

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 17, 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, Supervisor Ziegler and Clerk/Treasurer Coldagelli. Chairman Tammaro led with the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Town Board Meeting of October 3rd, 2023, made by Supervisor Ziegler, support from Supervisor Branville. Chairman Tammaro abstained as he was absent. Motion carried.

SCHEDULED GUESTS- Jamie Lindseth was present to discuss the health insurance renewal with Health Partners. The deductible will not change for 2024, but the renewal plan has a 15.27% increase in the monthly rates. The network is open access. Mr. Lindseth left at this time.

AUDIENCE CONCERNS- Did not address.

REPORTS-

Clerk/Treasurer's Report- For the month of October to date, revenues are \$42,567.63 and expenditures are \$120,026.65. Current balances for the month of October are:

Miners Checking- \$817,727.78

Assessment Savings- \$2,462.31

CD Savings- \$16,559.99

4M Fund- \$1,084,025.08

Chairman Tammaro questioned if there was a reason to maintain that amount in the checking account and could those funds be moved over to a CD to earn more interest.

Motion for the Clerk to determine how much is needed in the checking account and invest the upper end balance into the CD when it comes due, made by Supervisor Branville, support from Chairman Tammaro. Supervisor Ziegler suggested dropping the balance to \$500,000.00. Clerk Coldagelli clarified that the balance is comprised of different funds but the General Fund has \$400,000.00 alone, so she would be able to get close to that figure. ***Motion carried unanimously.***

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

Other Reports-

Motion to accept the Fire Department Business Meeting Minutes from September 13th, made by Supervisor Sather, support from Supervisor Ziegler. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion to accept the Public Utilities Commission Meeting Minutes from September 12th, made by Supervisor Sather, support from Chairman Tammaro. Motion carried unanimously.

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

Motion to accept the Public Access Television Meeting Minutes from October 11th, made by Supervisor Branville, support from Supervisor Chad. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion to accept the Wastewater Operator Report from September, made by Supervisor Sather, support from Supervisor Ziegler. Motion carried unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE-

October 3rd- Email from Federal Highway Administration with notice of USDOT grants and other funding

opportunities. There wasn't any that Fayal would be able to qualify for. Placed on file.

October 10th- Letter from Minnesota Power with notice that a recent review of our account indicates that the monthly electricity usage will necessitate a change in rate. When use is greater than 2,500-kilowatt hours for three consecutive months, or when the connected load indicates customer demand may be greater than 10 kilowatts, the customer is placed on a demand rate. Clerk Coldagelli will call MN Power to review our account.

October 10th- Email from Minnesota Department of Natural Resources with notice of Community Wildfire Defense grant applications due October 31st. Forward to the Fire Department.

October 10th- Email from the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency with notice of webinar series October 16th-24th regarding sharing project ideas for competitive federal climate action funding. Placed on file.

October 11th- Email from Paul Peltier from RAMS with notice of the 2023 RAMS annual dinner scheduled Thursday, December 14th at the Iron Trail Motors Event Center. Placed on file.

October 13th- Email from the Minnesota Public Facilities Authority with information regarding 2024 clean water and drinking water intended use plans are now available for public comment. Forwarded to the Public Utilities Commission.

October 16th- Email from Jonathan Blevins from St. Louis County Elections with an update that due to recent changes in legislation, our polling location is no longer required to re-establish our polling location via resolution. A resolution is only needed if our polling place changes. Placed on file.

OLD BUSINESS

Supervisor Sather-

Fire Department Handbook- Chairman Tammaro met with Fire Chief Steve Shykes to discuss some concerns and questions that he had. The Relief Association funds will be turned over to the State on January 1st.

Motion to adopt the handbook effective November 1st with officers in order as of January 1st, 2023, made by Chairman Tammaro, support from Supervisor Ziegler. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion regarding organizing a committee for the officer positions. Supervisor Sather and Supervisor Ziegler will serve on the committee. Discussion regarding the officer positions. Chairman Tammaro recommended posting for 10 days and then begin the interview process. Discussion regarding elections, officer interviews and the process. Clerk Coldagelli will post for the positions.

St. Mary's Lake Development- The IRRRB housing grant application opens on November 1st.

Chief Shykes asked for some clarification regarding the fire department handbook. The handbook is effective November 1st. The Fire Department will no longer hold business meetings, but will get a monthly report from the informal meetings. Discussion regarding the EMS program and a draft of the EMS guidelines will be completed. At this time, a cap on EMS personnel will not be needed.

Spring Flood FEMA Request- Clerk Coldagelli submitted all the required paperwork that has been requested from FEMA so far. In completing the necessary paperwork, will actually receive a few thousand more than anticipated following their formulas.

Local Road Improvement Grant- Clerk Coldagelli received estimates from Benchmark. She did ask for Thunderbird Trail to be split into Thunderbird Trail and Thunderbird Trail East in order to be under the \$1.5 million per project. The grant funds up to 100% of the project. St. Louis County will draft a resolution providing approval to proceed with the application with the State.

