

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

REGULAR MEETING OF THE FAYAL TOWN BOARD

SEPTEMBER 19, 2023

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 Sather, Supervisor Ziegler and Clerk/Treasurer Coldagelli. Supervisor Chad was absent. Chairman Tamaro led with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Audience members in attendance were Joanne Nephew, Blair Smith, Scott Smith and Steve Shykes.

Motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Town Board Meeting of August 15th, 2023, made by Supervisor Branville, support from Supervisor Ziegler. Motion carried unanimously.

SCHEDULED GUESTS- Joanne Nephew, Blair Smith and Scott Smith were present to discuss a zoning issue regarding a property of twenty-five acres owned by Blair and Ryan Smith. The property is located next to Woodline and MN Power is interested in purchasing the property to relocate their service center. It was discovered during the sale process that the property is zoned residential and not industrial like the other nearby properties. The usage on the tax statement reflects industrial for tax purposes. The potential buyer's requested the property be zoned industrial in order for the sale to proceed. The Smith's would like to request the Town Board's support of the rezoning change. St. Louis County Planning and Zoning informed Ms. Nephew that the property owners could request the zoning change or the Township can. Discussion regarding deadlines to submit paperwork and the process. Fayal's Planning Commission meets September 20th and the Smith's can present their request to the Commission.

Motion to approve going forward supporting switching to limited industrial for them to proceed with MN Power contingent on Planning Commission review, made by Supervisor Ziegler, support from Chairman Tamaro. Clerk Coldagelli clarified that St. Louis County will require a resolution from the Town Board supporting the change. The Board meets prior to the County's due date of October 7th. ***Motion carried unanimously.***

Discussion that MN Power would utilize Thunderbird Trail. Ms. Nephew responded that MN Power indicated they would build the road up accordingly to accommodate and will need to speak with the Township.

AUDIENCE CONCERNS- Fire Chief Steve Shykes informed the Board that he would like to order one set of gear for \$3,800.00. Clarification that approval is not necessary as, \$10,000.00 from Mining Effects was approved for the purchase of turnout gear. Chief Shykes also gave an update to Engine 91's cab issue and the bill came to \$7,900.00, almost double the original estimate. The Fire Department is requesting Town Board assistance.

Motion to pay the \$7,900.00 for the repairs on Engine 91 and move the funds out of Capital Equipment, made by Supervisor Ziegler, support from Supervisor Sather. The Fire Department has been diligently working to reduce the deficit and this will assist them to get their fund back to zero. Chief Shykes added that parts for the truck are difficult to find. ***Motion carried unanimously.***

REPORTS-

Clerk/Treasurer's Report- Bank statements for the month of August have been received and all accounts reconciled. Revenues were \$131,462.09 and expenditures were \$113,211.08. Ending balances for the month of August were:

Miners Checking- \$924,874.18
Assessment Savings- \$2,461.88
CD Savings- \$16,553.80
4M Fund- \$1,081,333.71

For the month of September to date, revenues are \$69,198.90 and expenditures are \$130,803.01.

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

Other Reports-

Motion to accept the Public Utility Commission Meeting Minutes from August 8th, made by Supervisor Sather, support from Supervisor Branville. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion to accept the Delinquency Report, made by Supervisor Sather, support from Supervisor Branville. Motion carried unanimously.

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

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

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

Motion to accept the Public Access Television Meeting Minutes from September 6th, made by Supervisor Ziegler, support from Supervisor Sather. Motion carried unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE-

August 18th- Letter from Bruce Williams with request for repairs to the entrance of North Moon Lake Drive. Clerk Coldagelli forwarded the request to MnDOT. Inspection of the culvert and approach were completed and necessary repairs will take place. Placed on file.

September 5th- Postcard from the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources with notice that Community Forest Grants are available to assist with things such as tree inventories, tree and stump removal and tree plantings and replacements. Funding is available for local governments, tribal nations and non-profits to enhance community forest management, combat Emerald Ash Borer and other pests. Placed on file.

September 5th- Letter from US Bank with notice that during a routine review of accounts, it was discovered that additional cash back rewards were deposited to Fayal's US Bank Community Card rewards account in error. The error has been corrected and the additional earn that had been appearing on Fayal's statements will no longer be added. The additional cash back rewards received to date will not be removed from the account. Placed on file.

September 5th- Letter from Minnesota Energy Resources with damage prevention reminder. To ensure safety, remember to call before you dig, have a unique digging ticket, maintain minimum digging clearances and stop work immediately if damage occurs or is noticed and call. Placed on file.

