

BELGRADE TOWNSHIP
MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING

December 12, 2023

Nicollet County Human Services Building, North Mankato

Present: Supervisors: Corky Berdan, Bryan Bode, Christopher Frederick, Mary Milbrath, and Shane Nelson
Town Clerk: Joan Untiedt
Town Treas: Absent
Residents: Six Residents

Meeting called to order by Chair Bode at 7:00 p.m. Pledge of allegiance was recited.

Milbrath/Frederick move/second to approve the agenda, approved by all supervisors in attendance.

Frederick/Berdan move/second to approve the consent agenda including minutes from November board meeting, claims, and payroll as presented with correction to the spelling of Frederick, approved by all supervisors in attendance.

Treasurer's report presented by Untiedt. The total cash balance as of November 30, 2023, is \$495,466.74. In early December, the second half payment was received from Nicollet County for 2023 levy in the amount of \$156,021.61. Frederick/Milbrath move/second to approve the treasurer's report as presented, approved by all supervisors in attendance.

Old Business

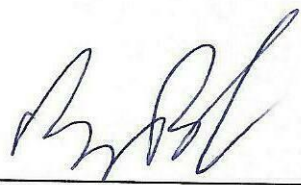
1. Delineators have not been installed to date on Kern's Drive East. Discussion on the invoice received from Nicollet County for \$20,000 for "non-participating approach costs and engineering fees." Frederick and Milbrath will discuss the details with Seth Greenwood from Nicollet County before submitting payment.
2. Minnesota LTAP training schedule was released. Olson would like to attend the April 4 training for asphalt rehabilitation and April 9 for gravel road maintenance. Frederick/Milbrath move/second to approve both training courses at a cost of \$75 each for Olson, approved by all in attendance.
3. Discussion on 2024 hourly rates for township employees. Frederick/Milbrath move/second to increase wages for both full-time and part-time employees by 5%, approved by all supervisors in attendance.
4. Continued discussion on converting the township account with Minnesota Unemployment from a reimbursable account to taxpaying. Frederick/Nelson move/second to change to a taxpaying account for Minnesota unemployment effective immediately, approved by all supervisors in attendance.

5. Discussion on Employee Sick and Safe Time (ESST) requirement in effect beginning January 1, 2024. Frederick/Milbrath move/second to approve the ESST requirement from the State of Minnesota within the current paid time off policy for full-time employees and accrue 1 hour per 30 hours worked for all part-time employees (elected officials are exempt from this policy), approved by all supervisors in attendance.
6. The new 2024 International truck was received by NCI and has now been transported to Crysteel to complete. The anticipated start date is in 1-2 weeks and completion in 6 weeks to 2 months.
7. L & L Repair did the welding repairs on the old Freightliner at the shop and the truck received DOT inspection approval.
8. The mini excavator recently rented from Bobcat had repairs done to the hydraulic hose. They sent an invoice for over \$600 but Berdan discussed the issue with them, and they split the amount with the township. They also noted that the rental amount of \$4,195 was not correct when contracted to use, it should have been \$9,800. Discussion on renting for next year or purchasing our own attachment.
9. GPS setup was completed, and equipment received for installation in the vehicles.
10. Township attorney Troy Gilchrist sent the Right-Of-Way Easement for Robert Schlueter to sign along with the Resolution to record 391st Lane as a town road (it was not never recorded in county records). Untiedt read the resolution to the board. Frederick/Milbrath move/second to approve Resolution 2023-1212 to record 391st Lane as a town road as described in the document, approved by all supervisors in attendance. Frederick/Berdan move/second to approve the Right-Of-Way Easement for Robert Schlueter, approved by all supervisors in attendance.
11. Frederick has not had the opportunity to discuss the turnaround with residents on Minnewaukon Drive. Milbrath talked with GPS specialist at Nicollet County who said the township does not need to purchase any land to make the turnaround. However, Frederick noted the land is not legally recorded as a ROW.
12. LRIP applications have been submitted by Bolton & Menk for 526th and 496th Streets. Milbrath worked diligently on the project with them by sending out/talking to residents and businesses to submit letters of support for the roads to be reconstructed. Nicollet County is the administrator of the projects if the grants are awarded. Funding decision should be made in March 2024.
13. Untiedt shared the attorney's response to her request to address a letter from a resident/landowner on Cartway 130. Frederick/Milbrath move/second to request the attorney draft a resolution regarding barricading the road for public use to strengthen the already approved Resolution 20210914-2 designating the cartway as a minimum maintenance road, with the township to notify landowners that it will be presented at the January 2024 meeting, approved by all supervisors in attendance.
14. The MN DOT grate on Timber Lane is full of debris. Milbrath will call to have MN DOT clean it.
15. No one attended the annual MAT conference held from December 7-9 in Saint Cloud.
16. No response received to date on the annexation agreement with City of North Mankato.
17. Frederick/Milbrath move/second to approve renting the great room at Crossview Covenant Church at a cost of \$150 for the annual meeting on Tuesday, March 12, 2024, approved by all supervisors in attendance.
18. Articles for the annual newsletter are due by January 9, 2024 meeting.

New Business

1. Review of the equipment fund schedule. Berdan will get estimated replacement costs to add to the schedule for review at a future meeting.
2. Nicollet Rural-City Fire Association held their quarterly meeting on November 27th.
 - Air conditioner was replaced in the fire hall.
 - Considering an increase in charge to individuals with a fire call from \$500 to \$1,000. Approximately half of those billed pay for the charges through their insurance company.
 - Belgrade paid 32.38% of the operating budget in 2001, and 30.01% in 2021.
 - The City of Courtland is entering into their own agreement similar to Nicollet effective January 1, 2024.
 - A new truck will be needed within 4 years.
 - Grant application was denied for new truck and will resubmit again.
 - The annual meeting is Monday, January 22, 2024.
 - Next quarterly meeting is Monday, February 26, 2024.
3. Discussion on contracting for diesel with Crystal Valley. No booking will be made, Olson will order as needed.
4. Salt and sand mixture has been received and in the bunker.
5. Peters field tile on 478th Street has been completed (identified two years ago).
6. Olson reported a broken light on one of the hills. Discussion on replacing lights and remotes. Information on cost and type available will be brought to the January meeting.
7. Untiedt read the 2024 election dates sent by the county. The township is a mail-in ballot, and all residents will be receiving a letter early in the year regarding the 2024 elections.
8. Board of audit meeting date will be set at the January reorganization meeting.
9. Resident Deb Groebner (Deerwood Trail) asked to speak to the board regarding the tree trimming project done this fall. She was distraught by the trees that appeared shredded. Discussion on Olson cutting down some of the stumps (ran out of time in October to finish). Residents and property owners are also reminded they can clean the ROW and keep the trees/wood.

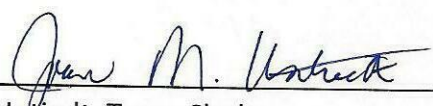
The meeting was adjourned by Bode at 9:00 p.m.



Bryan Bode, Chair

1-9-24

Date



Joan Untiedt, Town Clerk

1-9-24

Date