



Forest Township
Rice County
3625 Millersburg Boulevard
Faribault, Minnesota

Wednesday, March 1, 2023
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, Ashley Anderson, Elaine Trnka, William Malecha

2. APPROVE THE MEETING MINUTES FROM THE FEBRUARY 1, 2023 MEETING

Ashley read the minutes from the February 1 meeting.

Charlie made a motion to approve the minutes. Bill 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 \$400,330.49. 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 board set the Annual Meeting agenda. Ron will not be able to be an election judge. Ashley will see if the election can proceed with three election judges. If four are required, Ashley will see if Jan can stay.

The Sportsman's Club purchased an electronic system for meetings. Dean brought Elaine the receipts.

Charlie shared a Joint Powers update. On February 16, the County met with Glen and Charlie. The EAW is delayed; they are hoping for a June completion. Purchase agreements are signed with RLS. The electric co-ops are fighting over who will provide service. They hope to break ground in July. There is no action on the Forest Township side of the district. RLS and the Bridgewater engineers are handling sewer and water. They are planning for a container septic and above ground tanks for water. The County has not committed to any tax abatement.

There is nothing in Forest Township on the Board of Adjustment and the Planning Commission agendas this month.

The board discussed a zoning amendment to allow composting businesses in Rice County in areas zoned agriculture and urban reserve. There is a hearing on Thursday night. Sam expressed concerns about regulations regarding the distance to houses and property lines. Charlie mentioned that the sites are highly regulated by the PCA. Sam expressed concern about contamination from meat products.

The board discussed a City of Faribault annexation proposal in Bridgewater Township.

The Forest Township Local Board of Appeal and Equalization meeting will be April 13th at 9:00 a.m.

Ashley shared information about record retention and the potential for the Rice County Historical Society to help with the preservation of records.

The Willcutt's are hosting a weatherization event on March 10th, 2023 at the Townhall and invited the board.

The Rice County Township Officer's Association meeting will be on Thursday, April 13 at 7:00 p.m. at the St. Patrick's Social Hall.

5. ADJOURN

Charlie made a motion to adjourn at 6:42 pm. Ron seconded the motion. All voted in favor and the motion carried.