

**TOWN OF FAYAL**  
**4375 SHADY LANE, EVELETH, MN 55734**

*Heidi M. Coldagelli, Clerk/Treasurer*

*Anthony Tamaro, Chairman*

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

*PHONE (218)744-2878*

*FAX (218)744-5986*

**EMERGENCY MEETING OF THE FAYAL TOWN BOARD**

**MARCH 26, 2020**

The Emergency Meeting of the Fayal Town Board of Supervisors was called to order at 9:00 AM by Chairman Tamaro. Present were: Chairman Tamaro, Supervisor Branville, Supervisor Chad, Supervisor Ziegler and Clerk/Treasurer Coldagelli. Supervisor Sather was absent. Chairman Tamaro began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Audience members in attendance were Eveleth Police Chief Tim Koivunen, Deputy Police Chief Jesse Linde, Eveleth EMS Director Therese Elverum and joining via telephone from St. Louis County Assessor's Office, Todd Manninen.

**Resolution 2020-02 Declaring a Local Emergency-** Police Chief Tim Koivunen briefly discussed COVID-19 response and the emergency operations plan that both Eveleth and Fayal share. Chief Koivunen recommended adopting an emergency resolution in order to open up opportunities for FEMA funding for in the future. Chairman Tamaro also added that he would like to add Tim Koivunen as the emergency manager for Fayal. Chief Koivunen clarified that any media response when referencing Eveleth would also include Fayal residents. Our cities fall under the County jurisdiction and they are also prepared for this emergency. Supervisor Ziegler questioned if it can be advised not to travel, for example seasonal cabin owners? The County has been recommending to shelter in place and not travel. Chief Koivunen added that the common sense approach should be taken, but there isn't the means to enforce it. Discussion regarding determining essential and nonessential employees.

***Motion to adopt Resolution 2020-02 A Resolution Declaring a Local Emergency, made by Supervisor Ziegler, support from Supervisor Chad. Motion carried unanimously.***

***Motion to designate Chief Tim Koivunen as the Emergency Management Director, made by Chairman Tamaro, support from Supervisor Branville. Motion carried unanimously.***

Therese Elverum routed a handout discussing a model that was passed down to the EMS from the Regulatory Board and based on statistics of 20% infected and from that percentage 81% mild, 14% severe and 5% critical. The Virginia Hospital has a six bed intensive care unit with seven ventilators. The hospital has plans in place that when they receive their first COVID-19 case, they will have entire units dedicated to those patients. Based upon those projections, Fayal would have 240 infected, 194 mild, 34 severe and 12 critical. Clerk Coldagelli added that the population estimate is 1,800 and these projections are based upon a Fayal population of 1,200. Mrs. Elverum added that the handout isn't meant to scare everyone, but to bring awareness. Chairman Tamaro asked if Fayal can utilize the handout and send it over to the residents? Chief Koivunen emphasized that this is a big deal and not just the flu.

***Motion to send handout to the residents, place on the posting boards and website, made by Supervisor Ziegler, support from Chairman Tamaro. Motion carried unanimously.***

Therese Elverum added some updates regarding personal protective equipment for EMS. Eveleth and Fayal are in a good position with equipment. EMS are taking steps to protect EMS workers as well as patients. Some residents have also made homemade masks for EMS. Supervisor Branville had questions regarding what the process was when there is more demand of ventilators than there is available. Alarmingly, there is only 193 ventilators in the entire state. If it came to it, there would be decisions as to who would get a ventilator and who wouldn't. Other companies have been stepping up to produce ventilators in the interim. Chief Koivunen added that this is why the Governor has established the stay at home orders in order to not overwhelm the hospitals. At this point, only hospitalized and hospital workers are getting tested. Chairman Tamaro questioned if the Fire Departments are limiting access to Fire Halls. City of Eveleth is suspending training, online only and no one in the fire station unless there is a fire. All temperatures are taken and are being recorded prior to entering the building. Mrs. Elverum discussed her plans for EMS if staff shortages.

