

TOWN OF FALL LAKE

BOARD MINUTES – Wednesday, November 6, 2024

Chairman Hart called the regular November meeting to order at 6:00 PM. Pledge recited. Present Supervisor Eric Hart, Supervisor Craig Seliskar, Supervisor Sheila Gruba, Treasurer Don Stocks, Clerk Cheri DeBeltz.

Minutes of the previous meeting were given to the supervisors for review. Supervisor Craig Seliskar made a motion to accept the minutes as written. Supervisor Eric Hart 2nd the motion. Supervisor Sheila Gruba supported only with the edits she recommended.

The treasurer's report was read by Treasurer Don Stocks and approved as read with motion by Supervisor Eric Hart, seconded by Supervisor Craig Seliskar & supported by Sheila Gruba. Receipts of \$19,916.06 were received and disbursements totaled \$58,956.19. The recreation fund balance is \$13,103.11. Funds available to run the township are \$295,891.01.

Transfer Site: Dean Barrett stated brush pile will need to be pushed back otherwise things are going smoothly. A discussion was held about placement of the bins for future snow removal. Supervisor Craig Seliskar will talk to Jeff Schulze about pushing the brush pile back.

Correspondence

Received a letter from the Minnesota Association of Townships for Township Clerks and Treasurers. Available training for year-end processes. Clerk Cheri DeBeltz and Treasurer Don Stocks are not able to attend on any of the dates the training is offered.

An email was received from Minnesota Association of Townships inviting township officers to attend the MATS 2024 Annual Conference. The conference will be held on Friday December 13 – Saturday December 14, 2024, at St. Cloud River's Edge Convention Center.

Supervisor Eric Hart made a motion to allow someone to attend the MATS annual conference with rooms and expenses. Supervisor Sheila Gruba 2nd the motion and Supervisor Craig Seliskar supported.

FEMA sent a letter about them updating it process for analyzing flood risk. Clerk Cheri DeBeltz made a copy of the letter for each of the board members to review.

Minnesota Pollution Control sent an email advising about a grant to make the community more climate resilient. Applications if interested are due December 19, 2024.

Minnesota Pollution Control sent an email about the upcoming Webinar for the Fall 2024 Climate Grants and Climate Smart Food Initiative.

Lake County sent a letter advising that a gravel stockpile production contract will be available in 2025. If we are interested in acquiring a stockpile of processes aggregate material in 2025 to please notify the Highway department by end of 2024. A discussion was had regarding this wondering if the county would sell us aggregate from behind the townhall or at least that is something closer. Clerk Cheri DeBeltz will contact Jason DiPiazza at Lake County to find out and what type of aggregate they will have if it is closer.

Ely Community Resources sent a quarterly progress report.

Minnesota Humanities Center sent an email advising they are accepting application on a rolling basis to organization for Community Identity & Heritage – Festival grants. Applicants may request up to \$50,00.00. All funding is a first comes first serve. Funds available until June 20, 2025.

New Business

Andy Fellows – Lake County Auditor

He presented to the board that ended up on Facebook recently when a property owner posted a photo of him from a trail camera. He wanted to let everyone know his job is to get the valuation of property, that may mean he ends up on property and will end up on trail cameras and security cameras. He will go on every property, even with a gate, unless it specifically states for Lake County Auditor not allowed on property.

Short Term Rental – Commissioner Joe Baltich reached out to us Lake County would like Fall Lake Township to have the same as the county and limit the number of VRBO's or short-term rentals that we have, He highly recommended going along with the county and the limit of 3%. Treasurer Don Stocks spoke and thought the county was going to limit short term rentals on the shore and up here we were currently unlimited.

Supervisor Sheila Gruba made a motion to accept the recommendation that the county has 3% for short-term rental limits, excluding those that are currently in the application process in Fall Lake Township if we are under the 3%. Clerk DeBeltz will reach out to Matt Huddleston for clarification from Lake County. Supervisor Eric Hart 2nd the motion. Supervisor Craig Seliskar abstained until more information is gathered.

Land Donation Resolution –

Supervisor Sheila Gruba gave an explanation on the next steps we will need to be done to finalize the Land donation from the Fortier's for the new section of the Sunset Road. Still waiting for the legal description. Once all documentation has been received and signed by the Fortier Group then we (Fall Lake Township) have 10 days to act on it. Supervisor Sheila Gruba suggested keeping this meeting open so we can then vote on it. A discussion was held regarding keeping this meeting open or adjourning and having a special meeting when we get all the information needed to act on it.

