Hiltz made a motion for Clerk Stevens to contact Jason Hill and inform him that the rose bush is still there, they moved the fence, what should we do next? Can we move it? Does he need to send a letter that we would like it moved by Oct 10th. Supervisor Hiltz seconded the motion and it carried on unanimous roll call vote.

Whisperwood- no update but question about grading the road. Discussion about Reiersen hauling and paving. If whisperwood is petitioned and paved Division may be paved, Chairman Hiltz made a comment that it would be ideal to pave both if possible. Discussion about watering the road.

Snowplow policy reviewed.

Bemidji Township stop sign up. Letter received from Bemidji Township.

Stone Lake Road N, Keith Christianson will call Tony the Trapper to take care of beaver dam. DNR will need to be contacted and papers filled out.

Hidden Trail Road had a complaint from resident about the holes on the road that were patched but not fully patched.

Our propane tank is at 62 %. Lakes Gas is at \$1.19 if paid with 10 days and \$1.29 if own tank is owned. Clerk Stevens will file the paperwork from Lakes Gas.

REPORTS:

Fire- Bill Batchelder called, Chairman Hiltz might be attending a mediation meeting.

BATO- No report

Animal Control- No meeting yet, end of October. Many dogs and cats have been picked up.

JAYZB- Supervisor Hiltz was asked to vote via email and he does not want to vote over email.

ROADS-

Roads are rough and dry. Chairman Hiltz received a text about Balsam Ridge Road. Roads are receiving a 3rd/4th pass if needed.

Speed Limit sign at beginning of Adams Road needed.

Road Hearing Minutes will be posted on the website after approved, next month.

Supervisor Hiltz made a Motion to adjourn meeting on September 14th at 8:46 PM. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Eckman and it carried on unanimous roll call vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kayley Stevens
Clerk