Motion for St. Louis County to support our request in order to apply for the LRIP grant, made by Supervisor Sather, support from Chairman Tammaro. Motion carried unanimously.

IRRRB Horseshoe Lake Sewer Extension Grant- The extension was granted. The Town will be able to secure the remaining \$35,000.00 from the grant once a receipt is received from the property owner for construction.

Zoning Change Request- Clerk Coldagelli received a copy of the application that was sent to the County and Clerk Coldagelli drafted a resolution in order for the Town to submit their support regarding the request.

Motion to approve Resolution 2023-08 as written, made by Supervisor Ziegler, support from Supervisor Sather. Motion carried unanimously.

Camera and Locator Quote- The Public Utilities Commission discussed at their last meeting. Wastewater Operator Rick Bieganeck is going to look more into the equipment and will address at the next meeting.

Casual Labor Employee- Clerk Coldagelli received two applications. One of the applicants current employment involves janitorial duties, but has limited availability due to her current work schedule. Clerk Coldagelli would prefer an applicant that would be able to assist in the office when scheduling conflicts arise as the Billing Clerk is only in the office two days a week. Clerk Coldagelli would prefer to hire the other applicant, Linda Shykes, as she has more flexibility in her schedule for assisting in the office. Discussion that the Casual Labor rate is \$15.00 per hour and recommendation to move the Casual Labor rate to \$20.00 per hour.

Motion to hire Linda Shykes at \$20.00 per hour, made by Chairman Tammaro, support from Supervisor Branville. The Rink Attendant rate will remain \$15.00 per hour. To date, Clerk Coldagelli has not received any applications. ***Motion carried unanimously.***

NEW BUSINESS

2025 Levy- Chairman Tammaro questioned if the Recreation Fund should be reduced in order for Road & Bridge to be increased. Proposed changes to start is \$30,000.00 for Road & Bridge and \$10,000.00 for the Fire Department.

Election Poll Pads- Clerk Coldagelli would like to move to electronic poll pads and is hopeful that maybe there will be a grant available to assist with the cost. St. Louis County is currently getting estimates and was seeking interest from cities and townships. Estimated cost is \$1,700.00 per poll pad and Fayal would need three of them.

Lead and Copper Rule Training- Wastewater Operator Bieganek and Clerk Coldagelli would like to attend the course offered at no cost in Hoyt Lakes on October 24th from 8:00-3:00.

Motion to allow them to attend, made by Supervisor Sather, support from Supervisor Chad. Motion carried unanimously.

Airpack Payment- The first payment is due for \$17,547.99 to pay back the Assessment Savings.

Motion to move funds from Mining Effects in the Checking to the Assessment Savings, made by Supervisor Sather, support from Supervisor Branville. Motion carried unanimously.

Supervisor Sather brought forward business from the Fire Department.

Motion to accept the resignation for William Brokaw, made by Supervisor Sather, support from Chairman Tammaro. Motion carried unanimously.

Supervisor Sather brought forward the Fire Department recommendation for the termination of Christopher Chrislock. Mr. Chrislock has not completed his initial training that was required within one year of his hiring in 2020.

Motion to terminate Christopher Chrislock, made by Supervisor Sather, support from Supervisor Chad. Clerk Coldagelli will draft a letter of termination and request all equipment returned within 14 days. ***Motion carried unanimously.***

Motion to hire Erik Moe to the Fayal Fire Department pending his physical and background check, made by Supervisor Sather, support from Supervisor Ziegler. Mr. Moe was previously on the Fayal Fire Department and would like to return. ***Motion carried unanimously.***

Supervisor Sather also brought forward that the Fayal Fire Department would like to establish a Knox Box System for commercial properties in Fayal. The Fire Department can write the letter to send out to the businesses. The cost of the box would be at the business owner's expense.

Motion to have the Fire Chief send the letters, made by Supervisor Ziegler, support from Supervisor Sather. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion to pay the claims in the amount of \$30,881.43, made by Supervisor Ziegler, support from Supervisor Branville. Motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Tammaro questioned if prices for new windows have been received yet. Supervisor Branville had requested quotes from two businesses, but only one has one provide a quote. Can address at the next meeting.

Fire Chief Shykes brought forward for informational purposes that Kate and Bill Damberg would like to turn their family residence to a VRBO property. In order to do that, they need a hotel/motel license. It was discovered they had substandard windows which was holding up the licensing process. Chief Shykes spoke with the Fire Marshall's Office and the licensing process is through the MN Department of Health. The MN Department of Health responded that a variance could be granted. Solution was to change the window from an awning to a slider. Discussion that St. Louis County monitors all short term rentals with their Ordinance.

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

Chairman Tammaro adjourned the Regular Meeting at 7:43 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Heidi M. Coldagelli

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Clerk/Treasurer Town of Fayal

Approved:

Chris De...

Chair

Date:

11-9-23

Attest:

Heidi M. Coldagelli

Clerk