

**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**

**JULY 18, 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: Scott Smith, Mike Erjavec, Jerry Ulman, John Damberg, Paul Damberg, Mark Heitzman, Tom Kingston, Tom Maki and Cyril Beaudette.

***Motion to approve the minutes of the June 20, 2006 Regular Meeting made by Supervisor Branville, support from Supervisor Pernu. Motion carried unanimously.***

**SCHEDULED GUESTS**

Tom Kingston was in attendance to explain a problem he is having with water from North Saint Mary's Drive flowing onto his property. Mr. Kingston also explained an ongoing problem he has been having with his neighbor filling his property and diverting water onto the Kingston property.

Supervisor Beldo reported that he, Dale Dickson and Steve Verkovich visited the site after the last regular meeting. Upon inspection, it was discovered that a natural drainage ditch existed, but over the years it had become filled with leaves etc. A town employee was dispatched to rake out the area so the water could flow through the ditch and not puddle on the road. Supervisor Beldo stated it is the town's first responsibility to keep water off the road, and by re-connecting the existing ditch it was a low cost fix for the town. Chairman Kniefel stated the town has an obligation to keep the road safe for travel and the board felt that clearing the existing ditch was the reasonable solution to the problem. Chairman Kniefel questioned Mr. Kingston as to how he believes he was damaged by the town's action. Mr. Kingston stated he could not answer that question, but wanted to voice his disgust with how the problem was handled.

***Boy Scouts-*** Mark Heitzman, Cubmaster and Paul Damberg, Scout Leader were in attendance to inform the Board on the storage building they are planning to build on the town complex property. The town board authorized the location and construction two years ago. The building will be 8' by 12' and built by the parents of the scouts, with donated supplies. The plan is to locate the shed, which will be built on skids so it can be moved, near the scout's aluminum can recycler. The board agreed the town's employees can prepare the site and Clerk Sersha will supply the volunteers with waiver forms for signature by anyone helping with the project, for town liability purposes.

***Motion to authorize the Boy Scouts to proceed with building a storage shed for their supplies on town property, with the town employees to prepare the site, made by Supervisor Tammaro, support from Supervisor Pernu. Motion carried unanimously.***

**REPORTS**

**Clerk/Treasurer's Report-** For the period of June 1-30, 2006, there were \$44,970.17 in receipts and \$55,325.67 in expenditures leaving ending balances as follows:

Mt. Iron Checking-	\$508,723.19
Special Assessment Savings-	\$457,373.86
Miners Bank-	\$56,456.41

For the month of July to date, there have been \$412,946.98 in revenues and \$31,700.83 in expenditures. The first half of the 2006 SLC apportion was received in the amount of \$402,924.22, which was deposited in the following manner: \$164,350.31 into the special assessment savings and \$238,573.91 in the general account of Mt. Iron Checking.

All departments were funded at fifty percent except General at 49% and Road & Bridge at 47%.

Interest rates at the checking and savings at the Mt. Iron Bank had dropped to 2 and 3 percent respectively. Upon calling the vice-president we were able to get the rate increased to 3.75% which should be reflected on the July statement. A copy of the June public utilities financial statement is included in this report.

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

***Motion to accept the July 11, 2006 PUC Regular Meeting minutes, made by Supervisor Tamaro, support from Supervisor Beldo. Motion carried unanimously.***

***Motion to accept the Fayal Fire Department Regular Meeting minutes of June 14, 2006, made by Supervisor Branville, support from Chairman Kniefel. Motion carried unanimously.***

***Motion to accept the July 12, 2006 EFGSD Joint Rec Regular Meeting minutes, made by Supervisor Tamaro, support from Supervisor Beldo. Motion carried unanimously.***

***Motion to accept the EFG Joint Cable TV Regular Meeting minutes of June 8, 2006, made by Supervisor Tamaro, support from Chairman Kniefel. Supervisor Tamaro informed that there is a bill in the legislature to eliminate franchise fees by the cable companies, and the matter has been referred to the PUC. Motion carried unanimously.***

***Motion to approve the June 2006 Road & Bridge Report, made by Supervisor Beldo, support from Supervisor Tamaro. Motion carried unanimously.***

***Motion to accept the minutes of the June 13, 2006 PUC Variance hearing, made by Supervisor Tamaro, support from Supervisor Branville. Motion carried unanimously.***

#### **CORRESPONDENCE**

Care Commission- Thank you for support of All Night Post Grad Party. Placed on file.

SLCATO- Regular Meeting minutes of May 24. Next meeting is Sept 27, Cotton Town Hall. Request for prize from Fayal for the 2006 Annual MAT Conference. Need motion authorizing. Referred to New Business.

