

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

NOVEMBER 7, 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 and Clerk/Treasurer Coldagelli. Supervisors Sather and Ziegler were absent. Chairman Tammaro led with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Audience members in attendance were Gina Brascugli and Steve Shykes.

Motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Town Board Meeting of October 17th, 2023, made by Supervisor Branville, support from Supervisor Chad. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion to approve the minutes of the Special Town Board Meeting of October 25th, 2023, made by Supervisor Chad, support from Chairman Tammaro. Supervisor Branville abstained as he was absent. Motion carried.

SCHEDULED GUESTS- Gina Brascugli was present to discuss a request to have recorded meetings archived at the Fayal Town Hall and available upon request. Ms. Brascugli contacted the City of Eveleth and received information that televised meetings cost approximately \$100.00 per meeting. Ms. Brascugli stated it was a small price to pay for transparency. Supervisor Branville responded that Town residents are able to attend any Town Board meeting and detailed, accurate minutes are taken from every meeting, more detailed when compared to other towns and cities. Those minutes are posted at the posting locations and online. Mediacom provides the service and if there was a huge demand from the citizens the Board could consider it. The Town is a small township in northern Minnesota, with meetings that are fairly short, simple with not overly complicated items. Being televised takes away the bantering of what is part of a Township. They are simple folks in the positions conducting the Town's business. The Town is very transparent and needed details are irrelevant to the running of a Township. Supervisor Branville further went on to clarify a comment that was made at the last meeting was in jest and jokes are made on a regular basis. The Supervisors at the table would never say anything derogatory about anyone in a public setting.

Chairman Tammaro added that other cities hold meetings prior to the official council meeting and the business is taken care of ahead of time. The Township holds only one meeting where all the official business is taken care of. Chairman Tammaro also added that if anything said was taken to offense, he apologizes. Supervisor Chad did a little bit of research and did not find one Township in St. Louis County that televises their meetings. He was only able to find that White Bear Lake does, which is the largest township in the State. Steve Shykes added that he appreciates the relaxed atmosphere of the meetings and if the meetings were being recorded, that would take away from audience participation as the meeting would be more structured. Ms. Brascugli respected the comments from all, but added it would be helpful to the elderly, disabled or those that struggle to get to a meeting. She questioned if a resident could get a copy of the tape recording. Clerk Coldagelli responded that the tape recordings are used for her note taking purposes. The program she uses is unable to copy to a disk or email as the files are too large. She has had only one individual in the past eight years want to relisten to a meeting that they were present at.

AUDIENCE CONCERNS- None at this time.

REPORTS-

Clerk/Treasurer's Report- Bank statements for the month of October have been received and all accounts reconciled. Revenues were \$82,150.73 and expenditures were \$154,108.50. Ending balances for the month of October were:

Miners Checking- \$823,229.03
Assessment Savings- \$20,010.30
CD Savings- \$16,559.99
4M Fund- \$1,086,822.77

For the month of November to date, revenues are \$13,346.46 and expenditures are \$80,267.40.

As a follow up from the prior meeting, one of the CD's will renew on 11/20 and Clerk Coldagelli recommends moving the excess funds from the General Fund at that time.

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 October 11th, made by Supervisor Chad, support from Supervisor Branville. Those will be the last official meeting minutes submitted. Going forward a monthly report will be submitted. ***Motion carried unanimously.***

Motion to accept the Planning Committee Meeting Minutes from September 20th, made by Supervisor Branville, support from Supervisor Chad. Motion carried unanimously.

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

CORRESPONDENCE-

Update regarding the October 10th letter from Minnesota Power. Clerk Coldagelli called MN Power to review our account and they indicated that they no longer reflect a demand rate on our account and that accounts are reviewed yearly and if the demand rate no longer applies, the rate will revert back to the regular rate. Placed on file.

October 18th - Postcard from MN Rural Water Association with notice of informational session for financing your community projects on November 28th in St. Cloud. Cost is \$150 for members. Placed on file.

October 19th - Email from St. Louis County with notice of department reorganization. The department formally known as Planning and Community Development has become two separate departments: Economic & Community Development and Planning & Zoning. Placed on file.

October 20th - Letter from Minnesota Power with notice of dual fuel rate changes. Discussion if dual fuel is still being used at the Town Hall. Placed on file.

October 23rd - Email from St. Louis County Association of Townships with the 2024 meeting schedule. Placed on file.

October 25th - Email from Amy Hildebrand with notice that Conservation Minnesota's Blazing Star Award is accepting applications until October 27th. Placed on file.

October 25th - Letter from St. Louis County Planning and Zoning Department with notice that a public hearing will be held on November 9th at 10:15 for the rezoning request for Blair Smith. Shared with the Planning Commission.

October 30th - Email from Range Association of Municipalities & Schools with board meeting minutes from September 28th. Placed on file.

November 2nd - Postcard from McKinsey Opiate Consultant Litigation with notice that if you are a political subdivision you may be entitled to receive a payment from the opioids class action settlement. Placed on file.

OLD BUSINESS

Supervisor Branville-

Fire Department Handbook- Handbook was completed, but need to deal with the officership. It was discussed at the Fire Department that the Officers would like to maintain the same positions. Maintaining the same positions would eliminate the need for the hiring process.

