

BELGRADE TOWNSHIP
MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING

October 12, 2021
Nicollet County Satellite Office

Present:

Supervisors: Sandy Howe, Gerri Krueger, Cheryl Michels, Mary Milbrath and Craig Smith
Town Treas.: Ashley Hanley
Town Clerk: Joan Untiedt
Employee: Harlan Olson
Residents: Linda and Jim Johnson – 40816 Judson Bottom Road
Karen Smith – 41296 Judson Bottom Road
Craig Smith Jr. – 41359 Judson Bottom Road
Bart Weelborg – 38443 Timber Trail
David Koppendrayer – 38371 Timber Lane
Guests: Susan Akland
Phil Radel

Meeting called to order by Chair Michels at 7:00 p.m. Pledge of Allegiance recited by all in attendance.

Milbrath/Michels move/second to approve the agenda as presented, approved.

Michels/Milbrath move/second to approve the September regular meeting minutes as presented, approved.

Treasurer's Report– Ashley Hanley

Checking account - \$11,351.01

Savings account - \$16,831.30

Instant Cash Sweep account - \$425,193.82

Milbrath/Howe move/second to approve the treasurer's report, approved.

Howe/Milbrath move/second to approve the claims as presented, unanimous approval.

Milbrath/Michels move/second to approve the payroll as presented, approved by Howe, Krueger, Michels, and Milbrath. Dissent by Smith.

Reminder to all in attendance of town board meeting etiquette.

Old Business

1. Culverts & Ditches

- Nicollet County has hired a company to begin design work for the Kern's east culvert project. The township needs to do the land acquisition for construction companies to get to the project and create access for the residents. It may involve putting in a temporary road to the homes or ask Xcel Energy about a temporary rollout to place down for a road.

2. Employees – Olson will be attending the LTAP seminar in late October.

3. Equipment

- The pup trailer will be taken to Crysteel to get an estimate on the latch repair when time allows but get it fixed before next spring.
- Sharp Line Images (Lake Crystal) measured all the equipment to make the back up signs and will install when completed.
- Expenses for Freightliner repairs for the past two years will be reviewed to help with the decision on further repairs or purchase a new truck.
- Milbrath contacted MN Pollution Control Agency regarding a diesel grant to assist with a purchase of a new truck.

4. Roads - Milbrath

- Phil Radel started the tree trimming project on Timber Lane noting the hill posed to be difficult with the grade. Project should be finished by October 24th.
 - Resident David Koppendrayer expressed concern on the removal of eight trees from his property when he received no notice of the trimming project. He cited MAT data on trees and removal procedures.
 - Howe responded with the ongoing complaints the township has received regarding the overhang of the trees and brushing on vehicles and buses.
 - Koppendrayer insisted there should have been proper notice given.
 - Township was told they could trim or remove even if the tree was in the right of way. An apology was given by Michels to the residents for not receiving adequate notice.
 - Employee Olson measured the right of way and the trees cut were in this zone. He disagreed with Koppendrayer that the trees were bigger than 6" in diameter, noted they were smaller than 6" and removal was allowed.
 - Township will review the rules and procedures for tree trimming and removal and ensure residents are notified in the future.
 - Milbrath/Michels move/second to create a standard letter to notify all residents when tree trimming and/or tree removal is necessary in the future, unanimously approved.
 - Due to this discussion, a hold will be put on the tree trimming project for the remainder of Timber Lane until the remaining two affected property owners are notified.
- An estimate of \$7,600 for tree trimming on 490th Street was received by Phil Radel.
 - Two property owners will be notified prior to the beginning of the trimming. Residents affected are Benson and Bertrand. A letter will be sent to the residents with time to respond if any questions.
 - Olson is concerned about waiting until the next meeting to approve the trimming pending notifications to the residents. It will be too late to complete the project this year.
 - Michels/Howe move/second to accept the estimate of \$7,600 for tree trimming on 490th Street from Phil Radel after landowners are notified, unanimously approved.
- Repairs for the washout on Timber Trail have been completed.
- Conciliation court date for Timber Trail damage has been postponed to October 26th.
- Invoice for \$96,668.51 was sent to Xcel Energy for restoration of right of way and haul roads for their project. They responded with approval and check would be received soon.

5. Other

- American Rescue Plan (ARP) report has been extended to April 30, 2022, with all funds used by December 31, 2024.
- Michels attended the Board of Adjustments and Appeals for the substandard lot request by Keith and Larinda Burg. They wanted to purchase .8 acres to add to the building site which already has sheds on the property. The board approved the request.

New Business

1. Culverts & Ditches

- Abandoned tile was noted on 478th Street. Landowners had hooked up to the tile to use and were notified to repair the tile since it was in the ditch.
- Drainage cover on Timber Lane was cleaned by Olson. If the township does not maintain the cover, MN DOT would be called to clean the debris from the drainage cover. The township would be charged per our contract with MN DOT. Pictures were taken for proof of the cleanup.
- Bart Weelborg (48368 Old River Bluff Road) put in a holding pond on his property which included a catch basin. Thomas Tree is doing landscape work around the berm and holding pond to improve the site. Ditch adjacent to the property is filled with foliage. He is requesting approval to grade the side on his property to mow in the future. In addition, he would smooth out the township side of the ditch. No impact or material will be added, just cleaning it out. Michels/Krueger move/second to approve the Weelborg proposal to grade the slopes on the ditch, approved.
- Broken tile on Timber Lane needs repair. John Krohn owns the land. Milbrath will send a letter to the landowner since no telephone number is available.
- All future problems with culverts and ditches should be directed to Krueger since she is the board contact for this area.

2. Fire Report - Smith

- Meeting scheduled for November.

3. Roads

- Road damage was discovered on 411th Avenue and 470th Street. It started from Peters field approach when he dropped his chisel down the road. Olson was immediately called to fix the road. Prior ordinance was issued regarding any damage to a road be billed to the resident who caused the damage. A letter will be sent to Glenn Peters regarding the damage but assessing no charge for this incident and stating any future damage will be billed.

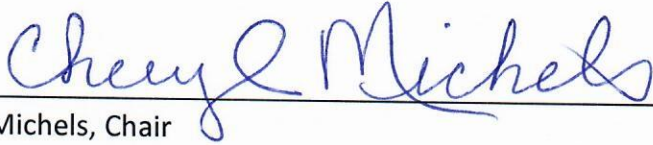
4. Other

- MAT updates are held every Tuesday either at 8:00 a.m. or 6:00 p.m. to ask questions.
- Untiedt inquired about posting minutes on the web site. Supervisors would like all minutes published.

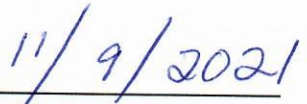
- Howe cited a conflict of interest with Smith on the prior discussions of Cartway 130 because he has a financial interest. Smith responded with he represents a lot of people in the township. Further concern was expressed about the representation of the cartway from Smith.

The next monthly meeting will be on Tuesday, November 9, 2021, at 7:00 p.m.

Milbrath/Krueger move/second to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 p.m.

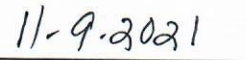


Cheryl Michels, Chair


Date



Joan Untiedt, Town Clerk


Date