

**BELGRADE TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING**  
**NICOLLET COUNTY SATELLITE OFFICE**  
**December 8<sup>th</sup>, 2020**  
**MINUTES**

The Belgrade Township regular monthly meeting for December was held on December 8<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. at the Nicollet County Satellite Offices on Howard Drive in North Mankato. Chairperson Mary Milbrath, Supervisor Craig Smith, Supervisor Cheryl Michels, Supervisor Andy Goettlicher and Clerk Lori Cullen were present as well as Harlan Olson, Gerri Krueger, Ashley Hanley and (vendor) Matt from Zeigler CAT. Treasurer Konnie Pierson was absent.

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

Andy made a motion to approve the agenda. Craig seconded the motion. Motion carried, 4-0.

Mary made a motion to approve November 10<sup>th</sup> Meeting Minutes. Andy seconded the motion. Motion carried, 4-0.

Craig made a motion to approve the November Claims. Cheryl seconded the motion. Motion carried, 4-0.

Craig made a motion to approve the November Payroll. Cheryl seconded the motion. Motion carried, 4-0.

Lori gave the Treasurer's Report for November. There was \$16,258.20 in Simple Checking and \$10,605.21 in the Platinum account as of November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2020. The ending balance in the ICS account as of November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2020 was \$247,985.60. Interest for the month of November for the Platinum Account was \$1.21. Interest for the month of November in the ICS Account was \$51.45. Craig made a motion to approve the November Treasurer's Report. Cheryl seconded the motion. Motion carried, 4-0.

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:

COVID/ CARES - Fire Dept; Nicollet School; Board Technology

Culverts & Ditches - Bridge and Culvert Plan

Employees - Schedule Harlan's Review

Equipment - Equipment List/Funding; International Sander/Mudflaps; Pay off Loan; Carbide Teeth on Int. Plow - Harlan

FEMA - 2019 FEMA

Fire Report -Andy

Roads - Batteries for Hill Lights; Snow Fence; Bonding Bill; 512<sup>th</sup> Huntley-Wilmarth; Speed Limit Clarification for Newsletter

Other - Alarm System at Shop

Tabled Items - 526<sup>th</sup> Ditch; Oshawa Shared Road; Timber Trail ditches; Utility Permits; Top of 490<sup>th</sup> hill; Planning and Zoning

FYI - MAT Annual Conference and Meeting 11/20 & 11/21

### NEW BUSINESS

#### COVID/CARES Funding

Checks were delivered to the Nicollet Fire Department, Nicollet School and the Saint Peter Food Shelf, which left us with a zero balance after the three donations. The Saint Peter Food Shelf extended an extra big "Thank you" for the helpful donation.

#### Culverts & Ditches

Harlan has begun the process of marking the township road culverts. He is also marking field drains. He has discovered that several are in need of repair, which is the responsibility of the property owners. One resident suggested to Harlan that the openings be made as blind intakes. Harlan suggested making a list of the field drains that are bad and giving it to the board.

Mary said she received a call from Harlan because somebody had parked a shed on the road. Harlan called the sheriff' department and they said that the Belgrade Town Board is the Road Authority in our township. Mary suggested making an ordinance to protect the township from potential liability. Craig said to just put a note on the building instructing them to move it immediately. Mary said she would like to make a motion to pass an ordinance that specifies that people cannot park anything on the township roads. Cheryl agreed that Harlan should place a note on it tomorrow, but also requested that Mary bring the ordinance wording from the MAT website so they can look it over and discuss making and ordinance. The ordinance was tabled.

#### Employees

Harlan's review was held at the end of the meeting. Harlan received overall good reports. Appreciation for his honesty, work ethic, knowledge and dependability were expressed. After discussion by the board, Cheryl made a motion to increase Harlan's wage from \$29.80 to \$30.50/hour as of January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021. Craig seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

#### Equipment

Matt brought pricing for a new motor grader. He said a new one is a better value than a used one because of the discount the township would get. He also brought pricing to extend the warranty on the current grader. He explained that over the next 3 years we could potentially expect to spend around \$25,000 because of the number of hours that are accumulating on it. He said that for \$17,000 we could add a three-year/ three-thousand-hour warranty. A copy of the information will be with the minutes. Craig said the Freightliner is going to need somewhere between \$35,000 - \$40,000 in repairs over the next three years. He feels extending the warranty would be the best

option. Craig added that with the Kern's Culvert, the spillway and he would like to see the shop upgraded with an addition that could be used as a town hall. He would like to also put in a well and bathroom.

The board looked at the equipment list to evaluate how each piece of equipment it holding up. The Freightliner is the one piece of equipment that will need the most repairs. The pup trailer needs a new floor for hauling gravel. Craig thought the Kubota would probably be third in line for expenses, since it's getting older. Craig said it would probably cost in the \$100,000 range. He would like to look at getting a heavier John Deere or Case next time. The Kubota may need new front tires soon. Mary inquired about the Fire Department's intentions of purchasing any new equipment. Craig said they are wanting a new water truck. That would probably be in the \$200,000 range, of which we would be accountable for 33.5%.

Paying off the International is tabled until next month.

## FEMA

FEMA 2 continues to be a challenge. We were assigned yet another new contact who will be working on our file.

Today the Governor approved the FEMA damage for this year between July 25<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup>. It's mainly Old River Bluff Road.

## Fire Report

Craig said they cancelled the meeting for last week because of COVID restrictions of a ten-person limit.

## Roads

The road by Miles Lorentz Construction needs to be named. Right now it's not numbered or listed. It presents challenges with FEMA documentation. Nicollet County emergency services said it would be good for safety purposes as well to have something to identify that specific road. MAT said we have the right to name the road. Cheryl made a motion to name the road "Miles Lorentz Road". Craig seconded. The motion carried, 4-0.

MAT held their annual meeting. Nick Frenz said the bond for 10-ton roads went through. Mary initiated the process.

Andy mentioned the short road that trees were going over and was not sure if that was a cartway or not. Mary looked at a township map and that road is a township cartway. Andy said since it is a township cartway, that means it is a public road that's privately maintained. Andy will let the resident know that we will not be trimming the trees.

Cheryl spoke with Jake Yost regarding the Oshawa Share Road. They do not want to give maintenance over to us.

## Other

Andy and Mary went to the Planning and Zoning meeting. There were a couple of hot ticket items that they put a lot of thought into. The committee did a good job.

Mary brought a ravine on Timber Trail to the board's attention saying that it is getting washed out.

## General FYI:

Mary also informed the board that we have a badger that is raising cane on 498<sup>th</sup>. The badger is digging into the side of the road. Harlan said that Howard Zhelke traps badgers free of charge if he can keep the pelt.

Mary received a letter from LJP Waste Services stating they are renewing their license. It was just an information update.

## Tabled Items

Timber Trail - spring of 2021; Planning and Zoning; Top of 490<sup>th</sup> hill; Camera for Harlan; 526<sup>th</sup> Ditch; Paying off International; Road Ordinance.

## Adjourn

Andy made a motion to adjourn. Craig seconded the motion. Motion carried, 4-0. The meeting adjourned at 8:09pm.

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Mary Milbrath, Chair

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Date

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Lori Cullen, Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date