

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

JULY 16, 2024

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, Pat Brascugli, Sandra Wallner and Steve Shykes.

Motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Town Board Meeting of June 18th, 2024, made by Supervisor Branville, support from Supervisor Sather. Supervisor Chad abstained as he was absent for that meeting. Motion carried.

SCHEDULED GUESTS- None at this time.

AUDIENCE CONCERNS- Fire Chief Steve Shykes informed the Board that emergency lighting is needed on the side by side. Estimated cost is \$6,000.00 and Chief Shykes would like approval for the installation if the Department has the funds available in their budget at the end of the year.

Motion that the Fire Department light the Ranger if funds are available at the end of the year, made by Supervisor Sather, support from Supervisor Ziegler. Motion carried unanimously.

Chief Shykes brought forward that some vendors will no longer accept direct billing for payment and he would like to request a Township credit card for his use for Fire Department purchases as well as to utilize for lodging when attending out of town training.

Motion to approve a credit card in Chief Shykes name for the Fire Department, made by Supervisor Ziegler, support from Supervisor Sather. Discussion for a purchase limit of \$3,500.00. Motion carried unanimously.

REPORTS-

Clerk/Treasurer's Report- Bank statements for the month of June have been received and all accounts reconciled. Revenues were \$72,066.55 and expenditures were \$207,767.43. Ending balances for the month of June were:

Miners Checking- \$88,411.84

Assessment Savings- \$17,733.88

CD Savings- \$25.67

4M Fund- \$1,735,678.01

For the month of July to date, revenues are \$559,340.27 and expenditures are \$110,727.25.

Motion to approve the Clerk/Treasurer's report, made by Supervisor Branville, support from Supervisor Chad. Chairman Tammaro brought forward that he spoke to Clerk Coldagelli about the weak balance in the checking, but that was due to June's transfer of \$150,000.00 to the 4M Fund. Motion carried unanimously.

Other Reports-

Motion to accept the June Fire Department report, made by Supervisor Sather, support from Supervisor Ziegler. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion to accept the Public Utilities Commission meeting minutes from June 11th, made by Supervisor Sather, support from Supervisor Ziegler. Motion carried unanimously.

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

Motion to accept the Delinquency Report for the PUC, made by Supervisor Sather, support from Chairman Tammaro. Motion carried unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE-

June 12th- Email from MN DEED. Paid family and medical leave coverage available to Minnesota employees begins January 1st, 2026. The Paid Leave division is hosting virtual listening sessions around rulemaking this summer on a variety of topics. Placed on file.

June 20th- Letter from League of Minnesota Cities with notification of 6% preliminary maximum membership dues increase effective for 2026. Placed on file.

June 20th- Letter from HealthPartners with notice that effective January 1st, 2025, HealthPartners fully insured small group products will no longer be offered in parts of greater Minnesota. Jamie Lindseth will bid out new insurance options October 1st. Placed on file.

July 5th- Letter from St. Louis County with notice that St. Louis County Liquor Licensing Committee voted unanimously to recommend that the St. Louis County Board enact a county-wide moratorium prohibiting registration and operation of cannabis businesses through December 31st, 2024. The goal of the proposed moratorium is to allow local units of government time to determine what actions are most appropriate for their respective jurisdictions relative to cannabis business operations. Placed on file.

July 15th- Email from Range Association of Municipalities & Schools with board meeting minutes from May 23rd. Placed on file.

July 16th- Letter from University of Minnesota Extension with thank you for the contribution of \$100.00 to St. Louis County 4-H. Included was two tickets to the St. Louis County Fair. Placed on file.

OLD BUSINESS

Chairman Tammaro-

St. Mary's Lake Development Grant- Brad Scott contacted Clerk Coldagelli when she was on vacation last week requesting to schedule a meeting.

Differding Point Waterline- Still have not received a response back from Gilbert.

Fire Department Rechassis Project- Chief Shykes informed the Board that there should be an update for the next meeting.

Skate Shack Water Infiltration- Supervisor Branville provided an update that the interior has been dry since the perimeter of the building was sealed. The contractor is also coming back to add more grooves into the concrete to channel the water away.