Mike Wiskow- The aqueduct between St. Mary's and Ely Lakes was opened on June 27 because St. Mary's Lake elevation dropped to 1374.00. Placed on file.

Commissioner Keith Nelson- Invitation to the SLC History Train. Placed on file.

Aquila- Has entered into an agreement to sell their natural gas operation to MERC, with the sale to close on July 1, 2006. Referred to PUC, placed on file.

State Demographic Center- Fayal Estimated population is 1,831 with 766 households as of April 1, 2005. Placed on file.

SLC Sheriff's Rescue Volunteer Squad- Request for donation. Last year we gave \$100. Referred to New Business.

MN Dept. Of Commerce- The Energy Facilities Permitting Unit are soliciting individuals to serve as a member of the Citizens Advisory Task Force to assist with scoping the EIS and joint permit application for the Mesaba Energy Project. Information form included for those interested. Placed on file.

MAT- Township Officers Summer ShortCourse will be held July 27, Grand Rapids, Wendigo Center. Placed on file.

Chairman Kniefel- Letter to Patsy Niska of the SLC Communications Center informing her the Fayal Town Board has no objection to simultaneously paging and dispatching the Fayal and Eveleth fire departments. Placed on file.

Arrowhead Procure- Regular Meeting minutes of June 19, 2006. Placed on file.

SLC Auditor- Information regarding the new voting system must be published, and the county will be publishing in the Mesabi Daily News. Training on the Auto Mark voting system will be held on Thursday, July 27, 1-4 pm, Clinton Town Hall. Placed on file.

Mary Kiffmeyer, Secretary of State- Grant award for \$2,600 for the installation of an auto door opener on the polling place. The contract must be accepted and signed. Referred to Old Business.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **Supervisor Beldo-**

**North Airport Drive/Lane Residential Speed Zone-** Supervisor Beldo reported he has been researching the issue with the township attorneys. There seems to have been a change in the statute that will make it easier for townships to make such a designation for roads. The speed limit would then be reduced to 25 mph.

**Road Overlay Bids-** By doing the shouldering in-house we can save about \$18,000, but we need the shouldering attachment. A quote was obtained for Tri-State Truck Equipment for this specialty piece. Quote was \$3,972.00 for a stainless steel shouldering attachment.

***Motion to proceed with the purchase of the shouldering attachment from Tri-State Truck Equipment, made by Supervisor Beldo, support from Supervisor Tammaro. Clerk Sersha questioned if the attachment is listed on the state bid. Beldo will check, and if it is the price may be less. Motion carried unanimously.***

### **Supervisor Branville-**

**ATV Ordinance-** Branville and Pernu have met and are working on a draft to present to the board that will combine the snowmobile ordinance we currently have, to include ATV's.

### **Supervisor Pernu-**

**Handicap Door Opener-** We have been awarded a grant for \$2,600 from the Secretary of States office for the installation of an automatic door opener, to aid with handicap voter access.

***Motion to accept the grant in the amount of \$2,600 and authorize the Chair and Clerk as signatories on the grant document, made by Supervisor Pernu, support from Supervisor Branville. Motion carried unanimously.***

Supervisor Tammaro states we should install an auto opener on the door into the clerk's office also. Short discussion.

***Motion to authorize the installation of the door opener from Tromco Electric in the amount of \$2,600, and expand the project by installing a second opener on the clerk's door at a cost not to exceed \$2,600, with the funding to come from mining effects, made by Supervisor Tammaro, support from Supervisor Pernu. Motion carried unanimously.***

**Front of Town Hall-** Metal is not available to match the front of the hall and garage, so we will have to do something else uniformly across the building. John Damberg of the Planning Committee was in attendance and offered to help with the project and the landscape design.

**Fayal Signs-** Nine signs have been ordered at a cost of \$61.16 each. This will allow for one spare and to also be placed in the southbound lane of Hwy. 53, south of Eveleth. Verkovich is checking with the highway department regarding rights-of-way and sign placement.

**Fire Dept. Air Conditioner-** Three quotes were received for air conditioners. Prices varied from \$3,259.87 for a large unit to \$450 for a window unit. Discussion on what is needed and which fund will pay for it. Supervisor Pernu stated he thinks the fire department volunteers do a great job and should have some type of air conditioning due to the fact it gets so warm upstairs.

***Motion to authorize the installation of a window-type air conditioning unit for the low quote price of \$450 from Arrowhead Heating & Cooling, made by Supervisor Pernu, support from Supervisor Branville. Motion carried unanimously.***

**Supervisor Tamaro-**

***Eveleth Water-*** Mike Wiskow is working on the costs for a vault so that if needed, Fayal can connect to Eveleth's water system.

