

**BEMIDJI TOWNSHIP TOWN BOARD
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
Tuesday, October 9th, 2012
MINUTES**

PRESENT: Jan Heuer, Pete Fredrickson, John Rowles, Lowell Vagle, Brian Merschman, Erin Stieg

CALL TO ORDER: The regular meeting of the Bemidji Township Town Board was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Chairperson Jan Heuer and the pledge of allegiance was recited.

AGENDA: Pete's South Beta Testing was added under "Other Business". Pete Fredrickson made a motion, seconded by Brian Merschman, to approve the revised agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

MINUTES: The meeting minutes for September 25th, 2012 were reviewed and Lowell Vagle motioned to approve the minutes as printed. The motion was seconded by Pete Fredrickson and carried unanimously.

CONSTITUENTS (see attached attendance sheet): Chuck Buus was at the meeting to discuss a weed complaint received by the Township. He had some questions about where his property ended and County property began. Pete Fredrickson motioned that Mr. Buus should work it out with the County in regards to eradication of weeds and send a letter with a formalized weed plan. The Township will let the complainant know that the issue is being worked on. Brian Merschman seconded this motion and it carried unanimously.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Roads: Review Verification of Road Status from Beltrami Co.: The road status map was looked over by town board officials and they determined that the map was not accurate. Jan Heuer motioned for the clerk to contact the 911 coordinator to get a more current map from the city. Pete Fredrickson seconded and the motion was passed unanimously.

Road Trades with County: Pete Fredrickson discussed trades with the County engineer and Bemidji Township is to create proposals for Board review. Different proposals were suggested and discussed, as well as traffic concerns. Pete will meet with Guy Anderson from Frohn Township to discuss it further. Pete motioned that Bemidji Township Board will maintain Van Buren from the Hubbard County line up Roosevelt Rd. It was clarified that there will be no shared maintenance on this road. Lowell Vagle seconded and the motion passed unanimously. John Rowles brought up a complaint regarding wash boarding on gravel roads. This was followed by some discussion about weight limits and classification of gravel.

John Rowles left the meeting at 6:45pm.

The clerk was instructed to call JD Hansen & Sons regarding winter contracts to make sure they are up to date.

Signs: The clerk stated that as a follow up to a complaint about a faded stop sign, she called the County Highway Department. The person she talked to was too busy and could not help the township to put up a new stop sign. Erin did not have the exact information, but was told to forward it to Jan and she would follow up. There was some discussion about the stop signs at 16th street and Buchanan in Grand Valley not doing what they are supposed to and whether or not they should be removed or replaced. Pete Fredrickson made a motion that the township should ask Minnesota Department of Transportation about signing recommendations/ requirements in this area. Lowell Vagle Seconded and motion carried unanimously.

Fire:

John Rowles will leave early for the Rural Fire Association Meeting tonight.

Weeds: Already discussed with Constituent Issues.

Joint Governance: Tuesday, November 20th was set up as a tentative date for the Joint L.G.U. meeting. Mayana will send out an email later in the week confirming the date.

BATO: Lowell Vagle stated that there will be a meeting held October 30th to bring in legislative people for a question/answer session. The Board needs to get questions ahead of time to take to the meeting.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Tim Wang presented the treasurer's report as follows:

Beginning Balance 8/31/2012 \$629,049.45

Receipts

| | | |
|-----------------------|----|--------|
| Greater Bemidji JBP | \$ | 531.50 |
| Beltrami County | \$ | 179.32 |
| Money Market Interest | \$ | 151.79 |
| Capital Credit Refund | \$ | 48.01 |
| Total | \$ | 910.62 |

Disbursements

| | |
|---------------|-------------|
| General | \$14,894.10 |
| Road & Bridge | \$ 5,959.18 |
| Fire | \$ 0.00 |
| Total | \$20,853.28 |

Ending Balance 9/30/2012 \$609,106.79

Pete Fredrickson made a motion, seconded by Brian Merschman, to approve the Treasurer's Report as printed. The motion carried unanimously. This report was filed subject to audit.

Bills:

Lowell Vagle made a motion, seconded by Pete Fredrickson to approve the payment of checks 10006 to 10028 (see attached Claims List and Net Pay Distribution lists) and to approve the Beltrami Electric, First National Bank, Minnesota Energy, Otter Tail Power, and Paul Bunyan Communications automatic withdrawals. The motion passed unanimously.

Lowell Vagle made a motion, seconded by Pete Fredrickson, to approve the sale of investments for \$8,200.00 from money market fund to checking. The motion passed unanimously. Tim Wang also mentioned that the Certificate of Deposit with Security Bank was renewed at .80%, down from .95%.

JOINT PLANNING:

Administrator's Report: Mayana Rice gave the Administrator's Report and there was some discussion about the city handling issues of parking on the grass. There was more discussion about the Joint L.G.U. meeting and the topics that would be on the agenda. The Board requested to see the agenda before the date of the meeting is finalized.

Ag Restoration: Mayana added Jan's information to the code and put an article in about why Ag is important. There was some discussion about small parcel subdivision and why aging farmers are worried they won't be able to split their land between their children. It was clarified that Northern Township had no interest in Ag restoration and that Ag restoration is about small family farms- corporate farms are not included.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Lowell stated that he will not be here for the first meeting of the month from January 2013-March-2013. This will be added to the November meeting agenda.

The Minnesota Association of Townships will have their annual conference and Pete Fredrickson made a motion that anyone with the Township who wants to go can be approved to register. Lowell Vagle seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.

Pete's South Beta Testing: Jan spoke with Fire Chief Dave Hoefler regarding the conditional approval for "Beta" testing of the Wayne Helix dispensers at Pete's Place South. UL approval has not yet gone through, but will be followed up.

2012 Newsletter/ Website: The clerk brought up a suggestion from TJ Design studio to have their computer programmer design a template for Bemidji Township to use for their website. Pete Fredrickson made a motion to approve \$500.00 to go toward the cost of the template and any addition training. Lowell seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.

Application for Storm Damage Assistance: The application was filled out by officials and invoices were reviewed to turn in to Beltrami County for reimbursement.

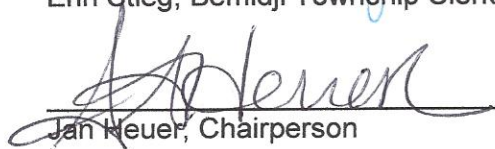
ADJOURN:

Jan Heuer made a motion, seconded by Pete Fredrickson, to adjourn. Motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 9:12 p.m.

Prepared by Erin Stieg, Bemidji Township Clerk


Erin Stieg, Bemidji Township Clerk

Approved 10/23/12


Jan Heuer, Chairperson