

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

SEPTEMBER 7, 2021

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

Audience members in attendance were Gina Brascugli, Matt Hoffmann and Steve Shykes.

Motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Town Board Meeting of August 17th, 2021, made by Supervisor Ziegler, support from Supervisor Chad. Supervisor Sather abstained. Motion carried.

SCHEDULED GUESTS- None at this time.

AUDIENCE CONCERNS- Fire Chief Steve Shykes was present to discuss employment of a new firefighter, annual pump tests, the Greenwood Fire and a request for use the old police squad. Chief Shykes would like to utilize the police squad for the chief officer as a take home vehicle for fire and medical response.

Assistance Chief Matt Hoffmann informed the Board that the Fire Department provided 705 personnel hours at the Greenwood Fire. Assistant Chief Hoffmann is awaiting final numbers on federal reimbursement for use of staff and equipment. It could take up to 90 days before preliminary reimbursement estimates of \$65,000-\$70,000 are received from the Forest Service. Chief Shykes suggested the excess funds received for reimbursement be used to purchase a Polaris side by side specifically made for fire/ems. Sale of excess equipment could also assist in offsetting the cost.

Gina Brascugli discussed a downed powerline situation that occurred prior to the meeting and had a question regarding employee on call processes. Chairman Tammaro suggested that the Road & Bridge Department remove more trees located in the road right-of-way and Chief Shykes informed everyone that if a downed powerline is found, to immediately call 911.

REPORTS-

Clerk/Treasurer's Report-

Bank statements for the month of August have been received and all accounts reconciled. Revenues were \$136,748.62 and expenditures were \$236,429.16. Ending balances for the month of August are:

Miners Checking- \$1,080,786.20
Assessment Savings- \$425,121.64
CD Savings- \$599,740.09

For the month of September to date, revenues are \$7,679.68 and expenditures are \$95,267.52.

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

Other Reports-

Motion to accept the Public Access Television Meeting Minutes from September 1st, made by Supervisor Sather, support from Chairman Tammaro. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion to accept the Fayal Planning Committee Meeting Minutes from July 21st, made by Supervisor Chad, support from Supervisor Ziegler. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion to accept the Road & Bridge Report for August 2021, made by Supervisor Ziegler, support from Supervisor Sather. Motion carried unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE-

August 25th- Email from Jeri Venne with the IRRRB. The Culture and Tourism program will be accepting applications beginning September 1. Discussion that the grant application for a picnic shelter should be delayed until spring cycle. Placed on file.

August 25th- Flyer from St. Louis County Community Development Block Grant Program with notice of fiscal year 2022 program open house and public hearing on fiscal year 2020 program accomplishments will be held on September 16th from 10 AM to 12 PM via WebEx. Placed on file.

September 7th- Letter from FHLB Des Moines with Irrevocable Standby Letter of Credit. Placed on file.

OLD BUSINESS

Supervisor Sather-

Fire Department Shared Services- The City of Eveleth had a city council meeting scheduled for today and should have addressed the letter that was received from Fayal's Fire Department.

Old Bullfrogs Building- Have not received any update. Clerk Coldagelli will follow up with the Insurance Adjuster.

COVID-19 Update- COVID-19 cases continue to increase and may see more restrictions in the future.

Sewer & Water Access Charges Verbiage- PUC Billing Clerk, Diane Dickson, has been working on the language.

Gilbert Water Treatment Upgrades- Have not received any updates.

American Rescue Plan- First half of the funds have been received and the second half will arrive next year. Have until 2024 to utilize the funds. Clerk Coldagelli will be attending conference calls to gather more information.

Engineering for Ballfield Water/Sewer Extension & Picnic Shelter- Received quotes from the engineer today, but need an opportunity to review. Letter of interest in water services will go out to the area residents.

Seaplane Base- Clerk Coldagelli spoke with the Eveleth City Administrator, who was going to discuss with the Airport Commission regarding the Town Board's questions.

Stadium Lights at the Ballfield- Chairman Tammaro was able to acquire a used set of lights from the Hibbing High School field and Bougalis was able to deliver them at a cost of \$500. The lights are approximately 10 years old and still have a value of \$50,000 to \$100,000 according to the manufacturer. The bases were unable to be utilized. MN Power currently provides power to that area and Chairman Tammaro will do some further work on this project.

Fire Department Equipment- Funds are needed to letter the former police squad. The Fire Department will meet to discuss the other equipment at their September 8th meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Mining Effects-Fire Department Request- The Fire Department provided a letter for its annual request of \$10,000 from Mining Effects for turnout gear.