September 18th- Letter from Northeast Service Cooperative with notice that starting January 1st, 2024, the monthly dental premiums will increase to \$46.00 for a single plan and \$115.00 for a family plan. Placed on file.

OLD BUSINESS

Supervisor Sather-

Fire Department Handbook- Since the copy was provided to the Town Board, there has been some additional changes by the Fire Department. Chief Shykes would like to request two Board members, Clerk Coldagelli and a few Firefighters to form a committee to review and finalize the project. Supervisors Sather and Ziegler will serve on the Committee and the group will meet Monday, September 25th at 6:30 PM. The First Responder program should be finalized at the same time.

St. Mary's Lake Development- Clerk Coldagelli provided an update that she attended the IRRRB Housing Forum as did Brad Scott. The Forum discussed multiple funding opportunities available. The grant application is available in October for shovel ready projects.

Spring Flood FEMA Request- Clerk Coldagelli met with FEMA last week and their engineers came and inspected the culvert on Long Lake Road West. A FEMA application needs to be submitted for reimbursement.

Local Road Improvement Grant- Clerk Coldagelli requested clarification regarding the last meeting. Benchmark Engineering will prepare estimates at no charge in order to submit the LRIP grant. She will discuss preparing those estimates with Alan Johnson with Benchmark.

NEW BUSINESS

Delinquent Utility Certification- Chairman Tammaro requested that one of the individuals on the list be contacted one more time for payment.

Motion to approve Resolution 2023-07, 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, made by Supervisor Branville, support from Supervisor Sather. Clerk Coldagelli will verify that one of the delinquents paid tonight and attempt to contact one final time another individual on the delinquent list. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Direct Deposit- Chairman Tamaro would like all employees to set up direct deposit. Currently there are just a few members from the Fire Department that haven't signed up for it yet. Discussion regarding legality and a few outstanding payroll checks that have still not been cashed that are several months old.

St. Louis County Agreement for Voter Funds Allocation- St. Louis County provided an agreement to receive funds allocated from the State of Minnesota for elections administration. The allocation amount to Fayal is \$110.90.

Motion to have Clerk Coldagelli sign the agreement, made by Chairman Tamaro, support from Supervisor Sather. Motion carried unanimously.

Casual Labor Employee- Retiree Albert Jurenic has applied to assist with Yard Waste and other duties as needed.

Motion to hire Albert Jurenic, made by Supervisor Sather, support from Supervisor Ziegler. Discussion that the Casual Labor rate is \$15.00 per hour. Mr. Jurenic was previously paid \$20.00 per hour as a Casual Labor employee as he utilized the heavy equipment. Will continue Mr. Jurenic's wage at \$20.00 per hour. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Rink Attendants- Winter is approaching and its time to begin advertising for attendants. Clerk Coldagelli can advertise in the utility bills.

Motion to advertise for rink attendants, made by Supervisor Ziegler, support from Supervisor Branville. Discussion regarding how many attendants to hire. Will depend on how many applications received. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Supervisor Ziegler brought forward that Mesabi Bituminous was able to pave the section on Thunderbird Trail. The Town has been waiting for quite some time for a contractor. Have not received the bill yet from Mesabi Bituminous. Funds had been previously allocated for the work.

Supervisor Ziegler also brought forward that in speaking with Wastewater Operator Rick Bieganek, there has been a noticeable difference regarding the utility bill from Gilbert. Clerk Coldagelli confirmed that since the repair, the bill was \$5,000.00 less than the prior month. She is anxious to see the next month's bill as its been so dry. Wastewater Operator Bieganek has been hard at work to locate and eliminate inflow and infiltration in the system.

Supervisor Ziegler also received a quote from Utility Logic for the purchase of a camera for \$10,275.00 and a locator was \$5,500.00. He will forward the quote to Clerk Coldagelli for Wastewater Operator Rick Bieganek to review and to forward on to the Public Utilities Commission. Utility Logic provides lifetime support. There are still funds from American Rescue Plan Act that can be utilized.

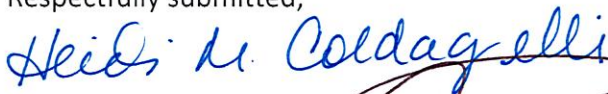
Motion to pay the claims in the amount of \$130,803.01, made by Supervisor Ziegler, support from Supervisor Sather. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion regarding the shed construction and the wall that was to remain. Hometown is working on the electrical panel and the skate skack/picnic shelter is still awaiting the bathroom install. Will need to confirm with Foreman Latvaaho the status.

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

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

Respectfully submitted,



Heidi M. Coldagelli

Clerk/Treasurer Town of Fayal

Approved: _____

Chair

Date: _____



Attest: _____

Clerk