Resolution 2024-04 Write-In Candidates- Clerk Coldagelli drafted a Resolution per discussion at the last meeting.

Motion to adopt Resolution 2024-04 A Resolution Regarding Write-In Votes for Local Elective Office, as written, made by Chairman Tammaro, support from Supervisor Sather. Motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

Fund Transfers- Chairman Tammaro questioned why approval was necessary and any time funds are moved from one fund to another a Town Board motion is needed. Clerk Coldagelli requested approval to transfer \$1,380.00 from the Miners Bank Checking account to the Assessment Savings from the St. Louis County apportionment funds. Clerk Coldagelli was notified that the second Miners Bank savings account does require a \$50.00 minimum balance in order to avoid a monthly service fee of \$5.00, so a transfer from the 4M Fund of \$50.00 to the Miners Bank CD Savings was needed. Third request was a transfer of \$19,000.00 from the Miners Bank Assessment Savings to the 4M Fund account. Lastly, a transfer from the 4M "Town Hall" Fund to the Miners Bank Checking account of \$22,800.00 was needed for the cost of the new windows.

Motion to approve the transfers as listed, made by Chairman Tammaro, support from Supervisor Chad. Motion carried unanimously.

Storm Damage- Foreman Jason Latvaaho has contacted St. Louis County regarding damages in the Township and is awaiting further direction from the County on how to proceed.

Electronic Water Meters/IRRRB Grant- Chairman Tammaro reached out to the IRRRB and questioned if any grants were available to assist in the cost of electronic water meters. There are grants available that will pay up to 50% of the cost. Two vendors were present today to provide information regarding their products and will provide cost proposals. One of the vendors estimated approximately \$80,000.00 for the purchase of the meters and including software and installation a total of approximately \$125,000.00-\$130,000.00. Residents would no longer have to read their meters monthly and it would prevent errors and employee follow up with residents

that seldom submit water meter readings. Discussion regarding current practice and the cost. Fayal's existing meters are approximately twenty-five years old.

Robbi Ochis/Janitorial Position- Robbi Ochis informed Clerk Coldagelli that she is officially resigning from the janitorial position, but would like to continue employment as the office assistant if help is needed in the Clerk's Office. Clerk Coldagelli would like to utilize her assistance if needed and offer the permanent janitorial position to Linda Shykes as she has been serving as the temporary janitor and office assistant.

Supervisor Sather brought forward that Nick Preiner is requesting a six-month leave from the Fire Department effective June 26th, 2024.

Motion to accept Nick Preiner's requested six-month leave effective June 26th, made by Supervisor Sather, support from Supervisor Ziegler. Motion carried unanimously.

Supervisor Sather brought forward that the Fire Department recommends the hiring of Brandie Walker to the position of single role EMR. The hiring will depend on passing a physical and background check.

Motion to accept that request, made by Supervisor Sather, support from Supervisor Chad. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion to pay the claims in the amount of \$200,243.27, made by Supervisor Ziegler, support from Supervisor Branville. Motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Tamaro informed the Board that he would like to take a five minute recess and then he will turn the last item on the agenda, personnel issue, to Vice-Chair Branville. Chairman Tamaro will recuse himself from the meeting. Meeting was recessed at 7:25 PM.

Vice-Chair Branville called the meeting back to order at 7:29 PM and closed the regular meeting per Minnesota State Statute §13D.05 Subd. 2(b).

[Clerk's Note: Closed per Minnesota State Statute §13D.05 Subd. 2(b). The closed portion of the meeting was audio recorded and will be preserved for at least three years.]

Supervisor Branville reopened the meeting at 8:12 PM.

Motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting, made by Supervisor Ziegler, support from Vice-Chair Branville. Motion carried unanimously.

Vice-Chair Branville adjourned the Regular Meeting at 8:12 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Heidi M. Coldagelli

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Clerk/Treasurer Town of Fayal

Approved:

Andy Ziegler
Chair

Date:

8-20-2024

Attest:

Heidi M. Coldagelli
Clerk