

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING**  
**February 23rd, 2021, 6:00 PM at the Balkan Community Center**

In attendance: Chairman – Brad Strgar  
 Supervisor – Dirk VerSteeg  
 Clerk – Misty Hendrickson  
 Treasurer – Kent Fredeen  
 Visitors – 4 guests  
 Absent: Supervisor – Jennifer Tarnowski

**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 board meeting on February 9th, 2021, a motion was made by Supervisor VerSteeg, supported by Supervisor Strgar to approve the February 9th, 2021 meeting minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

**FINANCIAL REPORT:** Kent Fredeen

<b>Receipts: \$24,606.23</b>			
<b>Revenues:</b>		<b>First National Bank – Interest</b>	
St Louis Co. – Town Road Aid	\$22,707.23		
Community Center Rent	\$375.00		
Community Center Garbage	\$25.00		
Garbage tickets sold	\$750.00		
Sherwin-Williams overpayment returned	\$749.00		

<b>First National Bank - Account Balances</b>	
Checking Account	<b>\$193,299.10</b>
MET (Mining Effects Tax) Account	\$135,807.80
Community Center Account	\$41,145.50
Building Project Account	\$4,958.12
COVID -19 account	\$5,103.29
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$380,313.81</b>

Check number #62123 to Inter City Oil for \$2,465.10 was voided due to some confusion over the tax amount. Other voided checks are #62094, #62100, #62118, and #62126.

Debit Card usage: Chisholm Post office box rental for 2021 - \$140.00 and Deluxe receipt books in triplicate - \$224.68 – approved by Supervisor VerSteeg

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

Transfers completed: \$465.00 from checking to the community center account for January 2021 community center rent.

**Recommended transfers: Transfer \$1,000.00 from MET to the checking for the Chisholm Rec. Center 2021 program. A motion was made by Supervisor Strgar to allow transfer of \$1,000.00 from the MET account into the checking account. This was supported by Supervisor VerSteeg and passed unanimously.**

**A motion by Supervisor Strgar, supported by Supervisor VerSteeg, to approve the bills for payment on February 23rd, 2021, and ordered paid in the amount of \$6,556.87. Motion carried unanimously.**

**A motion by Supervisor Strgar, supported by Supervisor VerSteeg, to accept the payroll for February 23rd, 2021 (payroll period February 7<sup>th</sup> – February 20<sup>th</sup>, 2021), in the amount of \$9,737.20. Motion carried unanimously.**

## **REPORTS:**

1. Clerks Report:
  - a. The clerk will not be able to run a virtual meeting at the Annual meeting on March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2021.
  - b. The clerk filled out and turned into St Louis County – Krista Schmitz the PILT 2021 application on Monday February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2021.
  - c. Some absentee ballots have come in to the office. The absentee ballot board will meet to accept/reject the ballots on Friday, February 26<sup>th</sup>, 2021.
  - d. The clerk looked for the 2020 Annual Meeting minutes and didn't find any of the documents at the office. It was concluded, the previous clerk must not have done the minutes for the 2020 annual meeting.
2. Shop & Road Report:
  - a. Preparation for mounting the hoist saddle for the hydraulic cylinder on the Ford dump truck was done and ready for installation.
  - b. Intersections on the east and west route were graded, to rough up the roads that were “polished” by the snowplow.
  - c. Two leaks on the brushing tractor were repaired.
  - d. The repaired chainsaw was picked up at L&L Rentals.
  - e. The spill shield end cap for the new box on the dump truck was removed for newly fabricated extension.
  - f. The shop and tool crib were organized and cleaned.
  - g. The canister site was snowplowed and the canisters moved and cleaned out of snow. The empty cardboard containers were relocated.
  - h. Salonen and Baich roads were brush cut. Miss Baraga asked the employee to leave the ditches alone since they want to ensure the field being blocked from sight of the road for the wildlife. Supervisor Strgar will contact Miss Baraga to explain the situation.
  - i. Sanding was done on east and west routes' hills and intersections.
  - j. The foreman met with Frank Sever, from St Louis County Signs department, to review and finalize the sign order.
  - k. Snowplowing of the township was done to clean up drifting on February 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>.
3. Community Center Report
  - a. Due to the governor's executive order, most rentals at the community center have been put on hold indefinitely. Two small groups are allowed to meet.

