

**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**

**OCTOBER 19, 2021**

The Regular Meeting of the Fayal Town Board of Supervisors was called to order at 7:01 PM by Chairman Tammaro. Present were: Chairman Tammaro, Supervisor Branville, Supervisor Chad, Supervisor Sather, Supervisor Ziegler and Clerk/Treasurer Coldagelli. Chairman Tammaro led with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Audience members in attendance were Gina Brascugli, William Brokaw, Greg Chad, Matt Hoffmann, Nick Preiner and Steve Shykes. Audience member Zane Stanaway-Ziegler arrived at 7:55 PM.

***Motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Town Board Meeting of October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2021, made by Supervisor Sather, support from Supervisor Branville. Motion carried unanimously.***

**SCHEDULED GUESTS**- None at this time.

**AUDIENCE CONCERNS**- Gina Brascugli questioned if there would be a conflict of interest by serving on the Town Board and the Public Utilities Commission. The Board replied that citizens can serve on committees and on the Town Board. One would need to abstain from any vote that they would monetarily benefit from.

**REPORTS**-

**Clerk/Treasurer's Report**-

Bank statements for the month of September have been received and all accounts reconciled. Revenues were \$88,752.09 and expenditures were \$158,259.74. Revenues included Taconite Municipal Aid for \$26,211.00. Ending balances for the month of September are:

Miners Checking- \$1,011,119.05  
Assessment Savings- \$425,281.14  
CD Savings- \$599,989.44

For the month of October to date, revenues are \$94,072.90 and expenditures are \$134,985.31.

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

**Other Reports**-

***Motion to accept the Fire Department Business Meeting Minutes from September 8<sup>th</sup>, made by Supervisor Sather, support from Supervisor Branville. Motion carried unanimously.***

***Motion to accept the Joint Rec Meeting Minutes from October 13<sup>th</sup>, made by Supervisor Sather, support from Supervisor Branville.*** Discussion regarding Rock Ridge Community Education administering the majority of the youth programs. Chairman Tammaro requested to invite Superintendent Noel Schmidt to attend a Town Board meeting to discuss. ***Motion carried unanimously.***

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

**CORRESPONDENCE**-

October 11<sup>th</sup>- Received a proposal from TextMyGov, a texting technology used to communicate with citizens. The proposal cost was an initial \$500 implementation fee and a \$2,000 annual package price. Placed on file.

October 14<sup>th</sup>- Letter from the Minnesota State Demographic Center with 2020 Census Population and Household Counts. Total population is 1,809, with household populations of 1,790 and group quarters population at 19. Total housing units are 987, of which 802 are occupied housing units and 185 are vacant housing units. Placed on file.

October 18<sup>th</sup>- Letter from David Fink from St. Louis County Environmental Services Department with notice of

a \$0.50 per bag increase for municipal solid waste bringing the 2022 municipal solid waste tipping fee to \$2.00 per bag. Placed on file.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

#### **Supervisor Sather-**

**Fire Department Shared Services-** Chairman Tammaro, Supervisor Sather and Supervisor Ziegler met with the Eveleth City Council on October 12<sup>th</sup>. The meeting concluded with the officials agreeing to finish the process of completing the Standard Operation Guidelines, Joint Powers Agreement and work on the budget and pensions. There was a misunderstanding and the Fire Department was unaware it was a public meeting. Audience member Gina Brascugli became very upset with a number of individuals in the room and Chairman Tammaro requested everyone take a five minute recess at 7:13. Meeting was reconvened at 7:18.

Chairman Tammaro reviewed that the Town Board forwarded the Fire Department's letter addressing concerns regarding Eveleth and the shared services project. He further went on to clarify that he would like to see the process finished, but not to commit to complete the consolidation. Discussion that there is not much work remaining to finish the necessary items. Supervisor Ziegler added that he is not opposed to finishing the process, but in his opinion the project needs to be put on hold to rebuild Department morale. Discussion regarding supporting Fayal's Fire Department first and get the Department on track before committing to finishing the process. Chief Shykes added that he met with members from Eveleth's Fire Department and both parties are committed to supporting each other. Chief Shykes questioned the benefit of merging to Fayal as the departments are already using simulcast paging and the box alarm system. Chief Shykes had originally wanted to look into the consolidation for the future of the departments, but the Department now no longer wants to participate in the shared services study. Assistant Chief Hoffmann discussed the work that has been completed regarding the results of the shared services study. He added that through this process the Department has suffered internally with loss of members, commitment, response percentages and missed calls. The Department is asking for a reset and to stop the consolidation process and allow the Fire Department to rebuild internally. The results thus far from the consolidation process have not gone in a positive direction.