Motion to leave the Fire Department Officers the same, made by Supervisor Chad, support from Supervisor Branville. Motion carried unanimously.

Will still need to put a procedure in place for hiring officers in the event an officer leaves.

St. Mary's Lake Development-

Motion to approve Resolution 2023-08, A Resolution authorizing the Town of Fayal to make application to and accept funds from the IRRRB, made by Chairman Tammara, support from Supervisor Branville. Clerk Coldagelli is waiting for the application information from the engineer so she can submit the grant. ***Motion carried unanimously.***

Spring Flood FEMA Request- Clerk Coldagelli has submitted all the necessary paperwork and is awaiting final approval.

Local Road Improvement Grant- Clerk Coldagelli is waiting for resolutions of approval from the County in order to submit the two grant applications. The grants will fund up to \$1.5 million. One grant application will be submitted for Thunderbird Trail at an engineer's estimated cost of nearly \$1.8 million and the second grant application will cover Thunderbird Trail East, Horseshoe Lake Drive and the Differding roads for a total estimated cost of \$733,000.00. The County recommended submitting two grants applications and not each road separately.

Zoning Change Request- Clerk Coldagelli brought forward that Minnesota Power is seeking water services from the City of Eveleth and the Town may be approached regarding interest in financially supporting the project. Eveleth may be relooking at a waterline loop or extension due to the interest in the area of Thunderbird Trail. Discussion regarding the Town supporting the project but not financially.

Camera and Locator Quote- Received two quotes, one from Utility Logic for \$15,730.00 and a second from Ferguson for \$18,043.98. Both companies provided demonstrations and they were comparable. Technical support is provided for the life of the product from Utility Logic. The quote from Utility Logic is from August.

Motion to accept the quote from Utility Logic for the purchase of the inspection system for the Fayal PUC and the locator for the amounts of \$10,275.00 and \$5,455.00, made by Supervisor Branville, support from Supervisor Chad. Shipping is already included. The funds will come from the American Rescue Plan Funds. Motion carried unanimously.

2025 Levy- Chairman Tammaro discussed that there is still plenty of time to work on. The Fire Department may need additional funds for the First Responders. Currently at a \$40,000.00 increase. Discussion regarding levies. Supervisor Branville added that while the increase year over year isn't a large increase, when you look back at past years, then the increases add up.

NEW BUSINESS

Utility Billing Clerk Position- Applications are due by November 15th and have received one application. Supervisor Branville, Supervisor Chad and Clerk Coldagelli will serve on the Hiring Committee.

Bank Authorized Signers- Need to remove Rebecca Waldorf and add Linda Shykes onto the bank accounts.

Motion to include Linda Shykes and remove Rebecca Waldorf from the Bank as authorized signatures and get to the Bank as per requirements, made by Supervisor Branville, support from Supervisor Chad. Motion carried unanimously.

Commission Volunteers- Chairman Tammaro brought forward that in the past have provided a \$50.00 gift certificate to Super One to the volunteers around Thanksgiving.

Motion to provide a \$50.00 gift certificate to Commission Members for their annual service, made by Supervisor Branville, support from Supervisor Chad. Motion carried unanimously.

Clean Heavy-Duty Off-Road Equipment Grant- A grant opportunity is available from Minnesota Pollution Control Agency in regards to clean diesel equipment emissions. The grant would replace equipment and could be an opportunity to replace the loader. The grant pays for 25% of the cost to replace the equipment and there are also zero percent interest loan options.

Motion to apply for the Clean Heavy-Duty off Road Equipment Grant through the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, made by Supervisor Branville, support from Supervisor Chad. Motion carried unanimously.

New Rink Sweeper- The old one needs replacement. The old one can be listed for sale on Do-Bid.

Motion to purchase the Ariens Power Brush showing a price of \$4,699.00 from Grande's for the Rink and the funds coming from Rec budget, made by Supervisor Branville, support from Supervisor Chad. Motion carried unanimously.

Chief Shykes brought forward that the Fidelity account for the Relief Association has been closed and the funds will be transferred to the State. This year will be the last year for an audit. Chief Shykes also brought forward that the Department would like to sell the ambulance as it is not being used and taking up space. The Department received the ambulance from the Mayo Clinic at no cost a few years ago. Suggestion to sell via Do-Bid with the excess equipment.

Motion to hold a Do-Bid auction for anything excess, including but not limited to the ambulance, made by Supervisor Chad, support from Chairman Tammaro. Motion carried unanimously.

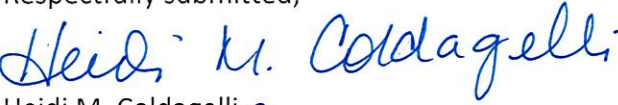
Chairman Tammaro brought forward that he and Supervisor Sather looked at the Rink after the last meeting. They turned on the lights and it lit up the area very nicely. Chairman Tammaro suggested adding one more light to cover the whole recreation area. It would be approximately \$400.00 or \$500.00 for a light fixture.

Motion to pay the claims in the amount of \$113,997.85, made by Supervisor Branville, support from Supervisor Chad. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion to adjourn, made by Supervisor Branville.

Chairman Tammaro adjourned the Regular Meeting at 7:47 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Heidi M. Coldagelli

Clerk/Treasurer Town of Fayal

Approved:



Chair

Date:

11-21-23

Attest:



Clerk