

**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*

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**REGULAR MEETING OF THE FAYAL TOWN BOARD**

**NOVEMBER 16, 2021**

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

Audience members in attendance were Gina Brascugli, Jamie Lindseth and Steve Shykes.

***Motion to approve the minutes of the Special Town Board Meeting of October 12<sup>th</sup>, 2021, made by Supervisor Sather, support from Supervisor Ziegler. Supervisors Branville and Chad abstained. Motion carried.***

***Motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Town Board Meeting of October 19<sup>th</sup>, 2021, made by Supervisor Branville, support from Supervisor Ziegler. Motion carried unanimously.***

**SCHEDULED GUESTS-** Jamie Lindseth was present to discuss the upcoming health insurance renewal with HealthPartners. Insurance costs to the Township are currently \$97,062.48 and the renewal cost is \$104,486.88. The plan is age banded so every year the premium costs will increase. The Town contributes \$3,500/individual or \$7,000/family to a health savings account.

Chairman Tamaro informed Mr. Lindseth, as a Recreation Board Member, that a meeting was held with Noel Schmidt, Josh Lamppa and Chad Hazelton from the Rock Ridge School, Chairman Tamaro, Clerk Coldagelli and the City Administrators from Eveleth and Gilbert to discuss the future of programs administered by the Joint Rec Board. The majority of the programs have transitioned to administration through Community Education. In the future, all programs will likely be run by the Rock Ridge School District and Community Education. If that occurs, the Joint Recreation Department will need to dissolve. Currently, Community Education receives state funding to run the programs with no monetary contributions from cities and townships. In discussion with the School District, youth hockey, softball and baseball are too large to be administered under the Community Education umbrella and would likely need a Rock Ridge youth board established.

**REPORTS-**

**Clerk/Treasurer's Report-**

Bank statements for the month of October have been received and all accounts reconciled. Revenues were \$144,285.29 and expenditures were \$137,033.71. Revenues included reimbursement for the Greenwood Fire for \$62,950.03 and State Aid Fire and Supplemental for \$13,516.41. Ending balances for the month of October are:

Miners Checking- \$1,018,370.63

Assessment Savings- \$425,281.14

CD Savings- \$599,989.44

For the month of November to date, revenues are \$21,110.86 and expenditures are \$151,166.74.

***Motion to approve the Clerk/Treasurer's Report, made by Supervisor Branville, support from Supervisor Sather.*** Chairman Tamaro questioned how the reimbursement for the Greenwood Fire was handled? Clerk Coldagelli credited the funds to the Fire Department and created a spreadsheet in the financials to record the expenditures associated. ***Motion carried unanimously.***

**Other Reports-**

***Motion to accept the Joint Rec Meeting Minutes from November 10<sup>th</sup>, made by Supervisor Sather, support from Supervisor Branville. Motion carried unanimously.***

***Motion to accept the Public Utility Commission Meeting Minutes from October 12<sup>th</sup>, made by Supervisor Sather, support from Supervisor Branville. Motion carried unanimously.***

***Motion to accept the PUC Delinquency Report, made by Supervisor Sather, support from Supervisor Branville.***

*Motion carried unanimously.*

*Motion to accept the October Wastewater Operator Report, made by Supervisor Sather, support from Supervisor Branville. Motion carried unanimously.*

*Motion to accept the Planning Committee Report from September 15<sup>th</sup>, made by Supervisor Branville, support from Supervisor Sather. Motion carried unanimously.*

*Motion to accept the October Road & Bridge Report, made by Supervisor Ziegler, support from Supervisor Chad. Motion carried unanimously.*

#### **CORRESPONDENCE-**

October 14<sup>th</sup> - Email from Casey Neville with dental plan options with HealthPartners. Researched with Deputy Clerk Dickson and rates are lower with better coverage by staying with Northeast Service Cooperative. Placed on file.

October 25<sup>th</sup> - Letter from St. Louis County Public Works Department. The Department will perform maintenance activities on Miller Trunk Road in 2021 and 2022 in an effort to improve sight distance and driver safety by removing vegetation and evaluation of any necessary ditching operations or culvert replacement. Forwarded to Road & Bridge.

October 25<sup>th</sup> - Email from Janet Eichholz, board member at the Iron Range Historical Society in McKinley. The Historical Society is working on a project gathering historical information, documentation and stories from St. Louis County townships. If anyone has any family stories, church stories or Fayal history and photos to share, Ms. Eichholz can be contacted at [ironrangehistsoc@gmail.com](mailto:ironrangehistsoc@gmail.com) or 218-749-3150. Placed on file.