- b. The garbage bin at the community center should be pulled out and snow cleaned out from around and under the bin.
- 4. Canister Site Report
  - a. Balkan's canister from Waste Management was picked up on February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2021. The clerk was asked to call Waste Management to tell them they shouldn't bill us anymore as we don't have the canister.
  - b. A canister site attendant mentioned the covers on the orange containers were in need of some repair.
  - c. The clerk was asked to make 2 laminated signs for the canister site saying "no cardboard".
  - d. Dave Pajunen asked how come laptops cost 6 punches of the card to dispose of. He thought this is too much and people may choose not to recycle their electronics if they have to pay \$9.00 to "recycle" their laptops. The correct amount to "punch" for the laptops is 2 punches (\$3.00) for 19 inch and under, 4 punches (\$6.00) for 19 inches and over laptops or TV's. The clerk will make a larger-print laminated sheet for the prices at the canister site. There are some toxic components inside laptops that may leach into the ground and possibly ground water.
- 5. Other Reports
  - a. none

**CONCERNS AND COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE:**

- 1. Mr. Fredeen asked about the progress on picking up the concrete planks from the DNR in Tower, MN. Supervisor VerSteeg has gone to the DNR site but no one was there so he couldn't get in the building. He will follow up on this issue.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

- 1. On February 17<sup>th</sup>, 2021, Jackie Fleischer called to say she is back in town and hopes to work at the canister site. **Supervisor VerSteeg motioned to propose a conditional offer of employment to Jackie Fleischer. She must follow the rules and defer to Dave Pajunen for her cooperation and to follow rules. This motion was supported by Supervisor Strgar and carried unanimously.** She will start training with Dave Pajunen on March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2021. The clerk will call her and offer her the alternate position, with conditions.
- 2. February 17<sup>th</sup>, 2021 the clerk received a call from a resident asking about prices for the canister site. The caller said there was no price information on our website. The clerk put the canister site pricing sheet on the website for residents to access.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- 1. The sign list for Newman Signs was updated to reflect more signs needed. Frank Sever, St Louis County Sign Supervisor, sent in Balkan's order. An updated sign list was given to the supervisors for their review.
- 2. The postcards sent to residents stated a virtual meeting option for attendance at the Annual meeting. Supervisor Tarnowski will perform this service for the Annual Meeting on March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2021.
- 3. Supervisor VerSteeg prepared the Road report for the Annual Meeting.
- 4. Crushing for class 5 was discussed. There is about 4500 cubic yards of material left at Sunset Pit, per Frank Sever, or about 6300 tons of material. Supervisor Strgar will contact Ulland Brothers about crushing material this year.
- 5. More preparation for the annual meeting was discussed.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- 1. The work priority sheet has been updated.
- 2. The budget meeting is scheduled for March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2021 at the Garage/office at 6pm. It will be posted by the clerk immediately.

**UPCOMING MEETINGS/EVENTS:**

1. Public Accuracy Test is scheduled for March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021 at 1 pm at the Community Center. The public is welcome.
2. The budget meeting is scheduled for March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2021, at the Garage/Office at 6pm.
3. The Annual Meeting and Township Election is March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2021. The election runs from 10 am to 8 pm. The Annual meeting is scheduled for 8:15 pm after the election.

**NEWSLETTERS & MEETING MINUTES:**

**ADJOURNMENT:**

**Motion by Supervisor Strgar, supported by Supervisor VerSteeg, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:40 PM. The next board meeting will be held at 6:00 PM at the Balkan Community Center on March 11th, 2021.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Misty Hendrickson, Clerk

---

(Clerk) Misty Hendrickson

---

(Board Chair) Brad Strgar