

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING
May 4th, 2021, 6:00 PM at the Balkan Community Center

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

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by the Chairman at 6:06 pm.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

- After review of the minutes from the board meeting on April 20th, 2021, a motion was made by Supervisor Tarnowski, supported by Supervisor VerSteeg to approve the April 20th, 2021 meeting minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Kent Fredeen

Receipts: 3,758.32			
Revenues:		First National Bank – Interest	
City of Chisholm Canister agreement	\$ 1300.00	FNB-C MET April 2021 interest	\$ 23.90
Dump tickets sold	\$ 1,125.00	FNB-C Community Center April 2021 interest	\$ 5.97
Community Center Rent	\$ 780.00	FNB-C Capital Expenditures April 2021 interest	\$ 0.71
Community Center garbage	\$ 25.00	FNB-C COVID-19 April 2021 interest	\$ 0.73
MET life insurance reimbursed	\$ 32.72		
Pancake feed deposit	\$ 439.29		
Pancake feed donations	\$ 25.00		

First National Bank - Account Balances	
Checking Account	\$117,602.40
MET (Mining Effects Tax) Account	\$166,181.88
Community Center Account	\$41,535.93
Building Project Account	\$4,959.97
COVID -19 account	\$5,105.20
Total	\$335,385.38

Voided checks: Check numbers: 62256, 62257, 62258, and 62259.

Debit Card usage: none

Supervisor Tarnowski moved to approve the treasurer's report as read. This was supported by Supervisor VerSteeg. Motion carried unanimously.

Transfers completed: none

Recommended transfers: A motion was made by Supervisor Tarnowski to approve the recommended transfer of March 2021 community center rent of \$1215.00, April 2021 community center rent of \$780.00, and the net pancake proceeds of \$109.93, totaling \$2104.93. This was supported by Supervisor VerSteeg and passed unanimously.

A motion by Supervisor Tarnowski, supported by Supervisor VerSteeg, to approve the bills for payment on May 4th, 2021, and ordered paid in the amount of \$7,228.99. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion by Supervisor Tarnowski, supported by Supervisor VerSteeg, to accept the payroll for May 4th, 2021 (payroll period April 18th – May 1st, 2021), in the amount of \$5,289.94. Motion carried unanimously.

REPORTS:

1. Clerks Report: Misty Hendrickson
 - a. The clerk attended an Age Friendly webinar on April 28th, 2021, put on by ARDC and AARP. This webinar wasn't what the clerk thought it would be.
 - b. The clerk picked up garbage around the garage area outside the fence line for the canister site.
 - c. On the next newsletter, the clerk will add something about cleaning up the roadsides and around the resident's homes.
 - d. It was suggested Balkan have a community clean up next year, by Supervisor Tarnowski.
 - e. Supervisor Strgar and the clerk will work together to get the AWAIR program started. This will be a work in progress, as it is extensive, to put together all of the material required for the project.
2. Shop & Road Report:
 - a. The full-time employees handed in their request for 10-hour days for June through August. There was some discussion about splitting up the days for one employee to work Monday through Thursday and the other employee to work Tuesday through Friday in order to have coverage for all weekdays. This subject was tabled and will be discussed further at the next meeting on May 18th.
 - b. **A motion was made by Supervisor VerSteeg to add Robert Radotich to the part time equipment operators list, after completion of the application. This was supported by Supervisor Strgar and passed unanimously.**
 - c. Latick, Cooper, Salonen, and Briski roads were graded on April 19th. North Long Lake, Latick, the Fire trail, and Korpi roads were graded on April 20th. Laitala and Bicanich roads were graded on April 20th. Sawmill, Haiskanen, Sever, and Cemetery roads were graded on April 21st. Krogerus, Cooper, Briski, and Haiskanen roads were graded on April 23rd. Johnson, Pozar, and Franti roads were graded on April 22nd. Colombe road was graded on April 23rd.
 - d. Road inspections are being done periodically.

