

BELGRADE TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING
TELECONFERENCE DUE TO COVID 19
June 9th, 2020
MINUTES

The Belgrade Township regular monthly meeting for June was held on June 9th, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. via teleconference due to COVID 19 restrictions. The board passed a resolution that this meeting be conducted by teleconference due to the COVID 19 Pandemic. Chairperson Mary Milbrath, Supervisor Cheryl Michels, Supervisor Tom Langdon, Supervisor Andy Goettlicher, Supervisor Craig Smith, Treasurer Konnie Pierson and Clerk Lori Cullen were present as well as Harlan Olson, John and Matt Michaelitz and Scott Bailey from Roadside Vegetation Management.

The meeting was called to order @ 7:00pm by Mary Milbrath.

Cheryl made a motion to approve the agenda. Andy seconded the motion. Motion carried, 5-0.

Cheryl made a motion to approve May 12th Meeting Minutes. Andy seconded the motion. Motion carried, 5-0.

Tom made a motion to approve the May Claims. Cheryl seconded the motion. Motion carried, 5-0.

Cheryl made a motion to approve the May Payroll. Andy seconded the motion. Motion carried, 5-0.

Konnie gave the Treasurer's Report for May. There was \$14,574.51 in Simple Checking and \$19,037.66 in the Platinum account as of May 31st, 2020. There was \$52,733.69 in the ICS account as of May 31st, 2020. Interest for the month of May for the Platinum Account was \$1.36. Interest for the month of May in the ICS Account was \$17.35. Andy made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report. Craig seconded the motion. Motion carried, 5-0.

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

OLD BUSINESS

Mary spoke with the sign company on Timber Trail. The sign is cemented in. They will call Mary when they are ready to replace it so she can call Harlan to meet them at the location. There were no other additions to the following old business:

Culverts & Ditches - Field Drive/Culvert gone on Old River Bluff; Ditch on 526th ; Letter for Board to approve for John Speckle (Cert.)

Employees - May 13th Teleconference call with MAT

Equipment - Tires for Kubota; \$409.22 credit at Crysteel

FEMA - Nothing

Fire Report - Craig

Roads - Huntley Wilmarth Permit and Bond; Work on Spillway and MMR; MMR or TC (Township Cartway); Town Bridge Funding; Road Tour plans

Tabled Items - Timber Trail ditches

Other - 2020 Census

NEW BUSINESS

Culverts & Ditches

Mary sent Bill Mattes a letter asking if he was needing a new culvert. Mary referred him to our culvert policy. He called her and said he doesn't need one, but his neighbor to the south, Roger Bruns needs one. Tom suggested Bill talk to his neighbor. Andy can investigate whether we can expect the owner to replace. Harlan will inspect the culvert.

Andy will take over weed inspector responsibilities. Mary will request a new weed identification from MAT.

Trees need trimming in Kerns. They are hitting the new lights. Mary made a motion to trim trees in Kerns Addition. Cheryl seconded. Motion carried 5-0. Mary thinks for safety reasons two people should be trimming trees. At the very least notify someone. Harlan can decide if he needs help.

Scott from Roadside Vegetation said spraying rates are \$.65/mile plus chemical reimbursement. He said if the township is looking to save on cost, we could perhaps eliminate doing the hills this year. Cheryl made motion to hire Roadside Vegetation for weed spraying in the township, except hills. Craig seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Employees

Craig said PT (part-time) positions are on call positions and would like to appeal Tom's claim for unemployment.

Cheryl referred to the May 14, 2019 Meeting Minutes which stated that a discussion was held regarding no guaranteed hours and that Tom would be called in as needed. The minutes also recorded Tom's agreement to what was discussed. Cheryl made motion to appeal the unemployment claim. Craig seconded. Mary & Tom abstained. Motion carried 3-0-2A.

Equipment

Harlan said we need tires for the Kubota before mowing ditches in the township. This is tabled until August.

FEMA

Mary has been doing a lot of inquiring regarding additional funding for the township. She sent emails out to eight different contacts. Joseph Kelly got back with her promptly. She also sent requests to our state representative, state senator, governor Walz, Ryan Blakely Smith and Justin block. Justin is the only one who called back so far. It is a work in progress. No new updates on FEMA 2.

Fire Report

Craig attended a meeting last week. The fire department is in the process of raising money for a new ATV (all-terrain vehicle). It will cost approximately \$45,000. They've already raised half of the funds. They are in the process of writing a grant for the other half. Roughly \$5,000 has come in from fires and insurance.

Roads

Mary read an email regarding the establishment of the TC193 cartway on the east side of Hwy169. It is a 2-rod cartway. MAT (Minnesota Association of Townships) attorney Steve Fenske said the cartway is a public road that is privately maintained. The clerk will print a copy of letter to keep with these minutes. The township is not responsible for getting emergency vehicles in. Mary spoke with Justin Block and he said that it is not a burden on the township to make sure EMS has access on the cartway. If they need to get emergency vehicles back there they would use a helicopter or other means to access it. Tom made motion to remove the MMR sign. Cheryl seconded. Craig and Andy opposed. Motion carried 3-2. Harlan will remove the barricade and MMR sign. The landowners were asked to remove the gate across the road and not put up a private road sign.

The Supervisors conducted a Road Tour on May 20th, 2020. The overall report was that the roads look good; except the road we share. It is Nicollet's turn to maintain that road this year.

The Bridge on Old River Bluff Road (just south of 492nd Street) is slated for repair. Mary would like to request that funding for this bridge repair go to the Kerns culvert project instead. Mary made a motion to request the funding get used for the Kerns project. Tom seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

Harlan said the hill lights are turning on and off intermittently. He called the company and they (Safety Light) said they could try to reset the code on them. Tom made motion to fix the hill lights. Craig second. Motion carried 5-0.

Mary inquired about potentially setting a spending cap on MMR (Minimum Maintenance Roads). Craig said we should not need to set spending a limit.

Other

Tom said if a resident has a complaint, they should call Mary and she will communicate to Harlan if needed. NSP is working on the intersection of 405th Avenue.

The water problem in the ditch of Purrier Court and 409th Avenue on the south side is due to the ditch being partially filled in by a property owners landscaping. Tom said maybe we should send the property owner, Jay Yetter a letter. Harlan said Jay told him that it was part of his landscaping.

The area at the top, north side of 490th Street needs work. The ditch needs to be cleaned and the slope on the north side of it needs reinforcement so it doesn't continue to slide down and fill in the ditch.

Lori needs to have some troubleshooting done on the laptop/printer. The printer is not communicating with the laptop. Tom suggested looking at an HP 1-year 24/7 service agreement. He will get the information to Lori. It is \$299. Mary made a motion to get the problem resolved in as reasonable of a manner as possible. Tom seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Tabled Items

Timber Trail discussion for spring of 2021.

Adjourn

Tom made a motion to adjourn. Andy seconded the motion. Motion carried, 5-0. The meeting adjourned at 8:31pm.

Mary Milbrath, Chair

Date

Lori Cullen, Clerk