Motion to approve the Fire Department request, made by Supervisor Chad, support from Supervisor Sather. Discussion regarding the Mining Effects balance. Half of the funds received have been utilized and approximately \$25,000 is remaining for use. ***Motion carried unanimously.***

Delinquent Utilities Certifications- There is at least one individual needing removal from the certification list as they have paid. The list is relatively small with ten individuals.

Motion to approve Resolution 2021-09, A Resolution Authorizing the St. Louis County Auditor to Assess Delinquent Utility Charges to the Property Tax Statement of Delinquent Property Tax Owners Per Exhibit A, as written and less anyone that has paid, made by Chairman Tammaro, support from Supervisor Ziegler. Chairman Tammaro questioned if the \$200 certification fee was the limit that can be charged or should that fee be raised? Raising the certification fee may entice more people to pay. The PUC can discuss. It is always encouraged that if a resident is having difficulty with payment to come into the Clerk's Office to discuss. There are a number of delinquent individuals that are certified yearly, but they pay their taxes. ***Motion carried unanimously.***

Minnesota's Water Assistance Program- Program begins October 1st for individuals needing assistance with delinquent utilities. Fayal must register with the Minnesota Department of Commerce as a water vendor and service provider in order for residents to participate. There is no cost to Fayal to register or participate and would like to include the information with the utility bills. For our current delinquent utility customers that are to be certified, none are water customers.

Motion to enter into agreement with the Department of Commerce for the Water Assistance Program, made by Chairman Tammaro, support from Supervisor Sather. Motion carried unanimously.

November 2nd Meeting/School Special Election- The Rock Ridge School will hold a special election on November 2nd for two vacancies on the School Board.

Motion to cancel the November 2nd meeting due to the special election, made by Supervisor Ziegler, support from Supervisor Chad. Motion carried unanimously.

Zebra Mussels at Ely Lake- Zebra mussels have been found in Ely Lake as confirmed by the DNR. Waiting for information from the DNR to share with residents in the utility bills. There are steps that can be taken to aid in mitigating their spread. The decontamination unit rotated between the Ely Lake boat landing and Lake Ore-Be-Gone in Gilbert. Due to the zebra mussel's size, it is believed they have been in the lake for at least six seasons.

Motion to approve the Fire Department recommendation to hire Nicholas Gianlorenzi pending physical and background check, made by Supervisor Ziegler, support from Supervisor Chad. Motion carried unanimously.

There are currently 18 firefighters on the Department. Clerk Coldagelli will put a notice on Channel 12 seeking applicants.

There are two fire trucks that need annual pump testing completed and the cost ranges \$700-\$750 per truck.

Motion to allow the Fire Department to exceed spending authority for pump testing, made by Supervisor Sather, support from Supervisor Ziegler. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion to spend up to \$1,500 to letter the police car, made by Supervisor Chad, support from Supervisor Ziegler. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion to allow the police car as an officer take home vehicle, made by Supervisor Sather, support from Supervisor Chad. This would also allow the chief officer in charge to take home the vehicle in the event that Chief Shykes is unavailable. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Supervisor Ziegler brought forward that in the past the Township had allowed him to attend the Minnesota Rural Water Conference held in the spring. Foreman Latvaaho could also attend.

Motion to send Supervisor Ziegler to the education opportunity and send Foreman Latvaaho if he is able, made by Supervisor Sather, support from Supervisor Chad. Supervisor Ziegler abstained. Motion carried.

Chairman Tammaro brought forward that with the recent power outages, Foreman Latvaaho would like generators mounted at a few of the lift stations.

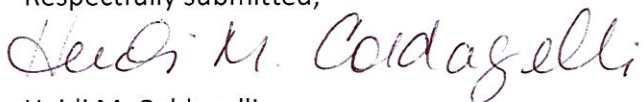
Motion to pay \$21,150 for the Fire Department payroll, made by Supervisor Ziegler, support from Supervisor Chad. Clerk Coldagelli will process payroll from the Fire Department budget and the fund will be reimbursed by the Forest Service for the Greenwood Fire. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Motion to pay the claims in the amount of \$131,215.26, made by Supervisor Chad, support from Supervisor Ziegler. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion to adjourn, made by Supervisor Ziegler, support from Supervisor Sather. Motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Tammaro adjourned the Regular Meeting at 7:50 PM.

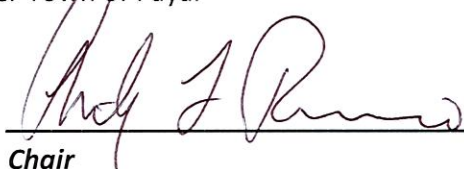
Respectfully submitted,



Heidi M. Coldagelli

Clerk/Treasurer Town of Fayal

Approved:


Chair

Date:

9-21-21

Attest:


Clerk