

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

JUNE 20, 2023

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 Branville, Supervisor Chad, Supervisor Sather and Clerk/Treasurer Coldagelli. Supervisor Ziegler arrived at 7:06 PM. Chairman Tammaro led with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Audience members in attendance were Sandy Ahlin, Steve Shykes and Jack Williams.

Motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Town Board Meeting of May 18th, 2023, made by Supervisor Branville, support from Supervisor Sather. Motion carried unanimously.

SCHEDULED GUESTS- Jack Williams was present to discuss a concern he has near his property on River Lane. A neighbor has a firing range that is set up and utilized at least once a month during the summer months for approximately an hour in the early evening. He is requesting an ordinance to address the issue. The police have been contacted and the neighbor is operating legally and in a safe manner. Discussion regarding 500 foot distance and what a local government can legally enforce. Discussion regarding noise ordinances. Clerk Coldagelli was tasked to check with the League of Minnesota Cities and Minnesota Association of Townships regarding any ordinances or sample ordinances that could be enforced.

Supervisor Ziegler arrived at this time.

AUDIENCE CONCERNS- Sandy Ahlin brought forward questions regarding solutions to the recycling bins and users not breaking down cardboard boxes before disposing in the bins. There are cameras at the site. Clerk Coldagelli can send another reminder in the utility bills regarding the recycle bins and their use. Another step that may aid reminding individuals to break down their cardboard is to put laminated signs directly on the doors of the bins and remove the signs before the bins are picked up. The reminder could also be placed on a sign. The County contracts with a third party for handling the bins and Fayal is unable to get additional pickups or more bins. Ms. Ahlin also brought forward concerns regarding speeding on Woodlawn Drive East, especially with the number of children in the area. The Eveleth police will be notified.

REPORTS-

Clerk/Treasurer's Report- Bank statements for the month of May have been received and all accounts reconciled. Revenues were \$69,916.35 and expenditures were \$169,339.89. Ending balances for the month of May were:

Miners Checking- \$634,666.38

Assessment Savings- \$1,075.19

CD Savings- \$16,547.68

4M Fund- \$1,063,506.57

For the month of June to date, revenues are \$46,418.60 and expenditures are \$129,871.98.

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 Road & Bridge May 2023 Report, made by Supervisor Ziegler, support from Supervisor Sather. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion to accept the Fayal Planning Commission Meeting Minutes from April 19th, made by Supervisor Ziegler, support from Supervisor Chad. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion to accept the Public Access Television Meeting Minutes from June 13th, made by Supervisor Branville, support from Supervisor Sather. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion to accept the Fire Department Business Meeting Minutes from May 10th, 2023, made by Supervisor Sather, support from Supervisor Ziegler. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion to accept the PUC Meeting Minutes from May 9th and the Delinquency Report, made by Supervisor Branville, support from Supervisor Sather. Motion carried unanimously.

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

CORRESPONDENCE-

May 15th- Letter from CTC with notice of annual meeting on June 7th at 11:00 AM. Placed on file.

May 19th- Letter from Albert Jurenic resigning from part-time employment with Fayal Township effective May 20th due to healthcare benefit conflicts. Moved to Old Business.

May 26th- Letter from Minnesota Rural Water with notice of their Affinity Partner, ServLine Leak Protection Program, which provides financial protection to utilities for losses from customer water leaks. Forwarded to the Public Utilities Commission.

May 26th- Letter from the League of Minnesota Cities. The League's Board of Directors approved a preliminary maximum dues schedule increase of 4.5% for the fiscal year 2023-2024. The Board will formally discuss and approve a final dues schedule increase at its August meeting. Placed on file.

June 2nd- Letter from St. Louis County Planning and Community Development Department with notice of denial for a conditional use permit for Ariel Stouder (O.B.O. Vertical Bridge). Discussion that denial was for height of the structure, its proximity to residences and the right of way. Forwarded to the Planning Commission.

June 2nd- Email received from Amanda Sowada from MN Public Facilities Authority (MPFA) with notice of cancellation of general obligation notes issued to the MPFA for Fayal Township. The loans were paid in full in 2020. Placed on file.

June 2nd- Email from St. Louis County Planning and Community Development Department with notice of variance application for Brandon Houdek. Forwarded to the Planning Commission.

June 5th- Letter from Minnesota State Demographic Center with population estimates for 2022. April 1, 2022 population estimate is 1,825 and household estimate is 806. Placed on file.

June 5th- Email from Range Association of Municipalities and Schools with board meeting minutes from April 27th. Placed on file.

June 13th- Letter from Lake Country Power with notice of capital credit allocation for 2022 of \$623.60. Placed on file.

June 20th- Email from Minnesota Rural Water Association with notice that the Minnesota Department of Health is now accepting application from public water systems for technical assistance in preparing the lead service line inventory. Discussion regarding the requirement from Minnesota Department of Health to inspect the mainlines and the waterlines coming into homes. Inventory must be completed prior to October 2024. Would also like to complete sump pump inspections and will include letters in the utility bills to schedule appointments.

OLD BUSINESS

Supervisor Sather-

Sewer Connection- There were several issues discovered when the contractor came in to repair the connection. The mainline pipe was cracked and patched with sheet metal, the service line was installed in the bottom of the mainline and not the top and the power was trenched in with the service line. Frye Construction made the necessary repairs to correct for a total cost of \$9,320.00. The homeowner agreed to have the cost to repair added to her utility bill, less the \$1,000.00 damage deposit and notified Clerk Coldagelli that their contractor, Nick Schunk Construction, will pay for the majority of those repairs.

