

TOWN OF FAYAL
4375 SHADY LANE, EVELETH, MN 55734

Heidi M. Coldagelli, Clerk/Treasurer

Anthony Tammaro, Chairman

Supervisors: Lee Branville, Mark Chad, Richard Sather, Patrick Ziegler

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REGULAR MEETING OF THE FAYAL TOWN BOARD

DECEMBER 17, 2019

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

Audience member in attendance was Gina Brascugli.

Motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Town Board Meeting of December 3rd, 2019, made by Supervisor Sather, support from Supervisor Chad. Supervisor Branville abstained. Motion carried.

SCHEDULED GUESTS- None at this time.

AUDIENCE CONCERNS- Gina Brascugli introduced herself to the Board and would like to be appointed to the Public Utilities Commission. Listed under Old Business.

REPORTS-

Clerk/Treasurer's Report-

Bank statements for the month of November have been received and all accounts have been reconciled. Revenues were \$55,407.27 and expenditures were \$128,631.16. Ending balances for the month of November are:

Miners Checking- \$1,022,361.56
Assessment Savings- \$318,686.05
CD Savings- \$80,915.17
4M Fund- \$412,888.55

For the month of December to date, revenues are \$406,556.40 and expenditures are \$273,212.38.

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

Other Reports-

Motion to accept the Employee Meeting Minutes from December 9th and 16th made by Supervisor Branville, support from Supervisor Sather. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion to accept the Joint Cable Television Access Board Meeting Minutes from December 4th, made by Supervisor Branville, support from Supervisor Sather. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion to accept the Fire Department Business Meeting Minutes from November 13th, made by Supervisor Sather, support from Supervisor Branville. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion to accept the Joint Powers Rec Board Meeting Minutes from December 11th, made by Supervisor Sather, support from Supervisor Branville. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion to accept the Fire Department Shared Services Committee Meeting Minutes from October 28th, made by Supervisor Chad, support from Supervisor Branville. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion to accept the Public Utilities Commission Meeting Minutes from November 12th, made by Supervisor Chad, support from Supervisor Sather. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion to accept the November Road & Bridge Report, made by Supervisor Branville, support from Supervisor Sather. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion to accept the Public Utilities Delinquency Report, made by Supervisor Chad, support from Supervisor Sather. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion to accept the November Wastewater Operator Report, made by Supervisor Chad, support from Supervisor Sather. Motion carried unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE-

December 6th- Email from Phil Chapman from St. Louis County Elections. Election equipment matching grants are available to upgrade equipment. Grant applications must be received by the Secretary of State's Office by January 31st. Placed on file.

December 9th- Letter from Minnesota Association of Townships with financial statements for July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019. Placed on file.

December 9th- Letter from Karen McNeal from St. Louis County Agricultural Fair Association seeking donations for the 2020 Fair. Placed on file.

December 11th- Certified letter from Mediacom. Mediacom's cable franchise with Fayal is scheduled to expire on November 6th, 2022 and Mediacom is informing Fayal of their intention to seek renewal of the franchise. Per the Communications Act of 1934, franchise renewal procedures are to be invoked 30-36 months prior to expiration. Send to the PUC.

OLD BUSINESS

Supervisor Sather-

Fire Department Shared Services- Reviewed status from last meeting held on November 25th. Resolutions have been approved by Gilbert and Fayal and Eveleth's should be approved tonight. Next meeting is in January.

Supervisor Branville-

2021 Levy- Discussion regarding some proposed changes. Reasoning for \$15,000 increase to Road & Bridge was thinking ahead for employee benefits, wage increases and 2020 Levy just covered employee salaries and expenses. Supervisor Branville has concerns with the cumulative increase over the years, despite yearly small increases. Discussion regarding operating costs increases over the years.

Supervisor Chad-

Old Bullfrogs Building- Awaiting estimates for demolition from Jola & Sopp and G Benz Construction.

MnDOT Relocation- No new information.

Commission Vacancy- Channel 12 & PUC- PUC recommended appointing Gina Brascugli to the open position.

Motion to approve the PUC recommendation to appoint Gina Brascugli to the open position, made by Supervisor Chad, support from Supervisor Sather. Gina Brascugli questioned the length of the term. Clerk Coldagelli believed it was less than three years because it was finishing out another Commissioner's term and she would get that information for her. Ms. Brascugli informed the Board a little bit about herself and a few opinions and questions she had regarding sewer. ***Motion carried unanimously.***

Vice-Chair Ziegler-

Job Descriptions- Table for now.

Clerk/Treasurer Term Correction Ordinance 2002-1- Attorney Scott Neff is preparing the amendment.

Leigh Ann Surla Property- Utility Billing Clerk Diane Dickson recommended that the Town Board refund the penalty balances of \$406.59 that have accrued since the delinquent utilities were certified in August. Her other suggestion was to write off the remaining \$216.00, which was essentially three months of utilities. Discussion regarding what to do with the \$622.59 outstanding balance. If the balance remained out there, it can be certified to the County at the time of the next Sheriff's sale.