October 25<sup>th</sup> - Bankruptcy notice received for a utility customer. Contacted Attorney Scott Neff to advise and also spoke with debtor's bankruptcy attorney who advised how to proceed. No longer able to bill account prior to the filing date and \$264.97 is to be written off. Going forward, able to prorate the bill back to October 18<sup>th</sup>, the bankruptcy filing date. Discussion regarding that a utility can require an assurance deposit. Placed on file.

November 1<sup>st</sup> - Email from Payment Service Network. Transaction rates are increasing effective December 1<sup>st</sup> and for payments made online by ACH/check: \$1.10, credit or debit card: 3.00%, Amex: 3.00% and the monthly gateway fee: \$75.00. Shared with the PUC.

November 1<sup>st</sup> - Email from Range Association of Municipalities and Schools with Board meeting minutes from September 23<sup>rd</sup>. Placed on file.

November 1<sup>st</sup> - Letter from Eveleth-Gilbert Hoops Club with sponsorship request for 2021-2022 Eveleth-Gilbert Basketball Team. Basic sponsor is \$50, Silver is \$125 and Gold is \$250. Placed on file.

November 2<sup>nd</sup> - Letter from Kurt Svendsgaard with information regarding Vollara Air and Surface Pro, an air and surface cleaner that can be used in town halls. Placed on file.

November 3<sup>rd</sup> - Email from Jeri Venne from the IRRRB with information regarding infrastructure grant programs available. Applications must be completed by Friday, November 19<sup>th</sup>. Placed on file.

November 3<sup>rd</sup> - Letter from Minnesota Association of Townships with financial statements for July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020 - June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2021. Placed on file.

November 3<sup>rd</sup> - Email from Range Association of Municipalities and Schools with notice of nominations for RAMS Board of Directors. Each member unit has the right to submit one nominee to be placed on the ballot, which will be voted on in person at the annual meeting. Placed on file.

November 9<sup>th</sup> - Email from Range Association of Municipalities and Schools with notice of annual meeting to be held on Wednesday, December 29<sup>th</sup> at the Mountain Iron Community Center. Registration begins at 5:00 with formal meeting and dinner to begin at 6:00. Placed on file.

November 15<sup>th</sup> - Email from Emma Ziegler with request for donations for the Eveleth-Gilbert 2022 All Night Grad Party. Moved to New Business.

November 15<sup>th</sup> - Letter from St. Louis County with request of sponsorship for the Youth in Action annual Make a Difference Conference to be held February 28<sup>th</sup>. Cost is between \$75-\$100 per student to attend the conference. Sponsorship levels are Youth Participant \$100-\$499, Ally \$500, Advocate \$1,000 and Champion \$2,000. Moved to New Business.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

#### **Supervisor Sather-**

**Old Bullfrogs Building-** The Adjuster is rescheduling as no other parties were able to attend today's meeting.

**COVID-19 Update-** Case numbers have been high, but no updates at this time.

**Sewer & Water Access Charges Verbiage-** PUC members Ed Vest and Amy Jackson as well as Clerk Coldagelli and PUC Billing Clerk Dickson will meet to work on soon.

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

**American Rescue Plan-** The eligible expenditures were transferred to the appropriate departments.

**Engineering for Ballfield Water/Sewer Extension & Picnic Shelter-** Clerk Coldagelli will follow up with SEH in regards to a quote for a direct water connection to the ballfield. Clerk Coldagelli has been in touch with Mr. Craddock and he understands that he will need to make arrangements with a contractor if he would like to connect.

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

**Fire Department Equipment-** The Fire Department is still working on.

**Equipment Operator-** Has been posted internally for two weeks. Discussion regarding requirement of Class B commercial drivers license and posting as a temporary position. Will post as temporary full-time position with Class B CDL. Employee Rick Bieganeck is training with Road & Bridge as he is responsible for working one day a week in their Department.

**Supervisor Branville-**

**Employee Contract Renewals-** Supervisors Ziegler and Branville have met with the Union to discuss the contract. Items discussed have been an additional holiday and personal day, PUC Billing Clerk removed from on-call rotation, increase in pager pay, 100% of healthcare premium paid and HSA fully funded. Discussion regarding healthcare savings accounts.

**2023 Levy-** Chairman Tammaro and Clerk Coldagelli worked on the Levy and propose an increase of 5.91%. Proposed increases are \$10,000 to the Fire Department, \$5,000 to Capital Equipment and \$30,000 to Road & Bridge. The Capital Equipment increase would cover the new dump truck payment and the Road and Bridge increase is for necessary road work and cost increases. Supervisor Sather was provided with the proposal for the Fire Department officer pay and will review.

