

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

PHONE (218)744-2878

FAX (218)744-5986

REGULAR MEETING OF THE FAYAL TOWN BOARD

OCTOBER 16, 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 Ron and Mary Hall, Deputy Chief Jesse Linde, Nancy Roseen, Steve Shykes and Ed Vest.

Motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Town Board Meeting of October 2nd, 2018, made by Supervisor Sather, support from Supervisor Ochis. Motion carried unanimously.

SCHEDULED GUESTS- Nancy Roseen was present representing the Eveleth-Fayal Garden Club. The 8th District Minnesota State Horticultural Society Meeting recently held their district meeting that consisted of 21 garden clubs in Northeastern Minnesota. Fayal Township received the 2018 Community Service Award of Merit nominated by the members of the Eveleth-Fayal Garden Club. Nomination was submitted due to the Township employees' cooperation in assisting the Garden Club with materials and labor when needed and the appreciation shown to the Garden Club. Vice-Chair Branville commended the Garden Club for their hard work and how nice the planters and grounds look.

AUDIENCE CONCERNS- Ed Vest questioned the meeting minutes listed the potential of Gilbert getting water from Eveleth and wondered if that was as a backup source or if that was permanent? Supervisor Ziegler clarified that Gilbert was conducting a feasibility study because they need to upgrade their water plant and one of the study components was to look at the possibility of getting water from Eveleth. Fayal's line would need to be utilized for the transfer. Mr. Vest was curious about the effects to the lake. Supervisor Ziegler added that it is just a study at this point.

Ronald Hall was present to discuss use of the platted road, South Boulevard, to access his property. Clerk Coldagelli had recently attended a legal seminar and posed that question to the attorneys. Clerk Coldagelli read the response to Mr. Hall that he should seek advice from his attorney to accomplish that and the Township does not have the legal authority against the road. Mr. Hall added that development of the platted road would allow more usable land at the ballfield if the existing entrance was eliminated.

REPORTS-

Clerk/Treasurer's Report-

Bank statements for the month of September have been received and all accounts have been reconciled. Revenues were \$79,691.32 and expenditures were \$174,535.74. For revenues, Taconite Municipal Aid was received on 9/18 for \$25,959.00. A transfer was also made from Checking to CD Savings for \$32,528.78 for 2017 contributions to the Fayal Water Company depreciation, Fayal Sewer Company depreciation, PUC truck depreciation and the PFA replacement fund. Ending balances for the month of September are:

Miners Checking- \$1,164,580.26

Assessment Savings- \$325,068.15

CD Savings- \$516,110.66

For the month of October to date, revenues are \$36,755.04 and expenditures are \$144,245.16.

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

Other Reports-

Motion to accept the Public Access Television Minutes from October 10th, made by Vice-Chair Branville,

support from Supervisor Ochis. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion to accept the October 9th and October 15th Employee Meeting Minutes, made by Vice-Chair Branville, support from Supervisor Sather. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion to accept the Joint Rec Board Meeting Minutes from October 10th, made by Supervisor Sather, support from Supervisor Ziegler. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion to accept the Public Utility Commission Meeting Minutes from September 11th, made by Supervisor Ziegler, support from Supervisor Ochis. Supervisor Ziegler brought forth that the PUC has requested a new liaison for Supervisor Ziegler's lack to bring forward one of their motions. Supervisor Ziegler clarified that he did bring forth their motion, but the issue was tabled no Supervisor formally made the motion. Supervisor Ziegler did not want to make the motion if he was opposed to the motion. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Motion to accept the Delinquency Report, September Wastewater Operator Report, Public Utilities October 9th Minutes, made by Supervisor Ziegler, support from Vice-Chair Branville. Motion carried unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE

October 9th - Letter from St. Louis County Planning and Community Development. Public hearing will take place on Thursday, October 18th at 9:00 AM at the St. Louis County Public Works Training Center regarding comments on the proposed draft of the St. Louis County Comprehensive Land Use Plan. Placed on file.

