

BELGRADE TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING
NICOLLET COUNTY SATELLITE OFFICE
November 12th, 2019
MINUTES

The Belgrade Township regular monthly meeting for November was held on November 12th, 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, Joseph Cullen, Randy Gish, Andy Goettlicher, Bart Weelborg, Loren Lindsey, Cheryl Olson and Carolyn Nelson. Contractor Bob Lorentz attended. Supervisor Tim Lorentz was Absent.

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

Board Chair Mary Milbrath resolved to declare a vacancy on the town board. Cheryl Michels seconded. Board voted in favor of declaring the vacancy.

Mary suggested Randy Gish. Craig suggested Andy Goettlicher. Randy was willing but felt that since Andy would likely run again that he would suggest Andy. Andy came and introduced himself to the board. Craig made a motion to appoint Andy to the board. Cheryl seconded. The motion passed. Andy took the Oath of Office and remained as a Board Supervisor for the remainder of the meeting. He is filling the vacancy left by Supervisor Tim Lorentz.

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

Craig made a motion to approve October Meeting Minutes. Cheryl seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Craig made a motion to approve the October Claims. Cheryl seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Craig made a motion to approve the October Payroll. Cheryl seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Konnie gave the Treasurer's Report for October. There was \$12,608.12 in Simple Checking and \$10,996.49 in the Platinum account as of October 31st, 2019. There was \$141,369.62 in the ICS account as of October 31st, 2019. Interest for the month of October for the Platinum Account was \$0.89. Interest for the month of October in the ICS Account was \$340.96. Craig made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report. Cheryl seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Konnie expressed concern regarding the current balances on our accounts. Mary pointed out that the board has accomplished a much higher number of projects in the township this year as compared to the past many years. Residents at the Annual March Meeting requested we start using the township funds to get some road issues repaired. There are also two FEMA petitions pending for partial reimbursement on some 2018 & 2019 disasters.

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

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

Culverts & Ditches - MN DOT Tony & Chase; Telcom Communications; 409th Culvert; Bart Weelborg; Deerwood Trail; Right of Way letter – consequences

Employees – Harlan's review date

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

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

Craig made a motion to approve Old Business. Cheryl seconded. Motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS

Culverts & Ditches

- MN DOT is working on the culvert with grate at the bottom of Timber Lane. Chase Fester is the District Director. He gave Mary a plan for grate placement. They would charge the township \$504 to clean it out. Craig made a motion to accept the proposal to clean out the grate on Timber Lane for \$504.16 per cleaning. Cheryl seconded. Motion passed.
- Telcom Communications reimbursed township for the full cost of repair on 409th.
- Bart Weelborg spoke about the \$15,000 the township offered to contribute to a new culvert on his property. The bids came in at \$45,000 - \$50,000. The cost commitment is around \$8,500 for a retention pond option. Bart said he can maintain it. He's wondering if the board will help pay that. Mary expressed concerns about the pond overflowing quickly with debris. Craig said that we will have to wait until next year to readdress the issue. The board rescinds it's previous offer due to budget constraints.

- Water is undermining the culvert/road on Deerwood Trail. Loren Lindsey said the township put a pipe in years ago to handle some of the water that causes a frost boil in that area. Harlan asked if it would help if we ran the pipe down to the bottom of the ravine. Bob Lorentz recommended putting riprap in to protect the roads and culvert aprons. Bob asked how far the riprap should go to protect the road and culvert. Mary said we have \$4,100 coming from FEMA for that road. It's \$45/ton for riprap; \$5,000 to build the road to access the end of the culvert to clean it out. Craig said put the road in (85 ton) to reach the culverts on each side of the road to protect the culvert this year. Bob said the property owner with the drain tile that empties into that ditch on Timber Lane should be contacted and instruct her to plug it. Craig made a motion do minimum work on Deerwood Trail to protect it, but to wait on Timber Lane and Timber Trail. Cheryl seconded. Motion passed.

Employees

- Harlans Review date is set for the December 10th meeting.

Equipment

- The board discussed possibly taking out a loan for a portion of the purchase price. Mary called around for loans for the truck. We may not have a choice but to take a partial loan out for the truck. Randy said in the past there were loans taken out for the grader he thought. No decision was made.

FEMA

- FEMA 1 & 2 Updates – If any mitigation comes in for under \$7,500 it will get

Fire Report

- Meeting on 25th. They are top notch with their budget and spending.

Roads

- Oshawa Township scraped of gravel from a Belgrade Township Road, across intersection to cover their frost boils. Mary inquired about sending them a claim for payment and letter. The board said to let it go.
- MN Stat 160.2715 regarding restrictions like parking on township roads, snow removal. Mary wondered of we need to make a town ordinance. The board didn't see the need for a separate ordinance at this time. If you notice residents pushing snow across the road, call clerk, take picture and send a letter.
- We have had calls requesting the snow be pushed in specific areas. Andy said the main goal and purpose is to clear the road and make it passable. Harlan added, to prevent more drifting. They are not private contractors and have to plow it where they need to plow.
- Mary suggested composing a letter to distribute to residents, including farmers, who encroach on the township Right of Way. The letter with photo would explain what the consequences for encroachment would be. Craig said the farmers have a right to farm. Lori said it's a matter of being a good neighbor to clean up your excessive mess.

Other

- The gas company, Center Point Energy put a gas line in around the Purrier Court area.
- Konnie brought up the low account balances. Mary called around for loans for the truck. We may not have a choice but to take a partial loan out for the truck. Cheryl Olson mentioned checking a credit union. Randy said in the past there were loans taken out for the grader he thought.
- The Pierson culvert would function fine if it were allowed to. Just south of the culvert the ground slopes up. The ditch needs to be cleaned by Piersons neighbor to the south.
- Harlan also added that on 405th there is standing water. There is no culvert there.

Tabled Items

Adjourn

Craig made a motion to adjourn. Cheryl seconded the motion. The motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 8:35pm.

Mary Milbrath, Chair

Date

Lori Cullen, Clerk