

BELGRADE TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING
NICOLLET COUNTY SATELLITE OFFICE
October 8th, 2019
MINUTES

The Belgrade Township regular monthly meeting for October was held on October 8th, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. at the Nicollet County Satellite Offices, 2070 Howard Drive in North Mankato, MN. Chairperson Mary Milbrath, Supervisor Craig Smith, Supervisor Cheryl Michels, Supervisor Tom Langdon, Treasurer Konnie Pierson and Clerk Lori Cullen were present as well as Harlan Olson, Dave Chambers, Chris Knowles, Bart Weelborg, Scott Weilage, Keith Pierson, Brian Voss. Supervisor Tim Lorentz was Absent.

The meeting opened with The Pledge of Allegiance and was called to order @ 7:00pm by Mary Milbrath.

Tom made a motion to approve the agenda. Craig seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Tom made a motion to approve September 9th Meeting Minutes. Craig seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Tom made a motion to approve the September Claims. Craig seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Craig made a motion to approve the September Payroll. Cheryl seconded the motion. The motion passed. Tom abstained because had a claim for payment included.

Konnie gave the Treasurer's Report for September. There was \$12,587.20 in Simple Checking and \$8,322.59 in the Platinum account as of September 30th, 2019. There was \$261,028.66 in the ICS account as of September 30th, 2019. Interest for the month of September for the Platinum Account was \$1.05. Interest for the month of September in the ICS Account was \$494.71. Tom made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report. Craig seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Mary reminded everyone of Board Meeting Etiquette. The meeting is being recorded only to assist in preparing minutes.

OLD BUSINESS – There were no additions or corrections to the following old business:

Culverts & Ditches - Old River Bluff Road Culvert (Bart W); M&R signs/right of way (7', not break-away, 1-sided); Amend ROW filing permit for utility company; Updates on 409th & 490th (hill); Tabled - Spillway; Bolten & Menk bill

Employees - No business discussed

Equipment - Truck & plow; Truck/dodge replacement; Tabled - Lights for truck

FEMA - Reimburse Mary for printer ink; FEMA 2 Initial phone contact

Fire Report - Craig

Roads - MNDOT & 169; Tabled - Michaletz Minimum Maintenance Road

Tabled Items - In appropriate categories above (Michaletz Minimum Maintenance Road; Lights for truck; Spillway – Bolten & Menk bill)

Other - Spending to date; Purchase file cabinets/get rid of broken ones; Disposal/sale of some obsolete items at shop

NEW BUSINESS

Culverts & Ditches

- The culvert on Bart Weelborg's property along Old River Bluff Road was discussed. Bart, along with Chris and Brian (neighbors) addressed the culvert proposal. He submitted some quotes to the board. Mary said this project significantly affects our road. Harlan said he has hauled in several loads of gravel trying to protect our road and was glad the neighbors worked cooperatively to try to help save the road. Chris said it's only been in the last few years that it's become such a problem. Tom said Bob Lorentz recommended a 5' culvert. Nicollet soil and water also recommended that size. Mary asked for suggestions from the board. Dave Chambers said box culverts need to be specially made, so it would probably be November before the project can be done. The board discussed the situation and said they would be willing to contribute \$15,000 toward the project since it would benefit a township road. Bart will talk to his neighbors and see what their thoughts are. Tom stated the board will not commit to an obligation to cleaning it since it's on private property. Bart and his neighbors will discuss the matter and get back to the board on their plans.
- Mary spoke with someone at M&R Signs regarding right-of-way signage. He recommended sticking with what's there for now. Craig would prefer no right-of-way signs go in because of the potential for damage to farm equipment. Tom said if the farmers would stop encroaching on our ditches then we wouldn't need to put them up. The board discussed the need for traffic control signs. Craig made a motion to purchase 20 u-channel 8' signs for traffic control. Harlan requested the heavier gauge poles. Cheryl seconded. Motion passed.
- It was recommended to Mary that the Board amend the Ordinance for Right-of Way Application for Utility Work to include a \$500 application fee up front. Tom made a motion to amend the Ordinance to include a \$500 application fee. Craig seconded. Motion passed.
- On 409th it was discovered that Consolidated drilled a hole in the culvert, which contributed to the breakdown of the culvert. Mary expects Consolidated to pay. Tom made a motion to send a bill to Consolidated for cost reimbursement for repairs needed to correct the issue. Craig seconded. Motion passed. Harlan guessed that Bob will get to the project on 490th at the end of the month after he finishes the State job.

- Mary spoke with MNDOT and they want Belgrade Township to be responsible for the grate at the bottom of the hill on Timber Lane. Randy Gish has the abstract that says MNDOT is responsible for the grate. Craig said to not make any commitment.
- Tabled item regarding the Smith Spillway: Bolten & Menk billed the township for \$4,700 for work done evaluating and making recommendations to the board on how to correct the issue. Craig has not received any further information from them. Mary requested that any further work done on the spillway should be done on our own now that we have the report from the engineer. The township has already invested a substantial sum to obtain recommendations.

Employees

- Tom asked if we could get a new large toolbox for the shop. Harbor Freight has a 56" toolbox for \$799. We only need the bottom. Cheryl made motion to purchase the toolbox from Harbor Freight.. Craig seconded. Motion passed.
- Scott Weilage expressed concerns the Facebook page Tim has. He thinks it is too negative.

Equipment

- Tom updated the board on the potential truck and plow purchase. International makes a truck that fits the township's needs. We could get it serviced locally. The base truck cost is \$61,841.00. Trade value on Doge is \$15,000. Tom will get specs to the board. He and Harlan estimate an additional \$27,459 would need to be spent with aftermarket options. Some equipment, like the salt/sander we will be able to be transfer what we have. Craig is concerned as to whether we can afford it this year. Mary spoke with someone at Pioneer Bank. He suggested a loan. We could pay for half of it now and then take out a loan for the balance. Konnie brought a report with the Fund balances to date. Mary said we should be receiving \$21,00 from the 2018 FEMA. Tom made motion to purchase a new truck to replace the Dodge. Cheryl seconded. Motion passed. We will discuss financing later.
- Tom said it will cost approximately \$2,200 to have new safety lights installed on the Freightliner. They will have 360-degree visibility. Mary made motion to have new safety lights installed on the truck. Tom seconded. Motion passed. It was also mentioned that they could be transferred to a different vehicle when the Freightliner needs replacing down the road.

FEMA

- Mary requested reimbursement for two ink cartridges for her printer due to the volume of paperwork she's printed for FEMA. The board agreed she should be reimbursed.
- Mary has received a contact call for new FEMA.
- FEMA for Kerns is still in question. Mary emailed Ryan Smith, who is the head contact for the State of Minnesota, asking what the next step is. The township should be getting a response from them within 90 days, which ends October 17th with a decision.

Fire Report - Nothing new.

Roads

Harlan is inquiring what to do on the Micheletz minimum maintenance road. He can't fit any equipment through the gate that's there. Tom said just leave the road alone for now.

Other

- Keith Pierson asked if someone could look at the culvert by his place. They had to pump water out of their ditch to keep it away from their house. Harlan said there is another culvert that needs to be checked on the west side of 405th. Tom said they will check them both.
- Mary and Lori will be going to the shop and cleaning out the office there. The board said to get rid of the old broken file cabinets and purchase some good used filing cabinets.
- Craig said he would like to see the township someday drill a well for the shop so we could pressure wash our own vehicles and have minimal plumbing for employees.

Tabled Items

Adjourn

Craig made a motion to adjourn. Cheryl seconded the motion. The motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 8:08pm.

Mary Milbrath, Chair

Date

Lori Cullen, Clerk