

BELGRADE TOWNSHIP
MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING

June 14, 2022

Belgrade Township Shop

Present:

Supervisors: Gerri Krueger, Cheryl Michels, Mary Milbrath, and Craig Smith
Town Clerk: Joan Untiedt
Town Treas.: Ashley Hanley (left after report)
Residents: Edward Olson – 48805 387th Lane
 Alex Melvin – 50665 Birch Bluff
 Karen Smith – 41296 Judson Bottom Rd
Employee: Harlan Olson
Guest: John Peterson – ID Sign Solutions

Absent: Supervisors: Sandy Howe

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

Krueger/Milbrath move/second to approve the agenda, approved by all supervisors in attendance. Michels/Milbrath move/second to approve the previous month's minutes, approved by Krueger, Michels, and Milbrath. Smith dissented due to absence from the prior month's meeting.

Hanley reported the cash balances for all accounts total \$471,044.39. Milbrath/Krueger move/second to approve the treasurer's report, approved by all supervisors in attendance.

Milbrath/Michels move/second to approve the claims as presented, approved by all supervisors in attendance. Michels/Krueger to transfer up to \$25,000 from the fire department savings account and \$50,000 from the equipment replacement savings account to the checking account to cover the check payable to the Nicollet Fire Department for the new truck, approved by all supervisors in attendance. Milbrath/Krueger move/second to approve the payroll as presented, approved by all supervisors in attendance.

Old Business

1. Culverts & Ditches

- Conference call was done for the Kern's culvert project with all the utility companies (except Benco), Nicollet County, and Milbrath in attendance. DNR permit application has been approved at no cost to the township because it was submitted by the township.

- Land acquisitions for the Kern's project are completed and available for the supervisors to review. The four land acquisitions will not be made public until the board approves.
- Dave Neubert culvert request was reviewed with Michels and Olson, but no application has been received.

2. Employees

- Untiedt attend the MAT clerk training.

3. Equipment

- Backup signs for equipment not completed.
- Order for new truck has been placed but do not have a build date. The build and anticipated receive date will be forthcoming.

4. Fire Report

- Joint powers of the Nicollet Fire Department voted to request payment from all townships and cities for their share of the new truck by June 30th.
- To date in 2022, there have been 52 medical calls.
- Successful training by the department for a practice house burn done in Belgrade Township.

5. Roads

- John Petersen from ID Sign Solutions did a road tour with Olson and reviewed all signs in the township. Distributed a handout of the township map. Petersen suggested getting a detailed inventory of all signs. He discussed different post options. The square post is used by Nicollet County as well as many other townships. If the square post is struck or bent, it breaks at the ground and is easier to repair. Nicollet County has a two-post system. Most sign sheetings are good except the two flashing signs on top of the hills. They are faded and need replacement.
- There are 16 locations that need new posts. Three of the locations need a shur flex marker.
- Old signs in place have a 10-year warranty. Any sign within the 10-year period can be replaced but need to contact the manufacturer to get the warranty coverage if the retro-reflectivity failed on the sign. It is Petersen's opinion to be more cost effective to purchase a new sign due to the amount of labor to inspect and evaluate the failing signs.
- ID Sign Solutions could map all signs and provide a complete inventory. Petersen would provide a binder of all the information along with an electronic version on a flash drive. Cost of the inventory is \$7 per sign with an estimate of 100 signs. The inventory will be put on hold at this time.
- Eighteen (18) signs were identified as needing replacement during the tour. Signs were replaced in 2015 and 95% are passable. It is the posts that need replacing.
- Estimate submitted for \$7,435 for the 16 signs needing replacement along with two extra posts. The estimate is good for 30 days.
- Petersen submitted an invoice of \$165.24 for training and driving the township roads to review. Milbrath/Michels move/second to approve the invoice for payment, approved by all supervisors in attendance.

- Michels/Milbrath move/second to accept the estimate of \$7,435 for sign and post replacements, approved by all supervisors in attendance.
- Road tour will be June 22nd. Meet at the shop at 9:00 a.m. Michels/Krueger move/second to rent a van from Fromm's Auto for \$97.61 for 50 free miles and 20 cents per mile for additional miles over 50, approved by Krueger, Michels, and Milbrath. Smith dissented.

6. Other

- ARPA report has been successfully submitted. The total funding was noted to be over \$114,000. Township has received half and expects to receive the remainder this summer.
- Milbrath, Michels, and Howe attended the June meeting with City of North Mankato regarding the annexation of 38.94 acres. The supervisors expressed concern of the continual annexation of township property. Mayor Mark Dehen sent an email in response to the concerns of the township as it related to the expansion of city limits. In the last 10 years, 288.67 acres have been annexed by the City of North Mankato from the township.
- Topic of annexation and agreement with City of North Mankato should be presented to the residents at the annual meeting for discussion. Karen Smith said the township should have an orderly annexation meeting to discuss proposals.
- Pat Gilman was approved to do building repairs at the last meeting. He has not responded to calls to begin the work. After the repairs are done, the power washing and painting estimate is \$6,400. Krueger/Milbrath move/second to seek another estimate for the repairs to the roof if Pat Gilman cannot be contacted to complete the work, approved by all supervisors in attendance.
- No further information on a building expansion proposal.
- Filing period for candidates will be August 2 to 16. Supervisor C and Supervisor D terms are expiring along with the election for Supervisor A and Town Clerk to fill the remaining term since these two positions were appointed in 2021.
- Nicollet County Township Association meeting is June 22nd at 7:00 p.m. at the Nicollet Legion.

New Business

1. Roads

- Discussion on requests from residents for land surveys. The township will point out right-of-way only. The resident must contact Nicollet County to discuss planning and zoning needs.
- Roads graveled to date are 496th St. E., 490th St. W., 411th Ave. S., 405th Ave., High Hill, 486th St., and 478th St. There are three more roads on the list to complete with the possibility of one more needing gravel.

2. Other

- Waiting for language from the county regarding an ordinance for setbacks.
- Discussion on LP contract for this year. Today's contract price is \$2.15 per gallon, \$2.10 if prepaid. Smith/Krueger move/second to contract with Crystal Valley for LP at the current contract price, approved by all supervisors in attendance.

The next monthly meeting will be on Tuesday, July 12, 2022, 7:00 p.m. at the town shop.

Milbrath/Michels move/second to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 p.m.

Cheryl Michels

Cheryl Michels, Chair

7-12-2022

Date

Joan M. Untiedt

Joan Untiedt, Town Clerk

7-13-2022

Date