Fire Department Handbook- Fire Chief Steve Shykes brought forward that the Department should finish up the handbook for final review at their Wednesday meeting.

St. Mary's Lake Development- Supervisor Ziegler provided an update that the property owners are working with Benchmark Engineering to survey and stake for water and sewer. The site is looking at a community well to accommodate approximately 12 lots. The property owners are also working with IRRRB regarding funding for the project. The owners plan to attend the next Town Board meeting to discuss. The property owners would like to submit the project for bids in August. Discussion regarding how to assess the Sewer Availability Charge

to the properties. Discussion regarding the IRRRB grant process and concerns regarding funding. The Township has been unable to claim the remaining grant funds for the Horseshoe Lake sewer extension due to lack of development and do not want the same situation to occur.

Fire Department Pension- Fire Chief Shykes brought forward the cost analysis from PERA regarding the Statewide Volunteer Firefighter Plan at multiple benefit levels. The cost analysis supports increasing the benefit level to \$2,700.00 per year of service. The new plan provides an annual report demonstrating performance and what benefit levels are supported. The Fayal Fire Relief Association approved a resolution to disband the Relief Association and move to the PERA Statewide Volunteer Firefighter Plan. The municipality also needs to complete a similar resolution.

Supervisor Ziegler brought forward Resolution 2023-04.

Motion to adopt Resolution 2023-04, A Resolution Opting to Join the Statewide Volunteer Firefighter Plan, as written, made by Supervisor Ziegler, support from Supervisor Chad. Motion carried unanimously.

DNR Lease- Pleasant Lake Dry Hydrant- Received a copy of the lease, but the Town Hall address needs to be corrected. The lease cost is \$500.00 for the duration of 10 years.

Motion to approve the fire department hydrant lease with the address change for \$500.00 for 10 years, made by Supervisor Ziegler, support from Supervisor Sather. Motion carried unanimously.

Sewer Line Repair- Jola and Sopp was originally authorized to complete the repair, but Wastewater Operator Bieganeck and Foreman Latvaaho were checking into the possibility of lining the pipe for significantly less. Jola and Sopp has scheduled the repair for next week and intends to remove the wye and put in a new pipe. Lining the pipe is not a permanent solution and will eventually begin to leak. The company that could do the lining has not responded if they are able to repair it. Supervisor Ziegler's company bid the project for a worst case scenario as the pipe is located in a swamp, sixteen feet deep and unsure until excavated the extent and cost of the repair. The site is one area of significant inflow and infiltration that is affecting the utility bill from Gilbert and should be repaired correctly. Chairman Tammaro will speak with Foreman Latvaaho regarding the project and notify him that Jola and Sopp intended to be there next week.

Chairman Tammaro brought forward the resignation for Albert Jurenic.

Motion to accept Albert Jurenic's resignation, made by Supervisor Ziegler, support from Supervisor Sather. Motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

Supervisor Branville brought forward a question on who had given authorization for the six advertising signs located on the ballfield fencing. Discussion regarding who is receiving the funds from the advertising and the sign placement not approved by the Town Board. The sponsorships must be for the Rock Ridge Youth Baseball Association. Discussion regarding sponsorship signs located at any other establishment, the establishment receives those funds to assist in operations. The Township maintains the fields and continues to spend funds to do so. Clerk Coldagelli will check with Rock Ridge Youth Baseball regarding the signs and how permission should have been requested from the Township or the Town should received some of those funds.

Employee Contract Memorandum of Understanding- The Union provided changes to the contract due to new legislation. The contract changes the name of Columbus Day to Indigenous Peoples Day and has added Juneteenth as a paid holiday. Discussion regarding the changes.

Motion in the fall to place "Happy Columbus Day" on the Fayal sign, made by Supervisor Branville, support from Supervisor Ziegler. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion to approve the MOU to the contract, made by Chairman Tammaro, support from Supervisor Sather. Supervisors Branville and Ziegler opposed. Motion carried.

Transfer to 4M Fund- The Town Hall Fund contribution of \$10,000.00 from the 2022 Levy needs to be moved from the checking account to the 4M Fund.

Motion approve the transfer, made by Supervisor Ziegler, support from Supervisor Sather. Motion carried unanimously.

National Night Out- Discussion regarding holding at the Town Hall on August 1st and if the picnic shelter is ready can be held there. Clerk Coldagelli can get all the supplies, but will need assistance with cooking and serving.

League of Minnesota Cities Liability Coverage Waiver Form- The form is approved every year that the Township does not waive the monetary limits on municipal tort liability established by Minn. Stat. § 466.04.

Motion to sign the League of Minnesota Cities liability coverage waiver form the same as every year, made by Supervisor Ziegler, support from Supervisor Sather. Motion carried unanimously.

Supervisor Sather brought forward the retirement of Chris Sailstad from the Fayal Fire Department after 20 years of service effective May 1st, 2023.

Motion to accept the retirement of Chris Sailstad, made by Supervisor Ziegler, support from Supervisor Sather. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion to pay the claims in the amount of \$149,903.23, made by Supervisor Branville, support from Supervisor Sather. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion to pay the Jola and Sopp bill for \$8,100.00, made by Chairman Tammaro, support from Supervisor Sather. Supervisor Ziegler abstained as he is the owner of Jola and Sopp. Motion carried.

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

Chairman Tammaro adjourned the Regular Meeting at 8:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Heidi M. Coldagelli

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Clerk/Treasurer Town of Fayal

Approved: *[Signature]*
Chair

Date: 7-18-23

Attest: *Heidi M. Coldagelli*
Clerk