RAMS (Range Association of Municipalities and Schools) Annual Dinner & Nomination for Board of Directors.

The letter was received from RAMS the annual dinner will be held on Thursday December 19, 2024. Needs RSVP by December 9th and it must be done as a township.

Supervisor Sheila Gruba made a motion to allow anyone to attend RAMS Annual Dinner. Supervisor Eric Hart 2nd and Supervisor Criag Seliskar supported. She will not respond until after our next meeting on December 4th to allow others to confirm schedules.

RAMS Nomination for board of Directors –

This is our voting ballot for 11 vacancies for a 2-year term and 1 vacancy for Superintendents Association. Due by December 9th. No action was taken

Lake County Milage certification-

Lake County sent out a letter for us to certify that that we have maintained 19.9 miles of township roads for the year 2024. Before Clerk Cheri DeBeltz signs the letter, she wanted to verify that this figure is correct. The board agreed that this figure is correct and should be signed.

MATS (Minnesota Association of Township) Gravel Road Survey –

Sent an email with a survey attached for the Transportation Research Board Low Volume Roads is conducting a survey to gather insights and information on the maintenance practices commonly used on gravel roads. Supervisor Eric Hart will fill out.

Old Business

Sunset Road – LRIP – Supervisor Sheila Gruba gave an update on status. Core drilling was completed today. This will not cost the township any extra due to being late on the previous project the company was working on. They will be using the core drilling for the final legal description.

Community Center Group – Supervisor Craig Seliskar the group meet on 10/29. The group meet and filled out paper work for the grant with the University of Minnesota. The finalized paperwork should be submitted this weekend.

Johnson Parcel Sale – Clerk Cheri DeBeltz has sent all the documents to Northeast Title Company and is waiting for a closing date to be set.

Recreational Funds Request –

Ely Hoop Club – Supervisor Eric Hart made a motion to make a donation of \$400.00 to the Ely Hoop Club. Citing statute 365.10 sub-14. Supervisor Sheila Gruba 2nd and Supervisor Criag Seliskar supported.

Ely Winter Festival - Supervisor Eric Hart made a motion to make a donation if \$500.00 to the Ely Winter Festival Citing statute 365.10 sub-12. Supervisor Sheila Gruba 2nd and Supervisor Criag Seliskar supported,

Supervisor Comments

Supervisor Sheila Gruba - The RAMS meeting in Chisholm on 11/23 at 5:30 pm she is unable to attend. Asked Craig if he was able.

Supervisor Craig Seliskar - he has been talking to Jeff Schulz and Phil Hegfors roads are pretty much ready for winter. Leusteks also reached out to him wanting to offer class 5 for the year 2025. Supervisor Seliskar advised him we need pricing, and we can consider it in the spring. BruanInterc Final Road study came in. He asked to have a copy printed off for each of our road contractors and the board, so a total of 6. Clerk Cheri DeBeltz will print.

Supervisor Eric Hart

He did attend the hospital meeting. Overall was good and they agreed to move forward with conversation. There will be more information to come.

Commissioner Joe Baltich –

The Rec Funds that we are paid from the recreation board are considered maintenance money. If we need mor money we need to ask them if there is something coming up.

Kawaishiwi river bridge the north side footing is wearing out. It's specially use with Forest Service there is a bonding session at the state. The state won't grant easements on the south side of bridge. He will be working with people to get in arrangement. The bonding won't grant if there is no easement.

Citizens

Mr. Ed Seliskar asked the board how does a meeting stay open or has someone asked the attorney? Is it legal even if someone else does it. A discussion was had with the board.

It was determined that we would adjourn today's meeting and call an emergency meeting when we are ready to review documents on the Land Donation.

Motion by Eric Hart, 2nd by Craig Seliskar & supported Sheila Gruba, to approve and pay the bills.

Motion by Eric Hart, 2nd by Craig Seliskar and supported by Sheila Gruba, to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 pm.

 12/4/24
Chairman Eric Hart Date

 12/4/24
Clerk Cheri DeBeltz Date