

TOWN OF FAYAL
4375 SHADY LANE, EVELETH, MN 55734

Judy M. Sersha, Clerk/Treasurer

Steven J. Kniefel, Chairman

Supervisors: Tony Tamaro, James Pernu, Lee Branville, Joe Stewart

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REGULAR MEETING OF THE FAYAL TOWN BOARD

APRIL 3, 2007

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 Stewart, Supervisor Branville, Supervisor Pernu, Supervisor Tamaro and Clerk Sersha.

Audience members in attendance were Steve Shykes, Scott Smith, Jerry Ulman, Mike Knutson and Mike Erjavec.

Motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 6, 2007 made by Supervisor Tamaro, support from Supervisor Branville. Motion carried unanimously.

REPORTS

Clerk/Treasurer's Report- Bank statements for the month of March have not been received yet. There were \$48,619.20 in revenues and expenditures of \$47,410.69. Tentative bank balances are as follows:

Miners Bank-	\$59,687.95
Assessment Savings-	\$373,477.29
Mt Iron Bank-	\$629,840.75

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

Motion to accept the Public Utilities Commission minutes of January 9, 2007, February 6, 2007 and March 20, 2007, made by Supervisor Branville, support from Supervisor Pernu. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion to accept the March 2007 Road & Bridge Report and the Report on Waterline Break submitted by Steve Verkovich, made by Supervisor Tamaro, support from Supervisor Pernu. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion to accept the March 2007 Police Report and the Fayal Fire Department Regular Meeting minutes of March 14, 2007, made by Supervisor Stewart, support from Supervisor Branville. Motion carried unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE

Northland Disaster Animal Care- They would like to be placed on an upcoming agenda to discuss their organization and the services they provide. Placed on file.

CARE Commission- Thank you for donation for E-G All Night Grad Party. Placed on file.

City of Gilbert- Letter regarding their new utility rate structure, and they will not impose the rate until April 1, 2007. Referred to Old Business.

League of MN Cities- Safety & Loss Control Workshop will be April 26, Giants Ridge. Placed on file.

MN Dept of Labor & Industry- An inspection of an elevator recently installed at the Cameron & Ruth Jayson residence is in compliance. Placed on file.

Mike Wiskow, City of Eveleth- They are working on renovations for the water treatment plant and residents within one quarter mile have been invited to attend the city council meeting on March 20, 7 pm for an overview of the project and to answer questions from residents. Copy of letter sent to residents. Placed on file.

Banyon Date Systems- User group conference will be held May 16, Burnsville Holiday Inn. Placed on file.

E-V- Airport- Notice of Board of Adjustment organizational meeting on March 26, 5:30 PM, E-V Municipal Airport. Placed on file.

Mike Aro- Request for E-G students to use Fayal tennis courts, Monday-Friday, 3:30 - 5:00 PM. Referred to New Business.

Steve Verkovich- Info regarding the waterline break at the intersection of Shady Lane and Ely Lake Drive. Placed on file.

SLC CDBG- 2008 Kickoff program will be Wednesday, April 11 1-3 PM, Mt. Iron Community Center. Placed on file.

LMC- Training session for the 2007 MN Local Government Salary & Benefit Survey will be Wednesday, April 11 or May 2, 1-3 pm or via Microsoft Live Meeting on the web. Placed on file.

EFG Joint Cable Commission- Next meeting is April 12, 5 PM, E-G SR. High School Room 225. Placed on file.

LGA- Newsletter. Distributed to board, placed on file.

OLD BUSINESS

Supervisor Branville-

Gilbert Meeting- A meeting with Gilbert has been scheduled for April 11, 4:00 PM, Gilbert City Hall for representatives from each community to discuss the water and sewer rates. Fayal reps to attend are Supervisors Branville and Tammaro, PUC members Kelly Campbell and Mike Erjavec.

As for the water and sewer rates being billed by Gilbert to Fayal, Supervisor Branville reported the PUC has recommended to continue paying the bill at the old rate until a final agreement is reached between the communities.

Motion to continue paying the water and sewer bills to Gilbert at the old rate until a final agreement is reached, made by Supervisor Branville, support from Supervisor Tammaro. Supervisor Stewart questioned if we would incur more penalties by not paying the amount Gilbert is billing. Supervisor Tammaro stated that in a letter we received from them, they are not implementing the late fees previously charged and the current bill is for the period of Feb. 15-March 15. This will be discussed with Gilbert at the meeting that is scheduled on April 11. Motion carried unanimously.

Fayal Utility Rates- The PUC has recommended no rate increase at this time, and has determined there is sufficient cash flow for the time being. Discussion. Supervisor Stewart stated his concern that the reserves would be depleted. Clerk Sersha stated that the rates may need to be increased later this year, but not at this time.

Supervisor Pernu-

Red Cross Shelter survey- Supervisor Pernu and Albert have been working on the survey, Fire Chief Shykes will be adding additional information, and the survey will be sent back next week.

Supervisor Tammaro-

Excess Equipment- With the purchase of the new sweeper, the old one needs to be sold. Supervisor Stewart suggested we put it on the county auction this spring. The Board agreed, Tammaro will check into it. The R & B department has recommended we keep the yellow pickup until the white pickup is in rotation to be replaced. At that time the yellow pickup can be sold and the white pickup can be used as a replacement.
Chairman Kniefel-

Waterline Break- Kniefel questioned if the waterline break on the corner of Shady Lane and Ely Lake Drive was totally public infrastructure. Tammaro answered that it was, and it was verified.

