

Minutes
EAGLES NEST TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING
March 20, 2024

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

Sup Dave Chiabotti, Sup Richard Floyd, Sup Kurt Soderberg, Sup Jackie Monahan-Junek, Sup Frank Sherman, Clerk Keely Drange, Treasurer Mary Beth Monte and Deputy Clerk/Treasurer Gwen Potter were in attendance.

Unless otherwise noted, motions carried unanimously.

Agenda

Sup Soderberg moved and seconded by Sup Floyd to approve the agenda for the March 20, 2024 BOS Meeting as amended.
Motion carried.

Additions to agenda included:
Fire and ENCEP job descriptions - new business
Deer Feeding memo - old business

Minutes

Sup Soderberg moved and seconded by Sup Sherman to approve the minutes from the February 21, 2024 Board of Supervisors meeting. Motion carried.

Communications List Approval

Sup Floyd moved and seconded by Sup Soderberg to approve the communications list. Motion carried.

Correspondence with the Clerk doesn't necessarily all need to be printed off but note the email on the communications list and keep within the email account. Supervisors can ask for more information if they want to regarding those emails.

The Superior Fuel and Lake Country Power invoices were over paid. The Treasurer will cut new checks with correct lower amounts.

Clerk will print the fire truck insurance to be put in the trucks by Mary-Beth Monte.

Citizens' concerns

Eagles Nest Resident, Ren Graham, requests the Township board consider approval of a Township Supervisor to testify at a legislative hearing for House file 2791 and Senate file 1324 regarding the use of ATVs on Public Lands and to provide a summary of the local approval measure and field questions from the legislative committee. Ren Graham explained that because the township has direct experience with the types of issues this bill may address the testimony may carry more weight coming from a township official as opposed to a resident. She also hopes that board will show support for the bill.

Sup Soderberg suggested the Township board have a special meeting so they have time to review the bill and discuss the matter further.

A special board meeting will be held at the hall on Thursday, March 28th 2024 at 3:30 pm to discuss ATV related legislation.

Reports

Clerk:

We do not have any eligible expenses for the Presidential Primary Reimbursement.

The Clerk has updated and fixed errors on the website.

Treasurers Report:

The Clerk and the Treasurer did not match with the bank. Both the Clerk and Treasurer were \$137.93 off from the bank statement. This was due to a Frontier EFT bill from December that the Clerk and treasurer voided in January. Treasurer Monte called Mark Albiredo at the Minnesota State's CTAS help desk accounting program and he explained that because we both closed out the year before the check was voided the beginning balance for the 2024 general fund is off by the \$137.93.

The Treasurer needs board approval to go into CTAS to make the adjustment to the beginning of this year's balance to include the \$137.93 for the voided Frontier bill so that the township records will balance with the bank.

Sup Soderberg moved, seconded by Sup Sherman to approve the adjustment of adding \$137.93 to the 2024 general fund beginning balance in the CTAS program. Motion carried.

Treasurer Monte reported claims in the amount of \$26,752.55 claim numbers 4830-4833; 4335-4847; 4849-4858 (voided claims 4834 & 4848) and check numbers 11343-11346; 11349-11362, 11365; 11367-11372.

Payroll in the amount of \$4,685.76 and check numbers 11326-11342.

The total amount for payroll and claims is \$31,438.31.

EFT: 11364; 11366

Voided Check # 11347, 11348, 11361 November Withholding: \$1,685.43

Sup Soderberg moved, seconded by Sup Sherman to approve payroll and claims. Motion carried.

Sup Floyd moved, seconded by Sup Chiabotti to approve the Treasurer's report. Motion carried.

Building and Grounds:

Air conditioning installation is complete except for the electrical. Outside temperatures must be 50 degrees before the electrical can be turned on.

Supervisor Chiabotti mentioned that the board had discussed that the air conditioning be funded with the American Rescue Plan funds.

Sup Chiabotti moved, seconded by Sup Soderberg to use American Rescue Plan Funds to pay for the \$8000 for expenses on the installation of air conditioning in the hall. Motion carried.

Outdoor water valve may be being used to fill water jugs. It may not be an issue at this point but the township should monitor use. The well does not have capacity to support increased water consumption other than the Town Hall needs and some minor other use.

The MN Department of Health water test for the building came back clean.

Fire Report: On File.

