

Minutes
EAGLES NEST TOWNSHIP
Board of Supervisors Meeting
December 18, 2024

Call to Order

Chair Chiabotti called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Sup David Chiabotti, Sup Richard Floyd, Sup Kurt Soderberg, Sup Jackie Monahan-Junek, Clerk Keely Drange, and Treasurer Mary Beth Monte were in attendance. Sup Frank Sherman attended via Zoom due to vacation.

Unless otherwise noted, motions carried unanimously. All votes done by roll call due to zoom attendance.

Agenda

Sup Soderberg moved, seconded by Sup Floyd to approve the agenda for December 18, 2024. Motion carried.

Minutes

Sup Soderberg moved, seconded by Sup Chiabotti to approve the minutes from the November 20, 2024 Board of Supervisors meeting. Motion carried.

Communications

Sup Soderberg moved, seconded by Sup Chiabotti to approve the communications list. Sup Floyd, Sup Chiabotti, Sup Monahan-Junek, Sup Soderberg aye. Sup Sherman abstains. Motion carried.

Citizens' concerns

None at this time.

Reports

Dark Skies Proclamation

Hudson Kingston joined the meeting via Zoom and detailed the Dark Skies Proclamation. Sup Soderberg moved, seconded by Sup Floyd to approve the dark skies proclamation. Motion carried.

Clerk

Clerk Drange will meet with Brian Harrington to administer oath of office and gather information for his position as Supervisor E.

Clerk Drange reviewed dates for the proposed Board of Supervisors 2025 calendar.

Treasurer

Payroll check number 11689-11707; 11709 in the amount of \$3,897.77.

Claim numbers 5007-5020 and check numbers 11710-11720; 11722 in the amount of \$13,371.16
For a total of \$17,268.93.

Sup Soderberg moved, seconded by Sup Chiabotti to make the annual transfers of \$25,000 into fire vehicle fund, \$15,000 road improvement fund and \$10,000 building expansion fund from fire, roads

and buildings and ground funds. Motion carried.

Sup Floyd moved, seconded by Sup Soderberg to approve the payroll and claims. Sup Chiabotti, Sup Floyd, Sup Monahan-Junek, Sup Soderberg aye. Sup Sherman abstains.

Sup Monahan-Junek moved, seconded by Sup Soderberg to approve the treasurer's report. Sup Chiabotti, Sup Floyd, Sup Monahan-Junek, Sup Soderberg aye. Sup Sherman Abstained. Motion carried.

Sup Soderberg moved, seconded by Sup Chiabotti to make donations for 2024 in the amounts of \$550 to Northwoods Partners and \$650 to the Ely Public Library. Motion carried.

Building and Grounds

Sup Chiabotti is going to order a secure package receptacle for deliveries.

Gary Crotteau from the Mesabi Trail Authority came in person to the meeting and discussed the Mesabi Trail Authority placing a garbage can at the bike trail kiosk. There are a few issues with the garbage can such as who will collect the garbage and how often it will be collected.

Fire

No report at this time.

Roads:

There were complaints about the county plowing. Sup Floyd explained this was due to new drivers and a lot of snowfall so it was hard to keep up. The county roads have since been plowed and cleaned up.

Land, Website and Broadband

The website went down on November 30th, 2024. When we transitioned from our previous provider, we needed to make sure that the domain transfer occurred but it did not. Thanks to a fast response by Carolyn Quick who renewed our domain and Chris Ellerbroek it has now been transferred and is back up and running.

Issac Olson from Treehouse Broadband is putting an antenna on Peninsula Road and will serve up to 50 people. There is a possibility to expand service that would include Lake One, Lake Two and Lake Three. Issac Olson will try to have a draft proposal for the next meeting.

Sup Monahan-Junek spoke to a Frontier representative regarding Verizon purchasing them. Sup Monahan-Junek asked if that means they will they expand broadband to the township and the representative said no.

Emergency Preparedness and Water

Keely Drange and Mike Ostlund attended a training on the radio grant reporting and reimbursement process. We are purchasing radios from two different vendors and will seek reimbursement when both radios purchases have been delivered.

Austin Van Scoy plans to burn the large pile of material from this fall's brush drop on or close to Christmas Eve.

Outreach and Networking

Sup Monahan-Junek talked about possibly attending Township Day at the Capital on 27th. She explained how it would be helpful to have Issac Olson's broadband proposal in hand to be able to give it to Senator Hauschild.

Old Business

None at this time.

New Business

Donation Resolution

Sup Soderberg moved, seconded by Floyd approve the 2024 donations resolution with Kitchen Island valued at \$521.52 donated by Cindy Faye Johnson, Tom Moore, John and Lisa Kappenman and \$25,000 from Eagles Nest Fire/EMS Auxiliary, as amended. Motion carried.

Tower Ambulance Commission Sprint Medic Program

The Sprint Medic Program is a pilot program that was funded by the state for \$3,000,000. The Virginia Fire Department is participating by using Sprint Medics who are able to provide advanced life support (ALS) by being in roving vans that can be positioned closer to rural communities in the event of a medical emergency. The City of Tower is participating in this program because as of right now they have to wait until the Virginia Fire Department shows up to administer ALS and are charged for every call. After trying out this program for 60 days the city of Tower can opt out but may ask surrounding communities to pay into this service to help support its continuation if it becomes too expensive for Tower.

Interim Road Supervisor

A roads supervisor is needed between December 31 and next the meeting. Roads are Sup Chiabotti's secondary duty so he will cover the roads supervisor duties until a new roads supervisor is in place.

Sup Monahan-Junek moved, Seconded by Sup Soderberg to accept the resignation of Sup Floyd and to declare a vacancy. Sup Monahan-Junek, Sup Soderberg, Sup Sherman and Sup Chiabotti aye. Sup Floyd Abstains. Motion carried.

Supervisor Concerns

The Board thanks Sup Floyd for his 25 years of Service to the Township. The board also thanks Sup Sherman for his time on the board.

Adjournment

Sup Floyd moved, seconded by Sup Soderberg by to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 6:24 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Keely Drange, Clerk