



Forest Township
Rice County
3625 Millersburg Boulevard
Faribault, Minnesota

Wednesday, March 3, 2021
6:00 PM
Monthly Township Meeting minutes

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chairman Ron Gernandt called the meeting to order at 6:10 pm.

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

2. APPROVE THE MEETING MINUTES FROM FEBRUARY 3, 2021.

Ashley read the minutes from the February 3 meeting, including the 2020 Board of Audit minutes.

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 \$347,406.53. This is the balance with the SSD and Tri-Lakes accounts removed.

Highway User and Road Tax allocation was deposited in the State Bank in the amount of \$23,879.26.

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

4. BUSINESS

The Township is still waiting for the contract from the Minnesota Department of Agriculture regarding the Noxious Weeds Grant. Ashley shared the public report from the Cannon Valley Noxious Weed Collaborative designed to facilitate education and understanding of the need to mitigate noxious weeds.

A resident reached out regarding our policy around capacity at the Town Hall for rental. The board decided to add a bullet on the current contract that renters must follow the current State of MN COVID-19 capacity guidelines.

There is one item on the Board of Adjustment agenda regarding a variance set back limitation and a bluff area variance. There are two items on the Planning Commission agenda. One is for the Agricultural Tourism near Circle Lake and the other is for Temporary Equipment Placement Permit for Crane Creek Asphalt. The board saw no issue with any of the items on the agendas.

One driveway on 113th was finished and approved. A new driveway location on Circle Bluff Court was approved for the resident to start work.

The board reviewed a draft of the 2021 Annual Meeting agenda. The board added an agenda item regarding a project on Culver Avenue. Charlie will speak on behalf of the Northfield Fire District.

2021 Minnesota Association of Township Spring Short courses are virtual.

Jerry Anderson presented the annual fire report. Northfield Area Fire and Rescue Services proposed to raise townships Fire District fees to 180,000 from 150,000 in 2023. A new tanker will be delivered in 2021. A new rescue truck was acquired this year. In 2023, they will purchase a new pumper and in 2024, they will purchase another tanker.

The Township is waiting on a performance bond and insurance information from Kielmeyer.

The plow truck went into the ditch. The township will take the truck to Crystal. It will cost about \$5200 to fix. The Township will wait until all work is finished to submit to insurance. The board approved opening an account for the Truck Center of Faribault for parts. Elaine filled out the application and added Steve, Bill, and Charlie as authorized purchasers with a limit of \$5,000.

Dean and Sam joined via Zoom and wondered if Charlie has heard anything about the Comprehensive Plan. No meetings will happen until meetings can be conducted in person.

Some concerns were brought up about the Crane Creek variance and what conditions are put in place if it is approved. Charlie said they do about 90% of the asphalt around here and do a good job. They will make the asphalt and deliver it to the local projects. Crane Creek has not had any complaints.

Discussion was had about Culver Ave.

SDT, Inc reached out about the installation of an AT&T long distance line throughout Rice

County. They will be traveling south on Base Line Rd. and Aberdeen Trail. Nothing further is needed on behalf of the township if the company follows the requirements by Rice County.

5. ADJOURN

Charlie made a motion to adjourn at 6:51. Bill seconded the motion. All voted in favor and the motion carried.