

TOWN OF FAYAL
4375 SHADY LANE, EVELETH, MN 55734

Heidi M. Coldagelli, Clerk/Treasurer

Anthony Tammaro, Chairman

Supervisors: Lee Branville, Dave Ochis, Richard Sather, Patrick Ziegler

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REGULAR MEETING OF THE FAYAL TOWN BOARD

MAY 15, 2018

The Regular Meeting of the Fayal Town Board of Supervisors was called to order at 7:00 PM by Vice-Chair Branville. Present were: Vice-Chair Branville, Supervisor Ochis, Supervisor Sather, Supervisor Ziegler and Clerk/Treasurer Coldagelli. Chairman Tammaro was absent. Vice-Chair Branville led with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Audience members in attendance were Sandy Ahlin, Steve Gehrke, Nick Gianlorenzi, Jesse Linde, Steve Shykes and Trevor Thompson.

Motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Town Board Meeting of May 1st, 2018, made by Supervisor Sather, support from Supervisor Ochis. Motion carried unanimously.

SCHEDULED GUESTS- Nick Gianlorenzi and Steve Gehrke were present to request not being assessed for another sewer access charge for the split of the parcel that was purchased between the homeowners. The PUC previously made a motion last year to not charge the access charge once the parcel was purchased and split and the Board agreed to not charge once the property was purchased.

Motion to waive the sewer access charge for the parcel as recommended by the PUC, made by Supervisor Ziegler, support from Supervisor Sather. Clerk Coldagelli will prepare a resolution for the next meeting. Mr. Gianlorenzi has a new parcel number which has now been waived and Mr. Gehrke has the original parcel number with the paid assessment. ***Motion carried unanimously.***

AUDIENCE CONCERNS- Deputy Chief Linde presented the Board with the March and April Police Report. There were 51 calls for service, 29 traffics stops and 9 citations issued.

Sandy Ahlin was present to discuss an approximately 7 foot deep sinkhole that has appeared in her yard. Two years ago she approached the Town Board with the request to fix a different sinkhole, but it was not approved and she was responsible to fix it. Supervisor Ziegler stated that Senior Wastewater Operator Dale Dickson preliminary viewed the sinkhole and stated it looked as though it was an old drywell tank. When the sewer project originally came through, septic tanks were crushed, but drywell tanks were the homeowners' responsibility. Trevor Thompson from SEH took a look at the site and he believed that the first sinkhole most likely came from the crushed septic tank and the second is from the drywell. Senior Wastewater Operator Dickson's recommendation was that it was the homeowner's responsibility. There was much discussion regarding responsibility, septic tanks and dry wells. Unable to determine until the top layer/sides of the sinkhole are knocked down. Vice-Chair Branville suggested referring to the Public Utilities Commission to make a recommendation.

REPORTS-

Clerk/Treasurer's Report-

Bank statement for the month of April have been received and all accounts have been reconciled. Revenues were \$59,635.71 and expenditures were \$83,775.25. Ending balances for the month of April are:

Miners Checking- \$1,094,815.60

Assessment Savings- \$454,982.07

CD Savings- \$535,821.82

For the month of May to date, revenues are \$15,975.91 and expenditures are \$67,201.18.

Motion to approve the Clerk/Treasurer's Report, made by Supervisor Sather, support from Supervisor Ziegler. Motion carried unanimously.

Other Reports-

Motion to accept the March and April Police Reports, made by Vice-Chair Branville, support from Supervisor Ochis. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion to accept the April 11th Fire Department Business Meeting Minutes, made by Supervisor Sather, support from Supervisor Ochis. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion to accept the Joint Recreation Meeting Minutes from May 9th, made by Supervisor Sather, support from Supervisor Ochis. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion to accept the May 14th and May 7th Employee Meeting Minutes, made by Vice-Chair Branville, support from Supervisor Sather. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion to accept the Joint Cable Meeting Minutes from May 2nd, made by Vice-Chair Branville, support from Supervisor Sather. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion to accept the Fayal Public Utilities Commission from April 10th, Delinquency Report and the April Wastewater Report, made by Supervisor Ziegler, support from Supervisor Sather. Motion carried unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE

May 2nd- Flyer from Couri & Ruppe Law Office. Free Township Legal Seminar will be held October 6th at the Cotton Town Hall. Placed on file.