**IRRRB Grant Extension- Horseshoe Lake Sewer Extension-** Clerk Coldagelli spoke to Chris Ismil at the IRRRB and they are willing to extend the grant until 12/31/2022. One of the property owners expects to build a new home in the spring, which should allow the Township to utilize the remaining grant dollars.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**Resolution 2021-10-**

***Motion to adopt Resolution 2021-10 A Resolution Designating Annual Polling Place, made by Chairman Tammaro, support from Supervisor Branville. Motion carried unanimously.***

**Backhoe Bucket-** Road & Bridge provided a quote of \$2,168.98 for repair of the backhoe bucket and the cost to purchase new is \$4,900. Ordering new does have an estimated 7-8 week lead time. Supervisor Ziegler recommended having a fabrication shop such as Furin & Shae or Tritec rebuild as the buckets come back reinforced and are better than brand new.

***Motion to check with Furin & Shae or Tritec and get prices, made by Supervisor Ziegler, support from Supervisor Branville. Motion carried unanimously.***

**Resolution 2021-11-** Chairman Tammaro brought forward that two large leaks were found during the televising project. Large amounts of water were entering the lift station near Shady Lane. Chairman Tammaro deemed the issue needing an emergency repair.

***Motion to adopt Resolution 2021-11 A Resolution to Authorize Contract with Interested Officer Under Minn Stat. § 471.88, subd. 5, made by Chairman Tammaro, support from Supervisor Branville.*** Chairman Tammaro added that the work took approximately four days. There was a significant amount of water at the site and the pumps had difficulty keeping up. Supervisor Branville further added that Jola & Sopp has always been used in the past. ***Supervisor Ziegler abstained as he is the interested officer. Motion carried.***

**Bank Transfers-**

***Motion to transfer \$34.93 from the Miner's Checking to the Assessment Savings, made by Chairman***



**Tammaro, support from Supervisor Sather. Motion carried unanimously.**

The steamer for Road & Bridge has been received. Including shipping, the cost was \$13,673.75.

**Motion to transfer \$13,673.75 from Mining Effects to Road & Bridge, made by Chairman Tammaro support from Supervisor Ziegler. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Engine 91-** Fire Chief Steve Shykes brought forward that during the pump test, four discharge valves failed. Each valve replacement would cost approximately \$1,500. Kirvida Fire is able to fix on site and the repair should take about two days.

**Employee Travel-** Chairman Tammaro requested that with COVID cases increasing, employees should limit travel but also make sure that the Town Board is aware of any work travel. Employees know well in advance of training and conferences and the Town Board just wants to be aware and have official record.

**Motion to give the Rec, PUC, Planning and Channel 12 Commission Volunteers a \$50 gift card like last year, made by Chairman Tammaro, support from Supervisor Ziegler.** Clerk Coldagelli purchased IGA gift certificates last year. **Motion carried unanimously.**

**Motion to pay Jola & Sopp Excavating \$33,398.00 for the work done on Shady Lane for the two sewer lines that they repaired, made by Chairman Tammaro, support from Supervisor Branville. Supervisor Ziegler abstained. Motion carried.**

Discussion regarding what fund to utilize for the emergency repair bill. Current balance in the Depreciation Fund is \$268,000.00.

**Motion to transfer \$33,398.00 from the Depreciation Fund that is located in the Savings to the Checking, made by Chairman Tammaro, support from Supervisor Branville. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Motion to donate \$200 to the All Night Grad Party, made by Supervisor Branville, support from Supervisor Sather. Supervisor Ziegler abstained as the donation request came from his daughter. Motion carried.**

Discussion regarding past donations for Youth in Action's annual conference.

**Motion to donate \$100, made by Supervisor Ziegler, support from Supervisor Branville. Motion carried unanimously.**

Supervisor Ziegler informed the Board that the volunteers will start flooding the rink this weekend.

**Motion to pay the claims in the amount of \$153,215.14, made by Supervisor Branville, support from Supervisor Chad. Motion carried unanimously.**

**AUDIENCE CONCERNS-** Gina Brascugli commended Jola & Sopp on the job done over on Shady Lane. It was a very challenging four day job.

Chairman Tammaro adjourned the Regular Meeting at 8:13 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Heidi M. Coldagelli

Clerk/Treasurer Town of Fayal

Approved:

  
Chair

Date:

12-7-21

Attest:

  
Clerk