

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING
June 15th, 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 6:01 pm.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

- After review of the minutes from the board meeting on June 1st, 2021, a motion was made by Supervisor Tarnowski, supported by Supervisor VerSteeg to approve the June 1st, 2021 meeting minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Kent Fredeen

Receipts: \$687.48			
Revenues:		First National Bank – Interest	
Community center rent	\$250.00	FNB-C checking	\$4.76
		May 2021 interest	
Community Center garbage fee	\$25.00		
Canister site tickets sold	\$375.00		
Life insurance reimbursed	\$32.72		

First National Bank - Account Balances	
Checking Account	\$79,768.58
MET (Mining Effects Tax) Account	\$166,201.00
Community Center Account	\$43,851.48
Building Project Account	\$4,960.54
COVID -19 account	\$5,105.79
Total	\$299,887.39

Debit Card usage: \$158.79 Staples: for ink for printer and a new adding machine for the office

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

Transfers completed: A transfer from checking to the community center account for community center rent and pancake breakfast proceeds for \$205.71.

Recommended transfers: none

A motion was made by Supervisor Tarnowski, supported by Supervisor VerSteeg, to approve the bills for payment on June 15th, 2021, and ordered paid in the amount of \$10,086.44. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion by Supervisor Tarnowski, supported by Supervisor VerSteeg, to accept the payroll for June 15th, 2021 (payroll period May 30th – June 12th, 2021), in the amount of \$5,654.68. Motion carried unanimously.

REPORTS:

1. Clerks Report: Misty Hendrickson
 - a. Balkan will be receiving a rebate from Minnesota Power soon, for \$240.00.
 - b. A suspicious black suburban has been spotted repeatedly at the community center making laps. The clerk received a call from a resident about the suspicious activity.
 - c. The community center's bill for Century Link came in over \$179. The clerk put in a ticket with Lumen to remove this overage of \$118.83. The clerk will follow up with the Lumen representative to remove the extra charges.
2. Shop & Road Report:
 - a. The operators installed some good, used picks for the grader on June 2nd.
 - b. Pozar and Briski Roads were graded June 2nd.
 - c. The overrun cable, side boards, mud flaps and safety bar were installed on the Ford dump truck on June 2nd.
 - d. The sander was washed and put in storage. The V-plow was put in storage until winter. The T-22 was washed. Steve helped Jon with recharging the nitrogen in the accumulator on the packer on June 3rd.
 - e. Road inspections were done with Supervisor VerSteeg. Stakes were put in for road work. Locates for culvert replacement were called in.
 - f. The east routes were graded on June 4th.
 - g. A road inspection was done on June 8th. The west route was graded June 8th and 9th.
 - h. A clutch adjustment on the Ford tandem was done on June 9th. The box lights with new strobes were installed.
 - i. The lid was welded on the tool box on the tag trailer. It was greased and the tires were checked. The grader was cleaned and greased on June 10th.
 - j. The west routes were graded on June 11th.
3. Community Center Report
 - a. The pavilion's women's room ballast was repaired by North American Electric. New fluorescent bulbs were installed.
 - b. Supervisor Tarnowski noticed the cupola was damaged since last month. It looks like the sides were kicked in on the cupola. Plans for the cupola have not been decided on yet.
 - c. A resident would like a plaque put up on the community center that shows the date the community center was built to honor those who made it happen in 2011.
 - d. General Waste was called to empty the garbage canister at the community center.
4. Canister Site Report
 - a. A new orange canister was brought to the site on Tuesday, June 15th, 2021, by St Louis County.
5. Other Reports
 - a. Supervisor VerSteeg purchased a grease gun to grease the mowers.

- b. Kent Fredeen was recently at a funeral, where he received positive feedback about the pancake breakfasts Balkan offers. The food is good and the community involvement is the reason why everyone comes.
- c. Supervisor Strgar reported that Balkan will be able to get class five and crushed rock at the Hibbing Taconite property at Sunset Pit. Ulland, who is in charge of the project, will start stripping the pit on June 21, 2021. The cost will be \$3.30/ ton plus a little additional if Balkan gets 1 ½ inch crushed rock. There should be no mobilization costs, however, there will be royalties to Hibbing Taconite of about \$10,000. Ten to fifteen thousand tons should be crushed for Balkan this year.

CONCERNS AND COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE: none

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. **A motion was made by Supervisor Tarnowski, and supported by Supervisor VerSteeg, to order the calcium chloride from Edwards Oil at \$0.91/gallon, not to exceed \$40,000. The motion passed. The clerk will call Ben Crosby to order 30,000 gallons.** Calcium chloride will be ordered June 16th, 2021. The lead time is about two weeks.
2. W.A. Fisher will be sending a bill for web hosting for 2021 in July. The cost per year is about \$300.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. There will be updates to the operators' job descriptions and policy changes done in the employee handbook to better serve the people of the township.
2. Pay periods will not change, due to restructuring Balkan's Road and Bridge department. Currently, the pay period ends on Saturday at midnight and starts on Sunday at 12:01am.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. The work priority sheet has been updated.
2. A resident suggested the city of Chisholm contribute to Balkan's National Night Out. This was not supported. Supervisor Tarnowski suggested a committee be formed to plan the National Night Out. The clerk volunteered to help on the committee.
3. The Pork and Beans Fest has been cancelled. A notice will be put on the website and the newsletter.
4. A new Minutes book is needed. **A motion was made by Supervisor Strgar to order a new Minutes book. This was supported by Supervisor Tarnowski and passed unanimously.**
5. **A motion was made by Supervisor Strgar to cancel the fax line at the office in order to save money since it was barely used. Supervisor Tarnowski supported the motion. It was passed unanimously.**
6. The board requested the clerk appeal the decision MN UI determined the past employee was eligible for. The clerk will document the appeal and put it in the past employee's file.

UPCOMING MEETINGS/EVENTS:

1. Pancake breakfast – June 26th, 2021 830am to 11am
2. SLC's Household Hazardous Waste collection at the Balkan site July 7th, 2021
3. July 31st – Pancake Breakfast 830a-11a

NEWSLETTERS & MEETING MINUTES:

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Supervisor Tarnowski, supported by Supervisor VerSteeg, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:57 PM. The next board meeting will be held at 6:00 PM at the Balkan Community Center on June 29th, 2021.

Respectfully Submitted,
Misty Hendrickson, Clerk

(Clerk) Misty Hendrickson

(Board Chair) Brad Strgar