

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MONTHLY MEETING

November 12, 2019

The November Monthly Meeting of the Fairview Township Board of Supervisors was called to order at 6:30 PM in the Fairview Town Hall by Chairman Jim Weizenegger with the Pledge of Allegiance. Other Board members in attendance were Supervisors Walt Richmond, Tom Dechmann, Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Sharon Owen and Clerk-Treasurer Marla Yoho.

Weizenegger/ Richmond/ Unanimous: Motion to approve the **Minutes of the October Monthly Meeting** as presented.

Treasurer's Report: The following are the October 31st balances in the Township accounts: \$68,958.19 in Checking and \$227,171.99 in Money Market funds. **Revenues for October were \$885.62** (\$393.99 MMI interest; \$131.33 Gas and Electricity reimbursement; \$360.30 Market Value Ag Credit). **Expenditures totaled \$376,038.31** (\$189,869.23 Road & Bridge; \$296.85 Fire; and \$5,872.23 General Gov't expenses.)

Richmond/ Dechmann/ Unanimous: Motion to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented.

Road Report:

- **Birch Bay Dr:** On 10/17 about 120 feet of the newly installed shouldering on Birch Bay Drive washed out. Tom contacted Adam Surma at Knife River. They did refill the washed-out area and reinstalled a road sign they had removed during road work.

- **Birch Bay Dr:** Bolton & Menk performed a survey on Birch Bay Drive since there was a question about where the township road easement ends. The marker pins were flagged for visibility. It is apparent the road dead-ends at the Heath Walker property (Lot 7) at the top of the road. The township has not been plowing or maintaining the section of road in front of lots 8, 9, 10, 33 and 34 since the road is extremely narrow and there is nowhere for plows or maintenance vehicles to turn around.

The road in front of the above listed lots has been marked with several **Private Road** signs. The law does not allow Private Road signs on public roads. Marla will write a letter to Kari Rihm (owner of the 5 lots) and explain that they must either remove the signs and provide an area for turn-around, or they must be willing to vacate the portion of road in front of the 5 lots, dead-ending at the Walker property.

- Residents of Lots 6 & 7 of **Birch Bay Dr** burned their leaves on the asphalt surface of the township turn-around. They will be sent a letter advising they may be liable for any ongoing damage.

- **Sylvan Township Road Agreement:** There has been conversation with Sylvan Township concerning the disparity in the maintenance Fairview performs on their 1,435-feet of **Gregory Drive** opposed to the maintenance Sylvan performs on our 300 -feet of **W. Lake Ridge Dr.** Mike Rardin provided an estimate of the amount of time it takes to mow or plow both sections of road. That time was multiplied by the existing contract prices for plows, equipment and labor. The amount for W Lake Ridge (\$15 per mow, \$16.50 per plow) was deducted from the amount for Gregory Dr. (\$65 per mow, \$33.75 per plow). The difference was \$50 per mow and \$17.25 per plow.

Weizenegger/ Richmond/ Unanimous: Motion to approve the new Road Maintenance Agreement for **Gregory Drive SW.**

Richmond/ Dechmann/ Unanimous: Motion to approve the new Road Maintenance Agreement for **W Lake Ridge Dr SW.**

John Wolf, Sylvan Supervisor, attended the meeting to discuss the prices. He will take copies of the Road Maintenance Agreement back to his Board for approval.

- Marla will contact the Pillager Fire Chief to find out if it is possible to get a larger **"No Parking" sign for Bluebill/ Perch Ln.** The township can't replace it since it is a private road.

Fire Report:

- Walt reported the Fire Dept. **practice burn** has been delayed due to the discovery of asbestos in the popcorn ceiling.
- Walt met with Rick Peterson to work on the **new calendars**. Walt sold 39 ads, equating to \$11,000. The cost for printing and mailing 2,750 calendars will be \$3.00 each. Rick will be providing a draft of the ads for proofing.
- Marla asked if the calendar mailing could possibly contain an information sheet about the “**File For Life**” program. She will contact Rick to discuss.
- Sylvan Township has passed an ordinance requiring a yearly fire inspection for rental units. They have discovered 34 units, which will over-burden the fire dept. so they are considering hiring professionals.
- There were 15 runs in October (3 in Fairview) bringing the Year-To-Date total to 222, compared to 228 in 2018.

Fairview Trail Update:

- Jenny Gunsbury reported the Initiative Foundation **magazine, “I.Q.”** published an article about the Gull Lake Trail.
- The **Letter of Credit** application at Bremer Bank has been approved for \$1,200,000. The rate will be 4.75%
- Richmond/ Weizenegger/ Unanimous: Motion to accept **donations totaling \$13,383.17** deposited to the BLACF account for the trail.
- Jenny sent letters to the 4 businesses who have pledged funds for the trail, but haven’t paid yet, asking for payment by December 31st.