Quad City Utility Study- No feedback yet. Preliminary study was to be done in early March.

More discussion on items that can be disposed of or sold and the lack of storage space in the town complex.

NEW BUSINESS

Supervisor Stewart submitted a request from the Fire Department to purchase a new Zodiac inflatable boat in the with \$5,500.00 in funds earned by the department through the Firewise Grant. The old boat is DNR surplus and will not hold air and the transom is broken.

Supervisor Tammaro questioned the need for a new boat, since the existing one is not used, and that it was a duplication of service. Chief Shykes explained that the old boat will not hold air, would have to be inflated for use and the transom to hold the motor is broken. The boat is not used often, but is available for rescue when needed. The nearest rescue boat of that type is in Pike Lake, and the response time would be 45 minutes to an hour. Supervisor Stewart stated that the boat definitely fills a niche in rescue, especially when the ice is thin this type of boat is very effective. Payment for the boat would be totally from funds earned by the department for the Firewise program, no township funds would be expended. Supervisor Stewart also stated that at some point a town board had authorized the need for the rescue boat and training was provided, now we need to provide the equipment.

Supervisor Tammaro questioned where the new boat would be stored. Chief Shykes explained that the new boat is no bigger than the old boat and would be stored in the same space. Chairman Kniefel questioned if the firewise funds had been received and Clerk Sersha confirmed that they were. Supervisor Branville stated he had no problem with the purchase as long as there is a place to store the boat, but he realized that we are very short on space.

Motion to authorize the purchase of the inflatable rescue boat for the Fire Department, to be paid for with the \$5,500.00 in Firewise funds, made by Supervisor Stewart, support from Supervisor Branville. Stewart, Branville, Pernu and Kniefel voted yes. Tammaro voted no. Motion carried.

Supervisor Tammaro reported that Mike Wiskow of Eveleth will be drafting a water proposal and forwarding it to the PUC and town board.

Supervisor Tammaro reported the new sweeper works good, but a cover is needed to keep the sand and rocks from spraying.

Motion to authorize the purchase of a new cover for the sweeper in the amount of \$1,261.29, which includes tax, made by Supervisor Tammaro, support from Supervisor Pernu. Clerk Sersha questioned if the purchase is taxable since it is strictly for use on the town roads? Tammaro will check. Motion carried unanimously.

Supervisor Tammaro reported there are two sewer line leaks, one on Differding Point and the other on Long Lake. The leaks are causing infiltration. Tammaro stated he did not know the cost of the repairs, but they needed to be done.

Motion to approve Jola & Sopp to make the necessary repairs on the line leaks, made by Supervisor Tammaro, support from Supervisor Branville. Motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Kniefel questioned if the repairs had been made to the heat zoning? Supervisor Pernu answered that Arrowhead Heating has been contacted, they have been out here once to address the problem, but it is still ongoing. Pernu will contact Arrowhead again.

Motion to authorize the use of the Fayal tennis courts by the Eveleth-Gilbert High School students, Monday-Friday, 3:30 PM to 5:00 PM, made by Supervisor Tammaro, support from Supervisor Branville. Motion carried unanimously.

Clerk Sersha reported the St. Louis County Board has asked to have their April 24 meeting in the town hall.

Motion to waive the rental fee for the county board meeting, made by Supervisor Tammaro, support from Chairman Kniefel. Motion carried unanimously.

Annual Meeting Directives-

Chairman Kniefel stated the people at the Annual Meeting authorized a 2% wage increase for the supervisors and chair.

Motion to accept the 2% increase in wages, made by Chairman Kniefel. Motion died for lack of second.

The wages for supervisor and chair will stay the same. (Supervisor- \$270.00 per month, Chair- \$300.00 per month)

Amendment to Ordinance 99-2- The PUC recommended amending the snowmobile ordinance to the people at the Annual Meeting as follows: Motion to have the town board amend ordinance 99-2 snowmobile ordinance to make it unlawful for snowmobiles to drive over peoples waterlines in the ditches, whether on county roads or township roads and to allow people to use non lethal means to stop snowmobiles. The people at the Annual Meeting took no action on this recommendation. The Town Board took no action either.

CITIZEN CONCERNS AND COMMENTS

Mike Knutson of the fire department offered to get together with the town employees to sort out items in the garage for disposal or sale. The fire department will coordinate this with the employees.

Scott Smith thanked the board for their cooperation in the use of the tennis courts by the school students.

Steve Shykes, Jerry Ulman, and Mike Erjavec were in attendance, but had no comment.

Motion to pay the bills made by Supervisor Branville, support from Supervisor Pernu. Supervisor Tammaro questioned if the Walker, Giroux & Hahne was correct and included all costs for the audit. Clerk Sersha stated it was correct and should be paid. Supervisor Tammaro questioned if the SEH bill was per the terms of the agreement. Clerk Sersha stated it was. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion to adjourn by Chairman Kniefel, support from Supervisor Tammaro. Motion carried unanimously.

Regular Meeting adjourned at 7:53 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy M. Sersha
Clerk of Fayal

Approved: _____ **Date Approved** _____
Chair

Attest: _____
Clerk