

TOWN OF FAYAL
4375 SHADY LANE, EVELETH, MN 55734

Judy M. Sersha, Clerk/Treasurer

Steven J. Kniefel, Chairman

Supervisors: Tony Tammaro, James Pernu, Ron Beldo, Lee Branville

PHONE (218)744-2878

FAX (218) 744-5986

REGULAR MEETING OF THE FAYAL TOWN BOARD

JANUARY 17, 2006

The Regular Meeting of the Fayal Board of Supervisors was called to order at 7:00 PM by Chairman Kniefel. Present were: Chairman Kniefel, Supervisor Beldo, Supervisor Branville, Supervisor Pernu, Supervisor Tammaro and Clerk Sersha.

Audience members in attendance were: Jerry Ulman, Scott Smith, Steve Shykes, Mike Erjavec, Bob Mavec and three E-G High School students.

Motion to approve the minutes of the January 3, 2006 Regular Meeting made by Supervisor Beldo, support from Supervisor Tammaro. Motion carried unanimously.

SCHEDULED GUESTS

Commissioner Keith Nelson was in attendance to report on the CSAH 132 paving project, set to begin this spring. Commissioner Nelson stated he would like to see the project enhanced by the removal of the old railroad bridge. Currently the bike trail uses this bridge, and until the funding is secured for the construction of a new trail that will access the Mesabi Trail, an at-grade crossing would have to be used. Commissioner Nelson asked the town board if they would have an objection to such a crossing. The Board's consensus was that they had no objection to the removal of the bridge as long as the trail crossing is mitigated. Chairman Kniefel referred the matter to New Business for further discussion.

REPORTS

Clerk/Treasurer's Report- For the period of December 1-31, 2005 there were \$388,630.22 in receipts and \$71,784.43 in expenditures. Ending balances are as follows:

Mt. Iron Checking-	\$645,075.88
Miners Bank-	\$114,263.30
Special Assessments Savings-	\$494,778.35

For the period of January 1-17, 2006 there have been \$25,790.75 in receipts and expenditures of \$27,889.37.

Mileage rate for 2006 is 44.5 cents per mile. Referred to New Business.

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

Motion to accept the January 11, 2006 Fire Department Regular Meeting minutes made by Supervisor Branville, support from Chairman Kniefel. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion to accept the Fire Relief Association Meeting minutes of January 11, 2006, made by Supervisor Branville, support from Supervisor Pernu. Supervisor Tammaro questioned if the by-law changes noted in the minutes needed to be ratified by the town board. Chairman Kniefel explained that technically the town board does not need to ratify them, if the by-law changes do not encumber the town. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion to accept the EFGSD Joint Rec minutes of January 11, 2006, made by Supervisor Tammaro, support from Supervisor Pernu. Motion carried unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE

SLC Land Commissioner- List of tax forfeit properties, they are asking us for input as to whether they should be classified as conservation or non-conservation. Referred to New Business, placed on file.

MN Rural Water- They have launched a new flexible long-term finance program called MN Governmental Agency Finance Group. Fact sheet and application are enclosed. They are also asking for a letter of support for assistance they have given us over the years. Referred to PUC.

Commissioner Keith Nelson- A Methamphetamine Forum for Local Elected Officials will be held on Monday, January 30, 6:30-8:00 pm at the Miners Memorial Building. Must RSVP by January 27. Placed on file.

OLD BUSINESS

Supervisor Pernu-

Snowmobile Ordinance- There has been a problem with snowmobiles going near or onto the rink, and there is a fear that someone is going to get hurt. Supervisor Pernu stated he did not think any motorized vehicle should be allowed near any of the recreation areas, but in discussing this with Chief Thompson, it is Thompson's opinion that our snowmobile ordinance does not specifically address this. Pernu referred to a Article 2a, of Ordinance 99-2, where it states "It shall be unlawful for any person to drive or operate any snowmobile in the following unsafe or harassing ways: a. On land that you have been told orally, in writing, or by posted signs, not to". Pernu stated the area is posted with "No motorized vehicles" signs and the rink attendants have been telling snowmobilers to stay away from the rink area. Chairman Kniefel stated that our ordinance mirrors the state statute and allows snowmobiles on the town property and roads. The ordinance could be amended and a separate section could be added to specifically address the recreational area. Supervisor Beldo suggested defining the area by stating motorized vehicles could be no closer than 100 feet, for example. Pernu will discuss the matter further with Chief Thompson, and perhaps the town attorney.

Chairman Kniefel-

Overlay Agreement- The agreement between St. Louis County and the town has been signed by the Chair and Clerk and sent back to the county for final signatures. The plan for the roads has also been finalized.

NEW BUSINESS

Supervisor Tamaro informed the Board the PUC has authorized Dale to attend a wastewater workshop and training seminar in Minneapolis.

Motion to allow Dale to attend the seminar, per the PUC recommendation, made by Supervisor Tamaro, support from Chairman Kniefel. Supervisor Beldo questioned if the training is needed for continuing education. Tamaro answered that it is. Motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Kniefel reminded the Board of the March meeting schedule, with the Annual Meeting to be held on the second Tuesday of the month. The regular meetings are held on the first and third Tuesday, and it has been the practice of the Board to cancel one of the regular meetings.

Motion to cancel the Regular Meeting of March 21, 2006, due to the Annual Meeting, made by Supervisor Tamaro, support from Chairman Kniefel. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion to set the mileage reimbursement rate at 44.5 cents per mile, made by Supervisor Tamaro, support from Supervisor Beldo. Motion carried unanimously.

The Board discussed the at-grade crossing issue brought by Commissioner Nelson. The Board has no objection to the crossing as long as it is mitigated. Chairman Kniefel will inform Commissioner Nelson.

Regarding the tax forfeit parcels in the town, Chairman Kniefel stated that they are for severed minerals only, with no land rights.

CITIZEN CONCERNS AND COMMENTS

Jerry Ulman , Scott Smith, Steve Shykes and the three E-G High School students were in attendance, but had no comment.

Bob Mavec was in attendance with complaints about snowmobiles speeding and trespassing. Mavec also stated there are many people that are putting up barricades to keep the snowmobiles from crossing their driveways. Chairman Kniefel stated it is illegal to put a barrier or obstruction in the bottom of the ditch, it is legal for snowmobiles to drive in the ditch bottoms and on town roads. If someone is speeding or trespassing, offenders may be turned in by citizens to law enforcement and prosecuted.

Mike Erjavec questioned if we have heard anything from Gilbert regarding the Sparta sewer project. Chairman Kniefel stated we have not.

Motion to pay the bills made by Supervisor Tamaro, support from Supervisor Branville. Motion carried unanimously.

The Board had its initial discussions on the 2007 levy and budget.

Motion to adjourn made by Supervisor Tamaro, support from Supervisor Pernu. Motion carried unanimously.

Regular Meeting adjourned at 8:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy M. Sersha
Clerk of Fayal

Approved: _____
Chair

Attest: _____
Clerk