May 2nd- Letter from Minnesota Department of Revenue annual hearing on unmined iron ore assessment for the year 2018 will begin at 10:00 AM, Monday, May 21st in the US Bank Building. Placed on file.

May 7th- Letter from Minnesota Power regarding a recent review of the account indicates that our monthly electricity usage will necessitate a change in rate. A lift station was moved to the correct account. Placed on file.

May 10th- Letter from State of Minnesota Office of the State Auditor regarding Volunteer Fire Relief Association Investment Report Card. Shared with the Relief Association and placed on file.

May 10th- Tech Bytes redesign proposal. The cost for an updated website design would be \$1,500. Placed on file.

May 10th- Letter from Arrowhead Procure. On April 30th, the Procure Board voted to dissolve the Health Insurance line of business due to the dwindling financial pool compounded by increased utilization. Placed on file.

May 11th- Letter and survey from Eveleth-Gilbert Schools and Virginia Schools regarding collaboration information. Placed on file.

May 11th- Postcard from Lake States Tree Service. They have been contracted by Lake Country Power to apply a follow up herbicide treatment along its utility rights-of-way. Placed on file.

May 14th- Email from MN Association of Townships. Asking for help to advocate for townships as the Legislature and Governor make final budget decisions. The Legislature has offered only \$2 million in guaranteed township road funding (\$35 per mile) and the House and Senate have offered \$15 million for Broadband development grants (1/2 of what was provided two years ago). Placed on file.

OLD BUSINESS

Supervisor Sather-

Fire Department Co-op- Chief Shykes stated that the individual interviews begin soon.

Recreation Grant- Clerk Coldagelli informed the Board that the Relief Association is unable to accept the grant. The Fayal Garden Club is not a 501(c)(3) and Clerk Coldagelli has a message out to the Eveleth-Gilbert Tennis Coach checking if the Booster's Club still exists and if so, if it's a 501(c)(3). The Eveleth Elk's Club has an outstanding grant that needs to be used first in order to take on the grant. Chief Shykes suggested contacting the Boy Scouts to see if they could be the fiscal agent.

Playground- Clerk Coldagelli informed the Board that she is working with Employee Al Jurenec to schedule the vac truck, order the chips and assess how to replace the chips. Supervisor Ochis suggested not having the employees remove the material and just have the vac truck do it. Supervisor Ziegler questioned if the employees could just put it into a pile. Vice-Chair Branville suggested replacing the fabric, adding new chips and then add chips as needed.

Supervisor Ochis-

Road Project 2017-Trevor Thompson updated the Board that he spoke with Tom Nemanich and road restrictions come off this week. Mr. Nemanich wants to ensure that the shoulders are solid before he begins. End of the week or the following they should be working on the shouldering. June 15th is the completion date. Cracks will be assessed at that time with Matt Jamnick.

Salt/Sand Dome- Site was determined and received an estimate from Mesabi Bituminous. Per recommendation from Mesabi, employees will not be doing the site prep. The new site location will allow future crushing in the pit.

Supervisor Ziegler-

Old Bullfrogs Building- Possibly going back to the Bank. Spoke with Mr. Toman and he is disputing ownership and will have an answer in the next few weeks. The Bank has expressed interest in cleaning up the site if they are retaining ownership.

Eveleth/Fayal Development Project- This is the City of Eveleth's project.

Employee Benefit CD-

Motion to approve the PUC recommendation of a yearly \$40,000 benefit contribution comprised of \$10,000 from General, \$15,000 from Road & Bridge, \$5,000 from Water and \$10,000 from Sewer, made by Supervisor Ziegler, support from Supervisor Ochis. Motion carried unanimously.

Summer Picnic- Clerk Coldagelli needed to change the date to Wednesday, June 27th as there is a conflict during the day at the Town Hall.

Supervisor Branville-

Pine Drive Sewer Extension- No update.

Generator- Vice-Chair Branville is working with Chairman Tammaro.

Emergency Operating Procedures- Clerk Coldagelli reviewed a portion of the plan, made some changes and forwarded on to the Supervisors.

