

**BELGRADE TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING
NICOLLET COUNTY SATELLITE OFFICE
December 10th, 2019
MINUTES**

The Belgrade Township regular monthly meeting for December was held on December 10th, 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, Supervisor Andy Goettlicher, Treasurer Konnie Pierson and Clerk Lori Cullen were present as well as Harlan Olson, Dave Chambers, Joseph Cullen, Scott & John Michlaetz.

The meeting opened with The Pledge of Allegiance and was called to order @ 7:00pm by Mary Milbrath. Cheryl made a motion to approve the agenda. Andy seconded the motion. The motion passed.

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

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

Cheryl made a motion to approve the November Payroll. Andy seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Tom abstained because had a claim for payment included.

Konnie gave the Treasurer's Report for November. There was \$4,974.28 in Simple Checking and \$5,317.18 in the Platinum account as of November 30th, 2019. There was \$111,558.74 in the ICS account as of November 30th, 2019.. Interest for the month of November for the Platinum Account was \$0.72. Interest for the month of November in the ICS Account was \$189.12. Tom made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report. Craig seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Culverts & Ditches

The supervisors discussed possibly sending a letter to residents who are infringing on the township Right of Way. No decision was made.

Deerwood Trail – FEMA of 2018 was completed as of Saturday.

Employees

Harlan chose to have his Annual Review held as an open meeting. The supervisors all gave Harlan top scores. They appreciate that he is trustworthy, dependable and does a good job. Mary asked if he would entertain the idea of exchanging two paid holidays for two PTO days. He said that would be fine if he is still getting two paid days off.

Craig said at some point the board may need to set a limit on the wage paid to our full-time employee due to budget considerations. Craig made a motion to give Harlan a \$1.00/hr raise. Cheryl seconded. Motion passed. Tom abstained.

Equipment

Tom said the tentative date begin building the truck was in January with delivery in March. Tom suggested keeping an eye on the interest rates. Mary said South Point Credit Union is willing to negotiate for the township. SLS Financial is through MAT, but their interest rate is high. We will continue to look.

The board thought it would be wise to Re-Key the lock at shop. Tom suggested asking about keys that say "no duplicate" on them. Tom made a motion to have the shop door locks re-keyed. Cheryl seconded. Motion Passed. The clerk will take care of getting the new keys.

FEMA

FEMA 1 is all entered. FEMA 2 is all entered and under consideration. Mary proposed we cap the amount submitted under \$175,000 so it goes through a more streamlined process. Tom said to leave it to Mary's digression.

Fire Report

Craig had two meetings that night. Andy attended one. They are working on getting a better system together for invoicing. They went over fire calls as well. They keep very good track of their budget. 16 billable with only 5 paid. That's a chronic problem especially with auto accidents. Tom said they do an awesome job. January 27th @ 7:00pm is their budget meeting.

Roads

There is a sink hole 498th caused by work done by the cable company. They inspected the hole and sent out A & A Construction from Kenyon to repair it. Mary will call and ask for a report. She said the contact person is Jerry Guck. Harlan explained that next spring we'll have to check that culvert to make sure this incident isn't going to result in a plugged culvert.

Mary believes the board should make a Resolution stating: Belgrade Township is the road authority over its roads. Mary called the state and they said we need to be the Road Authority. We've had an issue with a vehicle parked on Old River Bluff Road. Vehicles are not to be parked on township roadways. Harlan said waste cans also present a challenge when plowing. He said people need to keep them off the road and in their driveway. Tom was concerned the cans wouldn't be out far enough for the waste management company. Harlan spoke with Waste Management. They said their arm reaches out 6 ft, so leaving them in the driveway should be no problem for them. Maybe we need to put something on website regarding placement of waste cans on snowy days. Our plowers are not expected to get out of their vehicles to move garbage cans. The snow and ice policy already covers things like: not pushing snow across a township road *and* residents are responsible for cleaning around their mailboxes. Two residents also called Harlan complaining about huge mud clumps on the road left behind by a farmer. It happened on a Sunday. Craig said to call the landowner when that happens so they can clean it up. If it becomes chronic by the same landowner, then the board will send a letter to warn them of the consequences of continuous violations.

Scott & John Michlaetz requested some maintenance be done on their minimum maintenance road. It's been flooded the past couple of years. The August flooding washed away what they had personally done. Scott would like to see something get done before it is closed for the winter. He's requesting rock and wondering what the permanent fix is. Scott is wondering if at some point the township would abandon the road and let them take it over. John said Todd Becker is agreeable to have it go private. Tom said he would like to make a motion to abandon that small portion between the two gates. It's very difficult to get township equipment in there. Craig is not in favor of abandoning a road. Tom said he would find out the legalities involved in abandoning the road or selling that portion of land. Addressing the current issue of gravel, the board said if Harlan feels he can put rock on it to do it. Tom and Harlan will discuss the best way to get rock over there as soon as possible.

Mary suggested making a motion or resolution to close certain Minimum Maintenance Roads for the winter. The supervisors agreed to the of closing some. The Minimum Maintenance Roads to be closed are as follows: 1) Michlaetz MMR east of Hwy 169; 2) the short one between Old River Bluff & Hwy 169; 3) Smith spillway road; 4) MMR by Richard Timm; 5) the one off 405th.

Other

Mary was contacted by a Census rep in Chicago who told her we need to destroy any records gathered from the census update.

The board received an email from resident with some concerns. Tom spoke with him and they resolved the issue.

Konnie brought an account balance sheet so the board would be up to date regarding finances.

The contact list the alarm company uses was discussed. The board would like to have Craig, Harlan, Andy and Tom be on the "who to call if the alarm goes off" list.

Tabled Items

Adjourn

Tom made a motion to adjourn. Craig seconded the motion. The motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 8:45pm.

Mary Milbrath, Chair

Date

Lori Cullen, Clerk