***Kaleva Island Sewer-*** Scott Neff is working on the agreement, but more info is needed from the property owner.

***Gilbert Rate Negotiation-*** The PFA wants us to start the negotiations, but we have not heard anything back from Gilbert.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Supervisor Branville reported that the radio is down in Engine 91 and needs repair. Repair to the radio would cost 85% of what a new unit would cost. The old radio also does not receive all the new frequencies. The department would also like to upgrade to headsets and the new frequencies. Cost for new radio would be \$3,086.

***Motion to approve the purchase of a new radio and gear for Engine 91 out of the existing budget, made by Supervisor Branville, support from Supervisor Tamaro. Discussion on whether only one price was obtained. Scott Smith stated the price obtained was for a Motorola which is compatible with all the other radios. Tamaro suggests trying to obtain a price from another vendor for the same radio just to see if it is possible to get a lower price. Motion carried unanimously.***

Discussion on painting the light poles near the rink.

The board reviewed the quote from Biss Lock for locks and door knobs that need replacement on the town complex. The quote is for \$2,470.11, but does not include labor.

***Motion to table action on the quote from Biss Locks until clarification can be received, made by Chairman Kniefel, support from Supervisor Branville. Motion carried unanimously.***

Supervisor Pernu reported on comparisons of gas usage from February- June 2005 to February- June 2006. Since the installation of the Rinnea hot water system the bill is \$2,078 less this year than last. Also, the bill for July 05 was \$458.50 and for July 06 it was \$43.70. Pernu states the installation of the Rinnea system has already paid for itself.

Supervisor Tamaro reported that Dale has been researching pumps for A-1, which needs replacement. Braun Pump & Controls submitted a quote for \$19,928.50, which includes installation and is for a 47 HP pump. Quality Flow Systems submitted a quote for \$9,840 plus \$875 for the installation and is for a 36 HP pump. Tamaro states the 47 HP pump is not necessary because at the time there was only going to be one liftstation, Liftstation A. Somewhere during construction, it was determined another liftstation was needed, and A-1 was installed, but the pump horsepower was not reduced or changed. It has been determined that a 36 HP pump is sufficient.

***Motion to purchase the pump from Quality Flow Systems at a cost of \$9,840 plus \$875 for installation, with the funds to come from the sewer maintenance contingency fund, made by Supervisor Tamaro, support from Chairman Kniefel. Discussion on the possibility of rebuilding the old pump for a spare. Motion carried unanimously.***

**IRRB Back Access Road-**

Chairman Kniefel reported he was contacted by Tom Maki and Cy Beaudette regarding a road off of West Long Lake Road that goes behind the IRRB. The road has been blocked off by the IRRB. Mr. Maki and Mr. Beaudette have been using the road, as well as the Fayal road employees when they haul tailings from EvTac. Chairman Kniefel stated he has researched the issue but could find no evidence that the town ever had an easement for the road, but that the town had used and maintained it as a road at one time. The township dump was located on that road but since the dump closed, the town has not maintained it.

Mr. Maki and Mr. Beaudette requested the town make a request to re-open the road for use by citizens and the town employees to haul tailings, and for fire protection. Mr. Maki stated they have tried contacting the IRRB regarding the road closing but have been unable to speak with anyone. Discussion.

***Motion to support Mr. Maki and Mr. Beaudette's efforts to communicate with the IRRB to keep the road open, made by Supervisor Beldo, support from Supervisor Tamaro. Motion carried unanimously.***

***Motion to donate \$100 to the St. Louis County Rescue Squad, made by Supervisor Tamaro, support from Supervisor Pernu. Motion carried unanimously.***

***Motion to donate a door prize, not to exceed \$25 to the SLCATO Annual Awards meeting, made by Chairman Kniefel, support from Supervisor Pernu. Motion carried unanimously.***

**CITIZEN CONCERNS AND COMMENTS**

Jerry Ulman and Scott Smith were in attendance but had no comment.

Mike Erjavec reported that both of his daughters are also building homes on North Airport Drive and requested that the road be possibly upgraded from its minimum maintenance designation. Supervisor Beldo stated that the R & B will look at it and make a recommendation.

Supervisor Pernu reported that casual laborer Charlie Erickson may be exceeding his maximum hours for the month and will have to be enrolled in PERA. Clerk Sersha stated that by doing so, it will reduce Mr. Erickson's pay by five percent and it will cost the town an additional five percent. Sersha advised that Mr. Erickson be informed of the situation.

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

***Motion to adjourn by Supervisor Tamaro.***

Regular Meeting adjourned at 8:49 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy M. Sersha  
Clerk of Fayal

**Approved:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Chair**

**Attest:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Clerk**

