



Forest Township
Rice County
3625 Millersburg Boulevard
Faribault, Minnesota

Wednesday, September 6, 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, William Malecha

2. APPROVE THE MEETING MINUTES FROM THE AUGUST 2, 2023 MEETING

Ashley read the minutes from the August 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 \$437,742.91. This is the balance with the SSD and Tri-Lakes accounts removed. The township had two receipts this month. One was from Rice County for payment in lieu of taxes, along with the interest earned on checking.

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

4. BUSINESS

Ron asked about the MN Association of Townships and the missing money in the amount of \$834,197. It is the result of an August 2022 misdirection of payment. MAT's insurance vendor, Alliant, was hacked and an email was essentially cloned, and a domain created with the transposition of two letters. This resulted in the misdirection of payment.

Ron requested Ashley update his landline phone number to his cell phone number on the website.

There are no items in Forest Township on the Board of Adjustment or Planning Commission meeting this month.

All the planned township roads have received gravel. It was decided that next year, all dust control roads will be completed first. Bill will call Corey about the gravel for private driveways – approximately 20 loads – if Corey can't be there by the end of next week, they will wait until next year. After a rain, Kevin will blade the dust control roads.

The board discussed some tree work to be done on township roads and the priorities.

The Township just paid the final bill on 130th St chip seal project.

The Circle Bluff Road Repair project is on Crane Creek's schedule for the month of September.

Charlie talked to Crane Creek about a project at Maple Shores for about 100 feet of work and was quoted \$12,270. Maple Shores only has a few hundred dollars in a road fund. Charlie is going to ask the township's lawyer about assessing Mesenbrink for the road repair project on Circle Lake Lane. If the lawyer says it's favorable, they will work to fix a longer amount of road. Charlie will also inquire about obtaining deeds for the land for the Maples Shores SSD from Mesenbrink.

The board discussed fenders for the grader.

Charlie will take the truck in to do a DOT.

The board discussed the culvert and a walking bridge by the Circle Lake access. The board discussed a project to update this area.

Ashley received a message from a Forest Township resident regarding windmill noise. The township does not have any ordinances or required permits regarding noise or windmills.

School District 721 New Prague called for a special election on November 7, 2023. The SD 721 states the combined polling place for Erin Twp, Forest Twp, Webster Twp and Wheatland Twp will be Wheatland Town Hall.

The board discussed TDRs.

The board discussed Airbnb's in Forest Township. The board believes they require conditional use permits from Rice County.

5. ADJOURN

Bill made a motion to adjourn at 6:45 pm. Charlie seconded the motion. All voted in favor and the motion carried.