



Forest Township
Rice County
3625 Millersburg Boulevard
Faribault, Minnesota

Wednesday, October 7, 2020
6:00 PM
Monthly Township Meeting minutes

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chairman Ron Gernandt called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

Members Present: Ron Gernandt, Charlie Peters, William Malecha, Elaine Trnka, Ashley Anderson (joined virtually)

2. APPROVE MEETING MINUTES FROM SEPTEMBER 2, 2020.

Ashley read the minutes from the September 2 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 \$357,004.90. 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

Renee Detlie's daughter is helping her clean the town hall. She has requested that payment for their services be made to her daughter rather than Renee.

Charlie made a motion to pay Renee's daughter for cleaning services at the town hall. Bill seconded the motion. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

Dennis Luebbe and Jeff Docken spoke on behalf of an interchange at 35 and County road 9. This would impact land in four townships. The County is gathering input from each township and the City of Faribault on the potential project. Dennis will reach out in the coming months for the township's input. The City of Faribault and the County are interested in pursuing a study regarding the project and have discussed splitting the cost between the impacted townships, the County, and the City of Faribault based on population percentages. This would likely be in the amount of around \$2,000 for Forest Township. There are no action items at this point. Dennis will keep the township in the loop on any further plans.

Charlie asked if Dennis and Jeff could relay the message asking the County mowers to be more careful. They are getting stuck and leaving tracks in ditches. They will pass along the message.

The Baseline Road court case is coming up via Zoom. Dennis will get back to Ron about what, if anything, is needed from Forest Township.

The Rice County Comprehensive Plan is open for public comment.

Someone made a mess of the intersection on Baker Avenue doing donuts.

Cementing will begin on County Road 46. They are starting at the Big Steer and moving south about a ½ mile per day.

Ron cleaned a tractor tire up off the road and he brought to the dump.

Renee bought and installed automatic hand sanitizer dispensers throughout the town hall.

Better Air will be installing new furnace with a good air filter system as the current furnace had no air exchange/filtering system. They will also add two returns to improve the air quality, heat, and air conditioning.

A Cyrus Trail resident called Charlie a few times. They are happy with the gravel and had some questions about asphalt and whether the township would pay for the road. Charlie informed them it is a private road. There is an option for the township to be involved, but 100% of the residents need to agree.

Charlie has been receiving a lot of calls from residents who have high salt output at Circle Lake Estates. People are working to reroute softeners and put in new systems to address the issue.

The Township will put in a sidewalk from the side door to the front of the building to create an exit for people leaving the polling place to ensure social distancing during the general election.

A land surveyor from the DNR is surveying the DNR property in Section 11 of Forest Twp. He asked for a road order for 102nd Street West. This road is not recorded as a township road.

Forest Township has been selected for the property valuation program being conducted by the Minnesota Association of Townships Insurance Trust. After the survey has been completed, the township will receive a copy of the report, along with any recommendations concerning insurance coverage.

The Minnesota Department of Transportation invited Forest Township to participate in an assessment about their working relationships with stakeholders. The township declined to participate.

Rice County invited Forest Township to participate in a survey about the upcoming REPAC meeting. The township declined to participate.

Two new election judges have been trained in Forest Township.

Ashley presented a resolution appointing two additional election judges for the General Election.

Bill made a motion to appoint Kathy Sandberg and Nalani McCutcheon to serve as election judges in the General Election on November 3, 2020. Charlie seconded the motion. All in favor and the motion carried.

The Township must certify any unpaid bills due to the township by November 30. Ashley is in communication with Advanced Septic to collect any outstanding bills. Charlie will check with the Lonsdale Fire District to see if there are any outstanding fire bills. There are no outstanding gravel bills currently.

Charlie and Ashley will work on a state grant for up to \$5,000 regarding noxious weed control.

5. ADJOURN

Bill made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:57 p.m. Charlie seconded the motion. All in favor and the motion carried.

Respectfully submitted by Ashley Anderson, Clerk, Forest Township.