



Forest Township
Rice County
3625 Millersburg Boulevard
Faribault, Minnesota

Wednesday, April 7, 2021
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

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

Ashley read the minutes from the March 3 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 \$343,711.64. 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

The county had a meeting last Friday with Bridgewater Township, Forest Township, and the City of Faribault. The City of Faribault will not run water and sewer to Forest Township unless annexation is involved. Forest Township is not interested in large development along the

highway without water and sewer from a municipality. There is talk of warehouses along the I35 corridor.

The board discussed township roads and which roads need gravel. The township has cleaned up a lot of garbage on the roads. The Forest Town Board will conduct a Road Tour at 8:00 am Saturday the 17th of April.

The board discussed Option B which is an optional form of government with an appointed Clerk and Treasurer. The board has prepared a resolution.

Charlie moved to submit the question to adopt Option B – Appointed Clerk and Treasurer to the electors at the 2022 Annual meeting, which would change the township government to allow supervisors to appoint either a clerk or treasurer or both and eliminate the election for the clerk and treasurer. Bill seconded the motion. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

A resident on 120th Court West is concerned about driver speed and is asking for speed limit signs. The board decided to add temporary speeds bumps, to be placed in the Summer, with corresponding speed bump signs.

Steve submitted a proposal for ditch mowing for 2021.

Bill moved to accept Steve's proposal for ditch mowing. Ron seconded the motion. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

Paul Knutson, Rice County, brought up some reasons for Forest Township to consider moving from a Township Local Board of Appeal and Equalization to an open book format managed by Rice County. The Board will weigh the options. The Township does not need to decide until February 1, 2022.

A resident called and wanted the Township to grade a private road. The Township cannot grade a private road due to liability.

The Township signed a Noxious Weed grant contract with the Minnesota Department of Agriculture.

A resident brought up a concern regarding noise pollution. The Township has no jurisdiction regarding noise pollution.

The County is facilitating new aerial imagery of Rice County. The project will produce some of the best resolution aerial imagery ever captured of Rice County.

MAT District 4 Virtual Township Lobby Day is Thursday, April 8 at 9:00 am via Zoom.

The Forest Town Board will hold the following SSD meetings in June at 6:30 pm: June 16 - Circle Lake; June 23 - Fox Lake; June 30 - Maples Shores. Charlie will confirm with Tom from Advanced Septic and Ashley will work on the invitation.

5. ADJOURN

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