Planning Commission:

On November 4th the Fairview Township Advisory Planning Commission (FTAPC) attended a field inspection for **Kathy & Peter Green at 11244 Wilson Bay Dr**. They applied for a variance to remove two older buildings on their property and construct a 3-story guest quarters with attached garage, workshop, and basement in excess of 700 sq ft of potential living space (2,817 sq ft total). This property is part of the old Wilson Bay Resort. The original resort bait shop/ care takers building is still used as a primary building. The FTAPC met and were in agreement that the proposed structure did not meet the intent of the ordinance covering guest quarters. The DNR was concerned about the amount of blacktop on the property and the runoff to Gull Lake. In addition, it was determined that the property is part of the Timber Ridge Property Owners Assn, which has specific conditions allowing only 2 buildings on a property. Aside from the original building and the proposed building, this property has a large pole barn for storage. Note: Cass County does not enforce covenants.

The Cass County Planning Commission was equally uncomfortable with the variance and unanimously denied it. The Greens have been sent a copy of the TRPOA covenants and will be working on a way to incorporate their proposed building onto the existing primary structure.

OLD BUSINESS:

Marla has been in contact with the realtor (Jeff Torfin) handling the sale of the 308 acres **of Maxson property** (\$11,000,000). He said he would keep this office up to date on what transpires if they get offers.

NEW BUSINESS:

The property evaluation performed for **the MATIT Insurance agency** came through this month. While the report was good overall, they did quote the closest fire department at 18 miles away and they gave us unfavorable rating for the **fire extinguisher**, which is out of date. They are instructing us to have the fire extinguisher inspected on a yearly basis.

Marla called around to Lake Shore, Sylvan etc and found they have the service performed by Northland Fire

Protection. The cost is \$45 per visit plus a \$7 inspection fee. Then they must completely overhaul the extinguisher every 6 years, which is an additional cost. The extinguisher in the townhall expired in 2016. It was suggested that it would be cheaper to just purchase a new one every year, but that might not meet the criteria of the insurance inspector.

Dechmann/ Weizenegger/ Unanimous: Motion to have Marla make some calls to determine the cost of a new extinguisher on a yearly basis and if the insurance agency would accept that. If not, she will contract with Northland Fire Protection.

Region 5 has started having **multi-jurisdictional meetings** with the surrounding cities and townships where they can discuss issues of communal interest. Fairview was not invited to the first meeting but has been invited to the next meeting in April.

CLERK’S REPORT:

3rd Quarter Emergency Management Mtg Summary: The Cass County Hazard Mitigation Plan will have to be updated in 2020. It involves jurisdictional participation to meet the in-kind labor portion of their grant. Marla has volunteered to help.

They are working on the New Generation 911 (NG911) which has been developed to work with today’s digital technology, especially cell phones. The new equipment should be installed in early 2020.

Out of Office: Marla will be out-of-town, but reachable Nov. 19th to Dec. 9th. The office phone will role to her cell phone and all files will be accessible via Dropbox.

Upcoming Important Dates:

December 10th: Board Meeting

January 7th: Board Meeting

Dechmann/ Richmond/ Unanimous: Motion to approve payment of all Claims as submitted. (Aye: Weizenegger/ Richmond/ Dechmann).

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| 11119 | Crow Wing Power | Electricity | 124.00 |
| 21119 | Xcel Energy | Natural Gas | 30.79 |
| 31119 | CTC | Phone, Internet | 97.26 |
| 41119 | Bremer Bank | Service Charge | 7.50 |
| 51119 | Bremer Bank Visa | Supplies, Software | 47.40 |
| 61119 | PERA | Retirement Fund | 394.18 |
| 4609 | Echo Journal | 1 yr subscription | 54.08 |
| 4610 | Ken LaPorte | Planning Commission | 50.00 |
| 4611 | Joe Fitterer | Planning Commission | 61.60 |
| 4612 | Herb Richmond | Planning Commission | 50.00 |
| 4613 | Tom Dechmann | Administration to 11/12 | 332.10 |
| 4614 | Sharon Owen | Administration to 11/12 | 107.31 |
| 4615 | Marla Yoho | Administration to 11/12 | 1,639.80 |
| 4616 | Walt Richmond | Administration to 11/12 | 336.78 |
| 4608 | Jim Weizenegger | Administration to 11/12 | 126.29 |

Total: \$3,459.09

Weizenegger/ Richmond/ Unanimous: Motion to approve all claims for payment.

Richmond/ Dechmann/ Unanimous: Motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Marla Yoho, Clerk

Jim Weizenegger, Chair