Motion to leave the outstanding balances on the property, place the assessment at the time of the Sheriff's sale and accrue no more penalty balances as of 12/18/2019, made by Vice-Chair Ziegler, support from Supervisor Sather. Motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

Comp Time Balances- Comp time is currently paid out December 31st for any outstanding balances. There is no issue with the auditor in carrying over the balances to the following year. Road & Bridge employees earn the majority of their comp time the month of December and have difficulties using it up before year end.

Motion to give the employees the option to carry over comp time, made by Supervisor Branville. Discussion whether having a cap, one-time event and the contract. ***Supervisor Branville rescinded his motion.***

Motion to stick with the terms of the existing contract and payout comp time at the end of the year with no comp time carryover to the next year, made by Supervisor Branville, support from Supervisor Chad. Motion carried unanimously.

Lodging Tax-

Motion to issue a check to the Iron Range Tourism Bureau for \$1,555.28 and the remaining 5% administrative withholding of \$81.86 be transferred to the PUC, made by Vice-Chair Ziegler, support from Supervisor Sather. Motion carried unanimously.

HSA 2020 Funding-

Motion to fund HSA's on January 2nd in the amount of \$23,500, made by Vice-Chair Ziegler, support from Supervisor Chad. Motion carried unanimously.

2019 Capital Equipment Transfer to Fire Department-

Motion to transfer \$25,000 from the Capital Equipment Fund to the Fire Department for the Water Tender payment, made by Supervisor Branville, support from Vice-Chair Ziegler. Motion carried unanimously.

Year End Fund Balances- PUC and Building & Grounds should be the only two accounts with negative balances at year end. Clerk Coldagelli will not have final ending balances until all the audit entries are completed in early February.

Motion to make the negative balances whole during the audit, made by Vice-Chair Ziegler, support from Supervisor Branville. Motion carried unanimously.

MPFA Loan Payoff- PUC made a motion to payoff the Differding Point loan with an approximate balance of \$34,266.90 and the Big Sewer loan with an approximate balance of \$294,070.05. The Assessment Savings currently has a balance of over \$437,000. If the Board agrees with paying off, can get a payoff from the bank in January and have a resolution prepared.

Motion to approve paying off the MPFA loans, made by Vice-Chair Ziegler, support from Supervisor Sather. Motion carried unanimously.

Employee Benefit CD- Employee Benefit CD is funded as follows: General- \$10,000, Road & Bridge- \$15,000, Water- \$5,000 and Sewer- \$10,000. Will also need to transfer from the Employee Benefit CD \$15,182.32 to Road & Bridge for retiree healthcare and \$5,396.66 to General for retiree healthcare during the audit.

Motion to fund the Employee Benefit CD, made by Vice-Chair Ziegler, support from Supervisor Chad. Motion carried unanimously.

St. Louis County Apportionment Transfer to Assessment Savings-

Motion to transfer \$118,734.96 received from the apportionment money from the checking to the Assessment Savings, made by Vice-Chair Ziegler, support from Supervisor Branville. Motion carried unanimously.

Lift Station Differding Point- Issues at the lift station with rocks getting into the pumps and took out both impellers. Question as to where the rocks came from. Vice-Chair Ziegler thought possibly they were introduced at the time of construction and finally worked their way down the line. Quote provided from MN Pump Works to purchased two new pumps for \$14,975.00 or to rebuild the pumps for a cost of \$4,544.72. If the rebuilt pumps fail, there is no warranty.

Motion to approve the purchase of two new pumps and send one of the old pumps out after the first of the year to be rebuilt in order to have a spare pump, made by Vice-Chair Ziegler, support from Supervisor Sather. Now there is a temporary pump in place until pumps are received. ***Motion carried unanimously.***

Resolution 2019-11- Updated the fee schedule to include the increase of the yearly MN Department of Health Test Fee from \$6.38 to \$9.72.

Motion to approve Resolution 2019-11, a Resolution to Amend Water Service Fees in Accordance with Town

of Fayal Water Ordinance #97-3, made by Vice-Chair Ziegler support from Supervisor Chad. Motion carried unanimously.

Supervisor Branville brought forward a quote from TruGreen for lawn services. By prepaying before January 1st receive a discount of approximately \$120.

Motion to approve payment to TruGreen for services in 2020 for \$2,382.45, made by Supervisor Branville, support from Supervisor Sather. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion to approve the hiring of Wyatt Reberg to the Fayal Fire Department pending a physical and a background investigation, made by Supervisor Sather, support from Vice-Chair Ziegler. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion to reappoint the current Commissioners on the PUC to the same positions, made by Supervisor Chad, support from Vice-Chair Ziegler. Motion carried unanimously.

The PUC also made a recommendation that the Town Board not pay for replacing property pins for David Dean due to it has been 20 years since the sewer project went in. That should have been brought to someone's attention at the time of the project.

Motion to not pay for replacing property pins for David Dean, made by Supervisor Chad, support from Supervisor Sather. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion to pay the claims in the amount of \$189,344.55, made by Supervisor Branville, support from Supervisor Sather. Motion carried unanimously.

Vice-Chair Ziegler adjourned the Regular Meeting at 7:46 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Heidi M. Coldagelli

Heidi M. Coldagelli
Clerk/Treasurer Town of Fayal

Approved: *[Signature]*
Chair

Date: 1-7-20

Attest: *[Signature]*
Clerk / Deputy