

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING
October 30th, 2024 6:00 PM at the Balkan Community Center

In attendance: Chairman – Brad Strgar
 Supervisor - Dirk VerSteeg
 Treasurer – Shari Fisher
 Clerk – Misty Hendrickson
 Visitors – 2 guests
 Absent: Supervisor - Garth Wilson

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

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

- After reviewing the minutes from the regular board meeting for **October 16th, 2024**, a motion was made by **Supervisor VerSteeg**, supported by **Supervisor Strgar**, to approve the regular board meeting minutes **October 16th, 2024**. Motion passed unanimously.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Shari Fisher

Receipts: \$2,453.16		
Revenues:		First National Bank – Interest
Canister Site coupons	\$ 500.00	
Community Center rent	\$ 835.00	
Community Center Garbage fee	\$ 75.00	
Life Insurance reimbursement	\$ 98.16	
Culvert installation and Permit fee	\$ 945.00	

First National Bank - Account Balances	
Checking Account	\$268,216.82
MET (Mining Effects Tax) Account	\$ 27,002.87
Community Center Account	\$ 61,168.84
Building Project Account	\$ 1,088.02
COVID -19 account	\$ 47,301.93
Total	\$404,778.48

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

Debit Card usage: none

Voided Receipts: none

Voided checks: none

Recommended Transfers:

1. A transfer of \$1385.00 from the checking to the community center account for the community center rent from 10/1/24 – 10/28/24 was recommended. **A motion to**

approve the transfer was made by Supervisor VerSteeg, supported by Supervisor Strgar, and passed unanimously.

2. A transfer of \$1991.02 from the COVID19/ARPA account to the checking account for the clerk's computer and networking done in the office was recommended. **A motion was made by Supervisor VerSteeg to approve the transfer, supported by Supervisor Strgar, and passed unanimously.**
3. A transfer of \$57.42 for community center forks and parts to winterize the pavilion was recommended. **A motion was made by Supervisor VerSteeg, supported by Supervisor Strgar, to approve this transfer. This motion passed.**

Transfers completed:

1. The transfer of \$145.28 from the checking to the community center account for the pie social (10/12/24) net profit was completed.
2. The transfer of \$150.00 from the community center account to the checking account for mailing Age-Friendly postcards was completed.

A motion was made by Supervisor VerSteeg, supported by Supervisor Strgar, to approve the bills for payment on October 30th, 2024, and ordered paid in the amount of \$9,029.36. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion by Supervisor VerSteeg, supported by Supervisor Strgar, to approve the payroll for October 30th, 2024 (payroll period October 13th, 2024, to October 26th, 2024), in the amount of \$8,735.90. Motion carried unanimously.

REPORTS:

1. Clerks Report: Misty Hendrickson
 - a. The clerk has been working on the FEMA project.
 - b. Fire Protection and Canister site contracts were received from Chisholm with some errors. They were sent back for corrections.
 - c. The clerk ordered an electronic three-hole punch, approved by Supervisor Strgar.
 - d. The October 29th, 2024, special meeting minutes with Chisholm regarding the contracts is ready for approval. **A motion was made by Supervisor VerSteeg, supported by Supervisor Strgar, to approve the minutes from the Special meeting with Chisholm regarding the Canister site agreement and the Fire Protection contract. This passed unanimously.**
 - e. MATTT's building appraisal increase was reviewed by the supervisors. The increase was \$226.00.
2. Shop & Road Report:
 - a. Work was done on the FEMA project gathering data on October 14th. Long Lake Road was graded.
 - b. Class five was hauled to the Fire Trail off North Long Lake Road on October 15th and graded.
 - c. The floor drain holding tank was pumped out with the help of Chisholm on October 16th. Class five was hauled to the fire trail off North Long Lake Road and ditched.
 - d. The ditching was finished off North Long Lake Road on October 17th. The equipment has been moved to Salonen Road for the next project.
 - e. North Long Lake Road was graded on October 18th. The pavilion was winterized with air blown in the lines and pink stabilizer added to the lines.
 - f. Ditching started on Salonen Road on October 21st and 22nd.
 - g. Briski and Latick Roads were graded on October 21st.

