

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING
September 22nd, 2020, 6:00 PM at the Balkan Community Center

In attendance: Chairman – Brad Strgar
 Supervisors – Jennifer Tarnowski
 Supervisor – Dirk VerSteeg
 Clerk – Misty Hendrickson
 Treasurer – Kent Fredeen
 Visitors – 3 guests

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by the Chairman at 6:01 pm.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: After review of the minutes from the September 8th, 2020 meeting, a motion was made by Supervisor Tarnowski, supported by Supervisor VerSteeg to approve the September 8th, 2020 meeting minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Kent Fredeen

Receipts: \$21,308.82		
Revenues:		First National Bank – Interest
SLC – Taconite Municipal Aid	\$19,060.00	
SLC – 2020 MM Lease excess Revenue	\$25.52	
SLC – 2020 MN rents/royalties	\$1,450.58	
Community center rent	\$315.00	
Comm. Center Garbage tip fee	\$50.00	
Life Insurance reimbursed	\$32.72	
Garbage coupons	\$375.00	

First National Bank - Account Balances	
Checking Account	\$189,920.84
MEI (Mining Effects Tax) Account	\$136,720.71
Community Center Account	\$39,845.00
Building Project Account	\$4,954.99
COVID -19 account (restricted)	\$20,727.38
Total	\$392,168.92
Balkan Funds available	\$371,441.54

Debit Card usage: \$935.65 total

- Webinar on 10/6/20 Your Financial Record - \$25.00
- Printer and ink for office - \$465.99
- Green checks - \$444.66

A motion by Supervisor Tarnowski and seconded by Supervisor VerSteeg to approve the treasurer’s report as read. Motion carried unanimously.

Transfer completed: none
Recommended transfers: none

A motion by Supervisor Tarnowski, supported by Supervisor VerSteeg, to approve the bills for payment on September 22nd, 2020, and ordered paid in the amount of \$9,051.33. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion by Supervisor Tarnowski, supported by Supervisor VerSteeg, to accept the payroll for September 22nd, 2020 (payroll period 9/6 – 9/19/20), in the amount of \$8,498.20. Motion carried unanimously.

REPORTS:

1. Clerks Report:
 - a. Supervisor Tarnowski is working on the General Fund Budget for 2020.

- b. The fall newsletter is done. Balkan is sending out the snow plow agreements along with the newsletter.
 - c. The clerk ordered an HP 9025 printer with ink from Staples. It should arrive by Sept. 25th, 2020.
 - d. The clerk called Karen Pender to ask about paper towels in the pavilion toilets, at the request of the community center caretaker. Mrs. Pender said she noticed this too. The clerk posted signs saying not to put paper towel or feminine products in the toilet on 9/16/20.
 - e. Many people are interested in what Balkan is doing at the canister site and the new driveway. The clerk posted on Facebook and Balkan's website that Balkan is expanding the canister site in a joint effort with the city of Chisholm. A new road/driveway was installed due to the expansion which included the old road/driveway.
 - f. The clerk provided a cost analysis on the canister site expansion for the supervisors.
2. Shop & Road Report:
- a. The employees have been working on the new driveway/road, relocating the warming shack and hauling class 5 material for the canister site expansion.
 - b. A resident suggested Balkan brush by the stop signs, due to weed overgrowth. Supervisor VerSteeg will call John Johnson to ask if he would brush the ditches.
 - c. Supervisor Strgar repaired the dry hydrants at the Colombe pit and replaced the rope sign stating NO TRESPASSING at the gate. The Chisholm fire department was able to draw out of both receptacles.
3. Community Center Report:
- a. The Community Center caretaker asked Supervisor Tarnowski if he should pull the dead flowers out of the pots before winter. She agreed.
4. Canister Site Report
- a. Supervisor VerSteeg gave an update on the canister site expansion. He said there is more work to move and re-arrange the canisters to fit the new layout.
 - b. The metal recycling container needs to be moved but, use caution because there are many nails on the bottom of the container. A magnet needs to be utilized to pick up the nails before they get in tires.
5. Other Reports
- a. Sand needs to be added to the bocce ball courts as the rain washes away the sand.

CONCERNS AND COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE:

- 1. Laurel Fredeen suggested Balkan hold a "fall fling" for a social gathering. She suggested hot dogs to roast outside, or a concert held outside, or a book exchange box for the community.
- 2. Laurel Fredeen asked if Balkan had picked up the pavers for the boat landing on Centa Road. This should be done soon so that the pavers aren't given to another entity.
- 3. Mrs. Fredeen suggested Balkan ask the DNR to hold a workshop for safe hunting.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- 1. Taconite municipal aid was received on 9/15/20 for \$19,060.00.

OLD BUSINESS:

- 1. The snow plow agreement was discussed. Small changes to the wording was authorized. The rate of \$300/driveway remains unchanged. The agreement will go out along with the newsletter. The clerk will contact John, the mailman, to distribute the newsletters.
- 2. The pavilion bathrooms are ready to winterize. The supervisors agreed to winterize the pavilion next week.
- 3. The supervisors discussed the need for pumping the septic tanks at the pavilion and the community center.
- 4. The clerk prepared the Township COVID-19 Preparedness Plan. It was suggested to post at the canister site posting box and in the office.

NEW BUSINESS:

- 1. The work priority sheet has been updated.
- 2. Decals for the townships new equipment is needed. The clerk called to order more decals with Pink Tie Graphics. Pink Tie will call back once she finds the template.

UPCOMING MEETINGS/EVENTS:

- 1. Bruce Carman, MAT - hired EXL assessors, will be assessing Balkan's assets to make sure the assets are listed at replacement value on September 24th, 2020.
- 2. MAT Clerk training webinar – "Your financial record" is scheduled for October 6th. The clerk and treasurer will attend.

NEWSLETTERS & MEETING MINUTES:

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Supervisor Tarnowski, supported by Supervisor VerSteeg, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:17 PM. The next board meeting will be held at 6:00 PM at the Balkan Community Center on October 6th, 2020.

Respectfully Submitted,

Misty Hendrickson, Clerk

(Clerk) Misty Hendrickson

(Board Chair) Brad Stgar