**Board of Review-** Todd Manninen was in attendance via phone representing the County to discuss the Board

of Review. Mr. Manninen discussed guidance from David Sipila to the Assessors. St. Louis County will not be attending any in-person meetings of any local boards for 2020. An option must be available to attend virtually, such as a teleconference. The Township is responsible to organizing this. Accepting written appeals only is acceptable. Township is responsible to notify tax payers. No physical inspections are to be taken by assessors until further notice and will work with property owners in order to provide things such as photos for proof. Will include in a letter to residents that the Board of Appeal will be written appeals only. Mr. Manninen added that the greatest driver of the property taxes has been the school. Chairman Tamaro added that the sewer assessment will fall off after this year.

***Motion to continue with the Board of Review via conference call and/or video with written requests preferred or a phone line available if they want to call in, made by Chairman Tamaro, support from Supervisor Branville. Motion carried unanimously.***

Chairman Tamaro, Supervisor Ziegler and Supervisor Chad can attend.

#### **Town Hall Safety/Meeting Virtually-**

Questions regarding the status of the Commissions. Right now they should not be holding meetings.

***Motion to adopt Resolution 2020-03 A Resolution Establishing the Ability to Conduct Open Meeting by Telephone, made by Supervisor Branville, support from Supervisor Ziegler. Motion carried unanimously.***

Discussion regarding essential and nonessential employees. Clerk Coldagelli, Wastewater Operator Dale Dickson, and Deputy Clerk Diane Dickson are the essential employees. Clerk Coldagelli has young children and will likely need to stay home during this. Discussion amongst the Supervisors.

***Motion to designate Dale Dickson as Wastewater Operator and Diane Dickson as the Deputy Clerk/Treasurer as the essential employees for Fayal Township during COVID-19, made by Supervisor Branville, support from Supervisor Chad.*** Chairman Tamaro would like to change their hours from 7-3 Monday-Thursday and then Clerk Coldagelli will cover Fridays. If there is an emergency then someone can come in. Clerk Coldagelli can work remotely from home. Pager coverage will need to be worked on. ***Motion carried unanimously.***

Need to limit the access to the Fire Department. No more work nights and business meetings. If there is a call then go down there, but otherwise limit access. Suggestion for no more than two fireman at the hall unless its a call.

**Steve Shykes-Providing Public Assistance-** Chief Shykes offered that if there is any resident that is in need of getting groceries or medicine picked up, that the Fire Department can do that for them.

***Motion to allow Steve Shykes to assist residents that need anything such as pick up groceries or medicine for the residents, made by Chairman Tamaro support from Supervisor Branville.*** Will add to the letters to the residents. ***Motion carried unanimously.***

Discussion regarding the sewer bills at this time and economic times due to the virus. AEOA may offer programs to assist residents with paying the sewer bill.

***Motion to waive the 10% late fee on bills for the next six months, made by Supervisor Ziegler, support from Supervisor Chad. Motion carried unanimously.***

***Motion to close the Town Hall to the public until May 4<sup>th</sup>, made by Chairman Tamaro, support from Supervisor Branville.*** The April 21<sup>st</sup> Regular Town Board Meeting will be canceled. ***Motion carried unanimously.***

***Motion to have Clerk Coldagelli pay the bills as needed, made by Supervisor Ziegler, support from Supervisor Chad. Motion carried unanimously.***

**Leave Requirements Mandated by Congress for COVID-19-** Congress has mandated that employers pay for COVID-19 leave.

Discussion regarding pay for employees not deemed essential. Conditions exist in order to have full pay regarding the leave requirements. Employees sent home should receive full pay and it can be reviewed after two weeks by Supervisor Ziegler and Chairman Tamaro. Discussion regarding essential employees coming in as necessary, but able to leave if work is complete. Will include Robbi Ochis and pay her for her regular hours for the next two weeks, but she will need to stay home.

***Motion to send the nonessential employees home for now and review after two weeks, made by Supervisor Ziegler, support from Supervisor Branville. Motion carried unanimously.***

***Motion to adjourn, made by Chairman Tamaro.***

Chairman Tammaro adjourned the Regular Meeting at 9:58 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

*Heidi M. Coldagelli*

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Clerk/Treasurer Town of Fayal

Approved: *Andy Tammaro* Date: 5-5-20  
Chair

Attest: *Heidi M. Coldagelli*  
Clerk