- e. The grader didn't start on April 19th, due to a bad battery. A new battery was purchased from Ziegler and replaced for the grader.
 - f. A beaver dam on Franti road was mitigated and the culvert was opened up.
 - g. The garage yard hole was filled in, the shoulder fixed on Vlasich and HWY 73, and the class five from snow plowing was back-dragged in the yard.
 - h. Six loads of class five were hauled to Franti road. Five loads of class five were hauled to Haiskanen road to fill in the corduroy.
 - i. The road packer was put on the grader, the cab and windows cleaned.
 - j. Long Lake, Smolcich, Nettle, Franti, Colombe and Johnson roads were graded April 27th.
 - k. Concrete planks were picked up in Tower, MN on April 28th. These planks are earmarked for the Long Lake boat landing project.
 - l. Franti road culvert was cleaned out on April 29th.
 - m. The back hoe was delivered to the community center in preparation for fixing the pavilion's septic issue.
 - n. Wings, sanders and plows were removed from vehicles for summer.
 - o. The west side of Balkan was graded on April 30th.
 - p. The lawn mowers and trimmers were serviced by checking batteries, oil changes, decks cleaned, and blades sharpened on April 30th.
3. Community Center Report
- a. The Balkan Saddle Club will meet Sunday, May 9th. The pavilion bathrooms need to be opened up for the season.
 - b. Jon White will power wash the pavilion concrete slab.
 - c. Game night is planned for the community center May 10th at 7 pm. There will be small treats and beverages available.
 - d. Supervisor Tarnowski thought that water balloons and water guns would be fun for the National Night Out on August 6th.
4. Canister Site Report
- a. A new canister is needed at the canister site. Supervisor Strgar will look into this.
5. Other Reports
- a. Supervisor Strgar will fill out the Conditional Use Permit to apply to crush rock this year. Ulland will be the contractor for the crushing.
 - b. Ben Crosby, from Edwards Oil, emailed Supervisor Strgar about buying calcium chloride from them this year. After some discussion, it was thought that Balkan will go with EnviroTech again this year to spray calcium chloride on the roads.
 - c. The clerk will look up grants for the oil/water separator project. The MPCA, Army Corps, and Chris Ismil from IRRRB will be the next searches.

CONCERNS AND COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE:

- 1. Jeff Hendrickson asked if Balkan needed the two railroad ties in the pit behind the garage. The supervisors said to take it, if he can use it.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- 1. Some residents cannot access the website to do the broadband survey. Supervisor Tarnowski contacted these residents and helped them with the issues. She contacted W.A. Fisher to ask why the residents are having problems accessing the website.
- 2. No burning permits allowed now due to the DNR. They will email to let us know when we can start issuing burning permits.

OLD BUSINESS:

- 1. Another rebate from MP&L for the 6 new lights that were installed in the garage has been applied for.

2. Treasurer, Kent Fredeen, gave a summary of the pancake breakfast proceeds for the April 24th, 2021 feed. There were 116 people who attended the pancake breakfast, 5 were under 5 years old. The profit was \$109.43.
3. The clerk was asked by Supervisor Strgar to ask a MAT attorney if Balkan was still liable if residents put up their own signs saying “Children at Play”. The attorney said if the residents put the signs up in the right-of-way, Balkan will still assume some liability. It was suggested that Balkan ask the residents to move the signs out of the right-of-way. This issue will be discussed more.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. The work priority sheet has been updated.
2. Ann Palmquist suggested the price for the pancake breakfast should be raised to \$7 per person. After some discussion, it was decided to not raise the price to \$7 per person because we had just published it in the Spring 2021 newsletter at \$5 per person. Maybe next year.
3. Supervisor Tarnowski presented the Actual vs. Budgeted spreadsheet. So far in 2021, Balkan has spent a quarter of their budget.
4. Ground’s clean-up is needed around the garage and canister site.
5. Treasurer, Kent Fredeen, will be absent for the next meeting on May 18th. He will ask Gail Radotich to fill in for him.

UPCOMING MEETINGS/EVENTS:

1. Women’s bocce ball meeting at 5 pm at the community center – 5/4/21
2. 4H and Balkan Saddle Club will meet Sunday, May 9th at 10 am.
3. Game night at the community center – Monday, May 10th at 7 pm
4. Bonfire at the community center – June 5th at 7 pm.

NEWSLETTERS & MEETING MINUTES:

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Supervisor Tarnowski, supported by Supervisor VerSteeg, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:47 PM. The next board meeting will be held at 6:00 PM at the Balkan Community Center on May 18th, 2021.

Respectfully Submitted,

Misty Hendrickson, Clerk

(Clerk) Misty Hendrickson

(Board Chair) Brad Strgar