October 15th - Thank you letter from the Alzheimer's Association of Minnesota-North Dakota Chapter thanking Fayal Township for their donation. Placed on file.

October 15th - Letter from Cal Turner resigning from his position on the Fayal Township Public Utility Commission effective immediately. The Fayal Town Board thanks Cal for his service with the Town and to send a letter of thanks.

October 16th - Email from Range Association of Municipalities & Schools. Board meeting minutes from August 23rd. Placed on file.

OLD BUSINESS

Supervisor Sather-

Fire Department Co-op- Chief Shykes informed the Board that the final report is in and has been forwarded on to the municipalities. The recommendation was merging the three departments into an operational fire department. It would be run by a joint powers board and possibly move to a taxing district down the road. Percentages are based upon population, assessed value and call volume. Eveleth has the largest population, but Fayal has an assessed value equal to both Eveleth and Gilbert put together. Fayal also has the most calls. Budget split is approximately 41%, Fayal 39% and Gilbert 20%. A new station is recommended at North Highway 37 and 53 and single stations at Fayal and Gilbert. Supervisor Ziegler asked how that would affect the retirements? Chief Shykes added they would take the highest paying and boost everyone to that. Fayal is similar to Eveleth, but Gilbert would need to significantly increase their pension. Box alarms would still remain in effect. A meeting needs to be scheduled with the community leaders and the Consultant at some point in November.

Supervisor Ochis-

Culvert Steamer- Supervisor Ziegler needed to talk to Senior Wastewater Operator Dickson regarding his interest and need for a vac trailer.

Supervisor Ziegler-

Old Bullfrogs Building- Supervisor Ziegler will get out the blight violation paperwork.

Speed Study Ely Lake Drive/Miller Trunk- Speed study is done. Vic Lund from St. Louis County stated that the Town Board could take one of two actions. They can decide not to do anything now and because these roads are not on the County's priority list at this time, the speeds would remain. Or as recommended by St. Louis County for safety purposes, the Town Board could approve the County's recommendation to increase the speed to Ely Lake Drive to 40 MPH and change Miller Trunk deceleration start to North Airport Drive. Clerk Coldagelli expressed that she had concerns regarding speeding on Ely Lake Drive and Mr. Lund assured her that studies have shown that no matter what speed is posted, people are going to travel at a speed that feels comfortable to them— whether that be slower or faster. The reasoning behind the speed study was to

get solar speed signs and at this point, if the Township desires them, Fayal would be responsible for the cost of the signs at \$3,000 each, unless the County data is not accurate. Steve Shykes questioned how could the reasoning be that it is safer to go faster? He was concerned at the number of young children near his home. Clerk Coldagelli also questioned that rationale and that by raising it, residents would just go faster. According to Mr. Lund, that reasoning is not what studies have shown. Deputy Chief Jesse Linde added that a majority of people that they pull over for speeding are not residents of Fayal and are using Ely Lake Drive to travel from Biwabik and Gilbert. Table to discuss at the next meeting. Vice-Chair Branville added that 35 MPH is not an unreasonable speed, extra signs would be needed for all the curves and 40 MPH is too fast on the curves of Ely Lake Drive.

Health Insurance-Part of the employee contract negotiations.

Water Standby Charge- Chairman Tamaro was going to look into. Clerk Coldagelli has sent all the information over to a Township attorney at Minnesota Association of Townships for review of the ordinances and resolutions and garner their opinion. Will discuss at the next meeting.

Vice-Chair Branville-

Generator- New pad has been poured and just waiting for the final connections.

Mining Effects- 2018 remaining balance is \$36,251.10. Chairman Tamaro's recommendation was to transfer \$18,000 to the Fire Department to cover turnout gear and Clerk Coldagelli recommended the remaining going to Building and Grounds for the projects completed in 2018. Clerk Coldagelli added that Chief Shykes had requested \$10,000 for turnout gear this year and due to price increases also early allocation of \$10,000 for next year's turnout gear. Chief Shykes added that there was also a need for funds to cover costs for the grant writer.