There is a chance that Greenwood Township may start to pay dues into the Tower Ambulance fund due to some shift in personnel on the Greenwood Township board.

The Clerk will put an ad on the website regarding the fire department's available smoke detectors and installation.

Roads:

The roads will get bad when we get snow. The roads will be graded when they thaw dry out.

Caroline Owen who got a flat on Trygg Road, wrote a letter to the County Commissioner regarding the flat. St. Louis County's Regional Engineering Supervisor was out inspecting Trygg Road. However, the county is implying that Eagles Nest residents may not be being honest regarding their claims of flat tires due to Trygg Road sharp rocks. However, they are paying attention to the issue at the present time.

There will be a story regarding Trygg Road in the Timberjay.

Land, website and broadband:

Sup Soderberg has found out that there is fiber optic cable all the way to the State Park.

Sup Soderberg said the County Commissioner has not set up a meeting regarding ATVs before the end of March as promised. Sup Soderberg will ask the County to set up a meeting at the end of April to discuss the ATV trail issue further.

The Township received the property tax bill for the Turner Ryan structure on the Park Land. Sup Soderberg will send that bill to Shawn Turner to pay.

Sup Soderberg has not heard from the Turner Ryan estate or Kromers regarding the Park Land. Soderberg will give deadlines to the Turner-Ryan estate and the Kromers to respond.

Sup Soderberg and Sup Sherman met and there needs to be five signs put up along Spruce Street. Two no parking signs, one sign that says Spruce Street, one no boat access sign and one dead end sign. Mr. McCubbin should also be paying to have a dock on the Park Land. The Park Land Committee may have a recommendation for April or May meeting. The recommendation will most likely be to accept the other two parcels of Park Land.

Emergency Preparedness/water:

Emergency Preparedness Topics covered in ENCEP and Fire report.

Some small lakes are beginning to open up.

Outreach and Networking:

Sup Monahan-Junek mentioned that the Township Days at the capital are coming up and it would be good to have a township supervisor present at them.

Sup Monahan-Junek pointed out that the Governor supports the supplemental rural ambulance funding.

Old Business:

Sup Floyd explained the changes from the first draft of the driveway ordinance. The supervisors felt they

needed more time to review the changes to the ordinance and get a copy of St. Louis County's driveway ordinance.

Sup Soderberg moved, seconded by Sup Sherman to table driveway ordinance topic until next meeting. Motion carried.

ENCEP and Fire Secretary Job Descriptions:

Sup Monahan-Junek suggested there should be a set maximum of hours per position. Mary Beth said the most hours she works for each position is 10 hours per month. Sup Floyd suggested a change in the job description names from secretary to administrative assistant for both positions.

Sup Monahan-Junek moved, seconded by Sup Soderberg, to accept the position descriptions and the changes as noted with a maximum of 10 hours worked per month per position. The job description name will be changed to administrative assistant.

Sup Sherman provided a draft of the Deer Feeding memo to let township residents know why they should not feed the deer. The deer feeding memo will be posted on the website.

Sup Soderberg moved, seconded by Sup Floyd to accept the deer feeding memo and put it on the website. Motion carried.

New Business:

Email Subscription Service/Constant Contact:

Sup Monahan-Junek explained the subscription to a township email service to send information about the township, newsletter style, to those who sign up to receive it. We can request location information so we can make sure that we limit the newsletter to those who own property in Eagles Nest.

Sup Monahan-Junek moved, seconded by Sup Chiabotti to get email service set up, and limited it to Eagles Nest property owners, and that Clerk Drange will be the user who will work with Sup Monahan-Junek. Motion carried.

Frontier Phone service:

Sup Soderberg got an email from ZPDI and they will send a credit of \$2371.23 to our Frontier account. Frontier says we will have that credit applied to our account. The remaining Frontier balance we owe is \$177.35 and we will pay it.

Supervisor Concerns:

Sup Chiabotti thanks Terry Mattson for filling in and letting the contractor in the buildings during the installation of the air conditioner and the heaters in the lower hall.

Sup Chiabotti will attend the MAT training sessions and has asked if other supervisors will go. Sup Floyd may go but has not decided yet.

Adjournment:

Sup Soderberg moved, seconded by Sup Floyd to adjourn. Motion carried.
The meeting adjourned at 7:38 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Keely Drange, Clerk