- h. The skid steer was moved to the shop on October 22nd. The excavator was moved to Sawmill Road.
 - i. A beaver dam was dug out on Sawmill Road on October 23rd. Kekke, Tolonen, Koshere, Smolcich, Frider, Nettle, Salonen and Sawmill Roads were graded.
 - j. Beaver screens were made on October 24th.
 - k. Korpi Road was ditched on October 25th. A beaver dam there was dug out.
 - l. The excavator got stuck up to its cab in muskeg this last week. Brad Nosie was available with his excavator to “pull” Balkan’s excavator out. This was very kind to help. **A motion was made by Supervisor Strgar, supported by Supervisor VerSteeg, to send Brad Nosie \$200 for use of his excavator to pull out Balkan’s excavator. This motion passed unanimously.**
3. Community Center Report:
- a. The community center caretaker pulled the flowers from the pots at the community center.
 - b. Supervisor VerSteeg hopes to turn on the floor heat at the community center on Monday, Nov. 4th, 2024.
 - c. Supervisor Wilson called Lowes to find costs for two wall-mounted ovens to replace the ones at the community center. He said the Frigidaire ovens are around \$2700, and the Bosch ovens run \$4000. There’s a \$29 delivery fee and the installation would be around \$270-\$300.00.
 - d. Three new toilets will be installed at the community center by Anderson Plumbing, soon.
4. Canister Site Report:
- a. All is well.
5. Other Reports:
- a. Deb VerSteeg reported on the Age-Friendly Information Station Medicare 101 class that 20 people attended on October 25th at the community center. Thanks to Cheryl and Larry Killien for their help and providing pizza to the group. Cookies were provided by Deb VerSteeg and Misty Hendrickson provided carrot bars. Deb V., community activity director, asked if the board will provide \$50 per Age-Friendly Information Station class moving forward. **A motion was made by Supervisor Strgar, supported by Supervisor VerSteeg, to approve up to \$50 per Age Friendly class from the community center funds to provide food. This passed unanimously.**

CONCERNS AND COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE:

- 1. none

CORRESPONDENCE:

- 1. The Chisholm Fire Department provided the fire calls for the third quarter of 2024. These calls were reviewed.
- 2. A letter was received regarding tax forfeit land off Seppala Road in Balkan. The supervisors reviewed it.
- 3. St Louis County Association of Townships secretary and treasurer sent a letter explaining MAT will pay for the registration fee for Township Day at the Capitol Jan. 27th, 2025, for the elected to attend. This was reviewed.

OLD BUSINESS:

- 1. The canister site agreement and the fire protection agreements were discussed. They will be approved and contracts signed at the next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

- 1. The work priority sheets were provided for the supervisors and reviewed.
 - a. Start ditching on Salonen Road.
 - b. Haul class five to Long Lake Road, Salonen and Cooper Roads

- c. Continue cleaning up the washouts and grade other roads as needed.
 - d. Service equipment as needed.
 - e. When time permits, change the box on the International.
 - f. Clean up shop as time allows.
2. The fitness class date was changed from Nov. 5th to Nov. 26th, because of the election. A new addendum was drawn up and signed for this.
 3. Snowplow agreements are ready for inspections next week.

UPCOMING MEETINGS/EVENTS:

1. **General Election – Nov. 5th, 2024, 7am-8pm polls are open.**

NEWSLETTERS & MEETING MINUTES:

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion was made by Supervisor Strgar, supported by Supervisor VerSteeg, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 7:17 PM. The next board meeting will be held at 6:00 PM at the Balkan Community Center on November 13th, 2024.

Respectfully Submitted,

Misty Hendrickson, Clerk

(Clerk) Misty Hendrickson

(Board Chair) Brad Strgar