Motion to transfer half of the 2018 Mining Effects balance to the Fire Department and the other half to Building and Grounds, made by Vice-Chair Branville, support from Supervisor Ochis. Motion carried unanimously.

Investments: Resolution 2018-10 & 2018-11- Two resolutions, one to establish an investment policy and procedure and the second one is authorizing membership into the 4M Fund through the League of Minnesota Cities. These are for authorizing to utilize the 4M Fund, not actually moving the funds yet.

Motion to table until the next meeting, made by Vice-Chair Branville, support from Supervisor Ziegler. Motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

Supervisor Sather brought forward a retirement letter from Fireman Scott Smith after 28 years with the Department effective October 12th, 2018.

Motion to accept Scott Smith's resignation from the Fayal Fire Department with regrets, made by Vice-Chair Branville, support from Supervisor Ochis. Send thank you. Motion carried unanimously.

Supervisor Sather brought forward three new fire fighters for approval.

Motion to accept the Fire Department Hiring Committee's proposal to hire Jeremy Widmer, Cory Christianson and James Heitzman, made by Supervisor Sather, support from Supervisor Ziegler. Motion carried unanimously.

Regular Meeting Reschedule 11/06-

Motion to cancel the 1st meeting on November 6th, hold Board of Canvass with a Special Meeting immediately after to approve and pay the claims on Friday, November 9th at 8:30 AM, made by Vice-Chair Branville, support by Supervisor Ochis. Motion carried unanimously.

MnDOT Relocation- Andy Johnson from MnDOT called and would like to postpone the meeting and meet later in November or December after the plans are drafted for the proposed site at Thunderbird Trail.

Union Contract Negotiations- Working with the employees.

Open Positions on Commissions January 1st- There are some terms expiring on the PUC and the Planning Committee that will expect to need replacements come January. Something to think about if any residents are interested.

Clerk Attending Annual Conference 11/15-11/17- Clerk Coldagelli is considering attending since it will be held in Duluth.

Motion to allow Clerk Coldagelli to attend the Minnesota Association of Townships Annual Conference should she decide to attend, made by Vice-Chair Branville, support from Supervisor Sather. Motion carried unanimously.

Blandin Broadband Cohort Grant- Broadband grant has been approved. Melissa Cox from the Laurentian Chamber of Commerce called Clerk Coldagelli to ask if Fayal could serve as a fiscal sponsor for a \$1,000 financial grant to cover costs associated with the group meetings. The Chamber is not eligible to apply and would need a city or township. Fayal's auditor did some checking and it would be okay for Fayal to do so.

Motion to apply for the Planning Grant for the Blandin Broadband Cohort, made by Vice-Chair Branville, support from Supervisor Sather. Motion carried unanimously.

Clerk Coldagelli brought forward that in order to apply for a grant for the Fire Department she needs to utilize the SAM.gov website, which is the site to apply for a federal grant. Clerk Coldagelli would need to formally be named the entity administrator in order to update Fayal's information on the website.

Motion to approve Clerk Heidi Coldagelli as entity administrator for SAMS.gov, made by Supervisor Ziegler, support from Supervisor Ochis. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion to pay the claims in the amount of \$91,031.96, made by Supervisor Ziegler, support from Supervisor Ochis. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion to adjourn, made by Supervisor Sather, support from Supervisor Ziegler. Motion carried unanimously.

Vice-Chair Branville adjourned the Regular Meeting at 7:58 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Heidi M. Coldagelli

Heidi M. Coldagelli
Clerk/Treasurer Town of Fayal

Approved:

[Signature]
Chair

Date:

11-20-17

Attest:

Heidi Coldagelli
Clerk