Speed Study Ely Lake Drive/Miller Trunk- The County has it on their summer/fall schedule.

NEW BUSINESS

Motion to accept the resignation of Fire Department member Jeremy Waldron, made by Supervisor Sather, support from Supervisor Ziegler. Motion carried unanimously.

Sewer Access Charge- PUC made a motion to revert the Sewer Access Charge back to the \$6,625. Billing Clerk Diane Dickson and Chairman Tammaro recommended that the Sewer Access Charge be reduced to \$7,000 and then revisit once the sewer assessment is paid off in three years. Approximately 7 or 8 residents have paid the \$7,000. No residents have paid the new rate of \$9,300 yet. Supervisor Ziegler stated that he is in agreement with the original \$6,625 charge as that is what everyone in the project paid for connection and what past residents paid in interest should be a nonissue in setting the charge.

Motion to approve the PUC recommendation and revert the Sewer Access Charge back to \$6,625, made by Supervisor Ziegler, support from Supervisor Ochis. Clerk Coldagelli will provide an updated Sewer Use Fees Resolution for the next meeting. ***Motion carried unanimously.***

Woodline Utility Bill- Had a waterline break after their meter and all of the water went into ground and not the sewer. PUC recommended a credit on the bill for the excess water.

Motion to waive \$1,001.04 to get it back to their average of \$84.00, or if they have already paid the bill refund or credit back, made by Supervisor Ziegler, support from Supervisor Sather. Motion carried unanimously.

Bulk Water Contract- Contract has now expired. Supervisor Ziegler stated a letter should be sufficient and the contract should be similar, but water rates may possibly go up as the Council is reviewing the rates.

Motion to extend the bulk water contract with the City of Eveleth for five more years, made by Supervisor Ziegler, support from Supervisor Ochis. Motion carried unanimously.

Engineering Lift Station J1 & Culvert Golf Course Road- Trevor Thompson from SEH met with employee Dickson and reviewed the sites. The culvert has water running all winter long. Supervisor Ziegler added that

the water begins at Highway 53 and maybe there is a spring there and it feeds naturally into the creek. The cold weather may freeze the whole culvert off. Opening that area up may allow more flow. Once the water hits the cattails, it disperses and there is no flowline for it. Will do some research for both sites and what can be permitted as both areas are wetlands.

Yard Waste Summer Hours- Do not have an employee yet to staff the site but would like one weekend a month.

Motion to hire someone for the yard waste site for one weekend a month during the summer, made by Vice-Chair Branville, support from Supervisor Ochis. Motion carried unanimously.

Hiring Committee Recommendation- Needed an employee for cleaning the Town Hall as the prior had left.

Motion to hire, pending drug screening and background check, Roberta Ochis for the janitorial position at \$15/hour, made by Vice-Chair Branville, support from Supervisor Ziegler. Supervisor Ochis abstained. Motion carried.

Minnesota Energy Solicitation Request- Request from Minnesota Energy to allow a representative going door-to-door in June to seek additional connections in the Long Lake area. Solicitors permit doesn't necessary apply because it requires background checks on mainly individuals.

Motion to waive solicitor permit requirements for Minnesota Energy, made by Vice-Chair Branville, support from Supervisor Ochis. Motion carried unanimously.

League of MN Cities Liability Coverage Waiver Form-

Motion to not waive monetary limits on municipal tort liability established by Minnesota Statutes under section 466.04, made by Supervisor Ziegler, support from Supervisor Sather. Motion carried unanimously.

Vice-Chair Branville would like in the minutes requesting that residents please obey the requirements of the recycling bins. Discussion arose to look into options for cardboard receptacles. Clerk Coldagelli will research.

Motion to pay the claims for \$31,448.59, made by Vice-Chair Branville, support from Supervisor Sather. Motion carried unanimously.

Supervisor Ziegler made a motion to adjourn.

Vice-Chair Branville adjourned the Regular Meeting at 8:08 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Heidi M. Coldagelli
Heidi M. Coldagelli
Clerk/Treasurer Town of Foyal

Approved: _____

Chair

Date: _____

Attest: _____

Clerk