

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING
February 22nd, 2022, 6:00 PM at the Balkan Community Center

In attendance: Chairman – Brad Strgar
 Supervisor - Dirk VerSteeg
 Treasurer – Kent Fredeen
 Clerk – Misty Hendrickson
 Visitors – 2 guests
 Absent: Supervisor - Jennifer Tarnowski

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by the Chairman at 6:02 pm.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

- After review of the minutes from the regular board meeting on February 8th, 2022, a motion was made by Supervisor VerSteeg, supported by Supervisor Strgar to approve the February 8th, 2022 meeting minutes. Motion carried unanimously.
- After review of the minutes from the Budget special board meeting dated February 15th, 2022, a motion was made by Supervisor VerSteeg and supported by Supervisor Strgar to approve the Budget special meeting minutes.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Kent Fredeen

Receipts: \$34,873.96		
Revenues:		First National Bank – Interest
Town Road Aid	\$33,691.24	
Community Center Rent	\$290.00	
Life Insurance Reimbursed	\$32.72	
Snowplowing 2021- 2022	\$300.00	
Garbage Coupons sold	\$500.00	
City of Chisholm – catch up of Jan. 2022 fee for recycling agreement	\$60.00	

First National Bank - Account Balances	
Checking Account	\$187,417.09
MET (Mining Effects Tax) Account	\$15,544.90
Community Center Account	\$47,211.66
Building Project Account	\$1,064.73
COVID -19 account	\$8,428.79
Total	\$259,667.17

A motion was made by Supervisor VerSteeg to approve the treasurer’s report as read. This was supported by Supervisor Strgar and passed unanimously.

Debit Card usage:

1. \$85.77 for printer ink
2. \$9.40 for typewriter ribbon

Transfers completed:

1. A transfer of \$1,500.00 from MET to checking for the 2022 Chisholm Recreation Program was completed.
2. A transfer of \$600.00 from checking to the community center account for Jan. 2022 Community Center rent was completed.

Recommended transfers:

1. A motion to approve a transfer from MET to checking for \$6,610.00 for the 2021 sign installation was made by Supervisor VerSteeg and supported by Supervisor Strgar. This passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Supervisor VerSteege, supported by Supervisor Strgar, to approve the bills for payment on February 22nd, 2022, and ordered paid in the amount of \$15,072.39. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion by Supervisor VerSteege, supported by Supervisor Strgar, to accept the payroll for February 22nd, 2022 (payroll period February 6th – February 19th, 2022), in the amount of \$8,636.29. Motion carried unanimously.

REPORTS:

1. Clerks Report: Misty Hendrickson
 - a. The clerk ordered 1000 checks from Deluxe on February 11th, 2022. They arrived February 18th, 2022.
 - b. Supervisor Tarnowski suggested Balkan send out a Q&A to the supervisor candidates to post on Balkan's website for residents to learn more about the candidates. The Mesabi Tribune is not able to print the Q&A in the paper anymore due to the amount of townships who use the Mesabi Tribune as their preferred publisher.
2. Shop & Road Report:
 - a. The west side roads, the shop and the pit yard were snowplowed on Feb. 7th and 8th, 2022.
 - b. A new mirror was purchased and installed on the 1990 plow truck on Feb. 8th. Hydraulic leaks were fixed on the 2018 International plow truck, also.
 - c. The 2018 International plow truck was taken to Chisholm to use their scan tool to diagnose the problem on Feb. 9th, 2022. The problem came up as a quality level sensor. Midstate (formerly Skubic) was called to see if Balkan can get this issue fixed. It turned out to be a recall on that sensor and will be replaced per warranty at no cost to Balkan, on Feb. 16th.
 - d. New cutting edges and bolts were purchased from H&L for the 2018 International plow truck. These were installed on Feb. 9th, 2022 on the front blade.
 - e. The operator helped the guys who picked up tires loosen frozen tires for St Louis County on Feb. 10th at the canister site.
 - f. A new edge was put on the 1990 International plow truck on Feb. 10th. Plow shoes and strobes were fixed on this plow truck also.
 - g. Snow was plowed on all roads and driveways on Feb. 10th and 11th, 2022.
 - h. The shop yard was snowplowed, intersections were pushed back with the loader on Feb. 14th, on Baich, Kekke, Sawmill, Korpi, Long Lake, Krogerus, and Latick Roads.
 - i. Back-up lights and the wing light were fixed on the 1990 International plow truck on Feb. 15th. A safety chain on the R/H plow shoe was fixed on the 2018 International plow truck, also.
 - j. Banks were pushed back and snow plowing done on all Balkan roads and driveways on Feb. 16th, 17th, and 18th, 2022. The community center and the canister site were also snowplowed.
3. Community Center Report: none
4. Canister Site Report : none
5. Other Reports:
 - a. A resident mentioned Balkan set up the annual calcium chloride purchase early this year. Balkan can contact Edwards Oil and Envirotech and ask what price they are asking for calcium chloride for 2022.

CONCERNS AND COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE: none

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. The City of Chisholm is now offering a garbage pickup service to Balkan residents on Highway 73 and McNiven Roads. The cost will be less than \$20 per month.
2. Chip Lewis, St Louis County Hazardous Waste Supervisor, called on Feb. 17th, 2022 to let Balkan know July 6th, 2022 will be the day they offer drop off for the Household Hazardous Wastes in our area.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. none

NEW BUSINESS:

1. The work priority sheets were provided for the supervisors and reviewed.
2. The reporting for the ARPA funds on the US Treasury website is now open and the report is due April 30th, 2022.

3. An employee turned in a vacation request for March 3rd and 4th, 2022 for approval. **A motion was made by Supervisor VerSteege, and supported by Supervisor Strgar, to approve the vacation request. This passed.**
4. The clerk offered suggestions for purchase of a new computer for the treasurer. This purchase will be made using ARPA funds. **A motion by Supervisor Strgar, and supported by Supervisor VerSteege, was made to approve the purchase of a computer tower, 3 monitors, Microsoft Office 365, and any necessary wires needed. The approximate amount is \$1,200, not to exceed \$1,500. This motion passed.**

UPCOMING MEETINGS/EVENTS:

NEWSLETTERS & MEETING MINUTES:

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion was made by Supervisor VerSteege, supported by Supervisor Strgar, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:16 PM. The next board meeting will be held at 6:00 PM at the Balkan Community Center on March 10th, 2022.

Respectfully Submitted,

Misty Hendrickson, Clerk

(Clerk) Misty Hendrickson

(Board Chair) Brad Strgar