***Motion to put the Fire Department shared services project on hold, reset Fayal's Fire Department, let Eveleth do what they need to do with their fire department and revisit in July's meeting of 2022, made by Supervisor Ziegler, support from Chairman Tammaro.*** Supervisor Ziegler added that the Department will continue to work with Eveleth and Gilbert, but if the consolidation comes about in the future, there should be some changes to the process. Chief Shykes stated that the Fire Department is not interested in the shared services project. Much discussion from Town Board Supervisors and Fire Department members. Assistant Chief Hoffmann asked for the Town Board to please take this off the table and Chief Shykes concurred. ***Supervisor Branville and Chairman Tammaro voted in favor and Supervisors Chad, Sather and Ziegler opposed. Motion failed.***

***Motion to take the Fire Department shared services project off the table, made by Supervisor Ziegler, support from Supervisor Chad.*** Supervisor Branville supports taking care of Fayal's Fire Department first. The Township's citizen protection comes first. Chairman Tammaro questioned if this is brought up in the future, is the Fire Department going to quit. Chairman Tammaro and Assistant Chief Hoffmann became engaged in a heated discussion. ***Chairman Tammaro opposed. Motion carried.***

**Old Bullfrogs Building-** No further updates.

**COVID-19 Update-** Cases numbers have been high.

**Sewer & Water Access Charges Verbiage-** Clerk Coldagelli has reviewed the document and will need to meet with Ed Vest and Diane Dickson to discuss.

**Gilbert Water Treatment Upgrades-** The City of Gilbert is working on funding for the project.

**American Rescue Plan-** The eligible expenditures are \$26,571.67 for the replacement of the pump in A1, \$257.52 for Zoom meetings and \$60.27 for use of conference calls need to be transferred to the appropriate departments.

**Engineering for Ballfield Water/Sewer Extension & Picnic Shelter-** Clerk Coldagelli has received 10 no's, 3 need more info and 1 yes, but not at this time. Chairman Tammaro suggested that Supervisor Ziegler work with the property owner as he is representing Jola & Sopp. Clerk Coldagelli will notify Mark Craddock.

***Motion to not pursue residential connections due to lack of interest, made by Chairman Tammaro, support from Supervisor Chad. Supervisor Ziegler abstained. Motion carried.***

An easement would need to be granted to Mr. Craddock to connect from Woodlawn Drive East. Recommended is a 1" poly line with a curb stop on the edge of the road. If the Township is interested in a yard hydrant for example, a line could be run down to the ballfield with an additional curb stop installed. Costs could be shared

at the time that the curb stops are installed.

**Stadium Lights at the Ballfield**- Chairman Tammaro will work on.

**Fire Department Equipment**- The side by side has been ordered with funds from the Greenwood Fire.

***Motion to approve for the Fire Department \$33,146.58 from the Greenwood Fire, made by Supervisor Ziegler, support from Supervisor Sather.*** There are a few other items that need to be purchased for the machine and looking at selling the sled, trailer, six-wheeler and possibly the boat. ***Motion carried unanimously.***

**Equipment Operator**-

***Motion to post internally for two weeks and then post externally by online, paper, etc., made by Supervisor Ziegler, support from Supervisor Chad.*** Clerk Coldagelli questioned if the position should be posted as temporary full-time and also if she should speak with the Union. Discussion regarding position and to post as temporary but with the intention that the position is permanent. ***Motion carried unanimously.***

**Employee Contract Renewals**- Union is working on a proposal. Supervisors Ziegler and Branville will meet to discuss. Clerk Coldagelli will also need to start preparing for the future retirement of the Billing Clerk.

Supervisor Ziegler shared that the volunteers for the rink thanked the Town Board. Discussion regarding the rink and what work needs to occur before flooding starts.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**2023 Levy**- Need to begin review. The Fire Department will have a request by the next meeting. In Clerk Coldagelli's opinion, only the Fire Department and Road & Bridge are in need of an increase. Discussion regarding Road & Bridge equipment, a fire truck and airpacks.

**PUC Appointment**- The PUC recommended appointing Dave Hamalainen to the Commission.

***Motion to approve the PUC recommendation to appoint Dave Hamalainen, made by Chairman Tammaro, support from Supervisor Sather.*** Mr. Hamalainen has formerly served on the Commission. ***Motion carried unanimously.***

**Lift Station E1 Repair**- Base elbows are in need of replacement by Minnesota Pump Works.

***Motion to approve the lift station repair for \$5,296.00 plus freight, made by Supervisor Sather, support from Supervisor Ziegler.*** The funds will come from the ARPA monies. ***Motion carried unanimously.***

***Motion to move \$26,889.46 from the ARPA funds for pump repair, zoom and conference calls to the appropriate accounts, made by Chairman Tammaro, support from Supervisor Ziegler.*** ***Motion carried unanimously.***

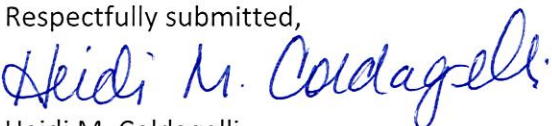
***Motion to pay the bills that need to be paid as the first meeting is canceled due to the election, made by Supervisor Ziegler, support from Supervisor Chad.*** ***Motion carried unanimously.***

***Motion to pay the claims in the amount of \$62,500.06, made by Supervisor Branville, support from Supervisor Chad.*** ***Motion carried unanimously.***

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

Chairman Tammaro adjourned the Regular Meeting at 8:11 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Heidi M. Coldagelli

Clerk/Treasurer Town of Fayal

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

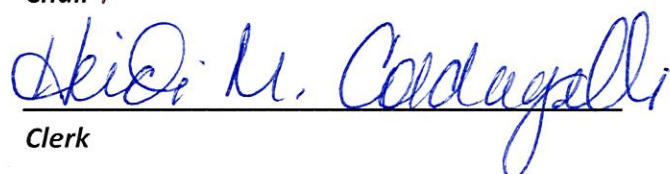


Chair

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

11-16-21

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_



Clerk