



Forest Township
Rice County
3625 Millersburg Boulevard
Faribault, Minnesota

Wednesday February 5, 2020
7:00 PM
Monthly Township Meeting minutes

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chairman Ron Gernandt called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Members Present: Ron Gernandt, Charlie Peters, William Malecha, Elaine Trnka, Ashley Anderson

2. APPROVE MEETING MINUTES FROM JANUARY 8, 2020.

Ashley read the minutes from the January 8 meeting.

Bill made a motion to approve the minutes. Charlie seconded the motion. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

3. TRESURER'S REPORT

The treasurer's report was presented with a township balance of \$295,004.42. This is the balance with the SSD and Tri-Lakes accounts removed.

Charlie made a motion to accept the treasurer's report. Bill seconded the motion. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

4. BUSINESS

Tom presented the Annual reports for the Forest Township SSDs. Maple Shores has no issues. Fox Lake has mice that cause a minor nuisance that Tom can take care of. Fox Lake has long heat tape with sections needing to be replaced. Circle Lake has 1 tank issue. Circle Lake Estates water flow rate is approaching the design limit. In addition, they have lots of water that contains softening agents. Fecal limits are approaching levels that are bordering non-compliant. Tom

recommends investigating a UV system and setting up a meeting with some representatives from the group and developing a plan to be executed in the Spring. In addition, Tom would like to investigate an internet communication system for homes having issues the landline communication. He estimates a cost of between \$506.00 - \$1200.00 per home, which would allow homeowners to discontinue their landline. In addition, they could upgrade their panel which would raise the cost to approximately \$1500.00 per resident. This would not be required, but they could update the homes that don't have reliable landline communication with the system and could leave alone the ones in which the landlines are working fine.

A resident is planning some landscaping and wanted to ensure that the plans would not cause any problems for snow removable or be in the line of any potential township spraying. The township didn't see any problems with the landscaping plan.

Wayne Weaver has an issue with a tank on Circle Lake and wants to make sure the equipment is working correctly. Charlie will talk with Advanced Septic about the system to find some answers for the homeowners about what they can do and what they should do to make sure the system is working properly and they are able to sell when they are ready.

John Fossum sent easements for landowners along Baseline Road. The County took over baseline road and are putting easements in place so they can widen the road. The township will file the appropriately.

The board discussed the levy for 2021. Due to some upcoming road projects and an aging grader, the board discussed raising the road and bridge levy. The board will research at spreading chips versus sand and salt. The board proposes the following levies for 2021:

Fire District 1: Lonsdale – \$32,000, which is the same as 2020.

Fire District 2: Northfield – \$18,000, which is the same as 2020. Waiting on final confirmation from representative from Northfield.

General: \$60,000.00, raised from \$50,000 in 2020.

Road and Bridge: \$175,000, raise from \$150,000 in 2020.

Ashley presented a resolution appointing election judges for the presidential nomination primary and the township election in March

Charlie made a motion to appoint Amy Jordahl, Ed Olson, Kathleen Dodds, Ellen Neilsen, Wendy Malecha, Ardis Liebenstein, Brenda Jirik, Faith Lund, Jan Gillen, Myrna Peterson, Ashley Anderson, Elaine Trnka, William Malecha, Ronald Gernandt to serve in the Presidential Nomination Primary Election on March 3, 2020 and/or the Town Election on March 10, 2020. Bill seconded the motion. All in favor and the motion carried.

Currently USDA Rural Development has a significant amount of both loan and grant funding available under our Community Facilities Program. This funding can be considered for a wide variety of projects. There are currently not projects under consideration that need financing.

5. ADJOURN

Charlie made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 p.m. Bill seconded the motion. All in favor and the motion carried.

Respectfully submitted by Ashley Anderson, Clerk, Forest Township.