

TOWN OF FAYAL
4375 SHADY LANE, EVELETH, MN 55734

Heidi M. Coldagelli, Clerk/Treasurer

Anthony Tammaro, Chairman

Supervisors: Lee Branville, Mark Chad, Michael Erjavec, Richard Sather

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REGULAR MEETING OF THE FAYAL TOWN BOARD

JANUARY 21, 2025

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 Erjavec and Clerk/Treasurer Coldagelli. Supervisor Sather was absent. Chairman Tammaro led with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Audience member in attendance was Matt Hoffmann.

Motion to approve the minutes of the Town Board Reorganization Meeting of January 7th, 2025, made by Supervisor Branville, support from Supervisor Chad. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Town Board Meeting of January 7th, 2025, made by Supervisor Branville, support from Supervisor Chad. Motion carried unanimously.

SCHEDULED GUESTS- None at this time.

AUDIENCE CONCERNS- Assistant Fire Chief Matt Hoffmann presented a spreadsheet with projected annual 5% increases through 2030 for both wages and officer pay. Chairman Tammaro does not want to change officer pay at this time. Supervisor Chad will review the spreadsheet and will table until next meeting. The Fire Department for now will receive an increase due to minimum wage is now at \$11.13.

REPORTS-

Clerk/Treasurer's Report- For the month of January to date, revenues are \$61,491.56 and expenditures are \$203,753.33. Current balances for the month of January are:

Miners Checking- \$508,906.45

Assessment Savings- \$115.68

CD Savings- \$70.71

4M Fund- \$1,862,870.67

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

Other Reports-

Motion to accept the Public Access Television meeting minutes from January 15th, made by Supervisor Chad, support from Supervisor Branville. Chairman Tammaro added that decisions should be made soon whether the Commission will be dissolving. ***Motion carried unanimously.***

Motion to accept the PUC minutes from December 10th, made by Supervisor Chad, support from Supervisor Branville. Chairman Tammaro brought forward that the Public Utility Commission had questions regarding declining balances for Gilbert Debt Service. Clerk Coldagelli had already responded to Commissioner Chris Erickson and will also forward the email response to Chairman Tammaro. ***Motion carried unanimously.***

Motion to accept the Delinquency Report for the PUC, made by Supervisor Branville, support from Supervisor Chad. There were no additional payments received prior to certifying the delinquents to St. Louis County. Those properties certified were the ones typically certified yearly for nonpayment. ***Motion carried unanimously.***

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

CORRESPONDENCE-

January 8th- Email from Jeri Venne from the IRRRB with notice that the Culture & Tourism grant application is open January 15th through May 1st. Clerk Coldagelli would like to apply and can draft a resolution for the next meeting.

January 9th- Email from Duluth Superior Area Community Foundation with notice that grant proposals are now open for spring of 2025 for various grant opportunities including the Eveleth Community Foundation. All proposals must be submitted by March 3rd. Moved to New Business.

January 15th- Email from St. Louis County Association of Townships with December 4th meeting minutes. Placed on file.

January 15th- Letter from University of Minnesota Extension seeking sponsorship for St. Louis County 4-H. Moved to New Business.

January 16th- Email from Minnesota Public Facilities Authority with notice that submissions are now being accepted to place public wastewater, stormwater and drinking water infrastructure improvement projects on the 2026 Project Priority Lists and Intended Use Plans for the Clean Water and Drinking Water State Revolving Funds. Forwarded to the Public Utilities Commission.

OLD BUSINESS

Chairman Tamaro-

St. Mary's Lake Development Grant- Will remove from agenda as there has been no further information from the Developer.

Differding Point Waterline- No response from Gilbert yet, but may change with the new mayor.

Employee Contracts- Supervisor Branville and Chairman Tamaro are still working on the Office Manager's contract and will meet next week to discuss.

Lift Station A-1- It was verbally communicated that the panel replacement project has been approved by FEMA and final paperwork has been signed, but Clerk Coldagelli needs final confirmation of approval in writing in order to be confident of receiving funding.

FEMA Submission Summer Flooding- Awaiting reimbursement from FEMA.

2026 Levy- Chairman Tamaro has spoken with a few residents who are upset with the proposed 8.96% increase. Discussion regarding justification for all the increases. Supervisor Branville added that hopefully next year, a larger increase will not be necessary. Discussion regarding the in-house loans completed in order to pay interest to ourselves versus borrowing from a bank.

Motion to present the Levy proposal as written on 1/13/25 at the Annual Meeting for the Township, made by Supervisor Branville, support from Supervisor Chad. Discussion that there is nothing to chisel because it would need to be paid for later. Motion carried unanimously.

Fire Department Hourly Wage- Supervisor Chad will review and present at the next meeting.

Eveleth-Fayal Cable Access- The Cable Board is discussing.

Mediacom Franchise- Ordinance has had two readings.

Motion to adopt ordinance 25-01, made by Supervisor Chad, support from Supervisor Branville. Motion carried unanimously.

Planning Commission- Members Bill O'Neal and Heidi Coldagelli would like their terms reinstated for the Planning Commission.

Motion that Heidi Coldagelli and Bill O'Neal be reappointed to the Planning Commission, made by Supervisor Branville, support from Supervisor Chad. Motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Tamaro brought forward that the PUC discussed term renewals and they will amend their bylaws that all terms end at year end.

NEW BUSINESS

Fire Department Annual Physicals- The Fire Department has annual physicals due at \$220.00 each plus mileage from the vendor. There are 14 physicals needed.

Motion to proceed with fit testing, made by Supervisor Chad, support from Supervisor Erjavec. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion regarding out of pocket expenses for firefighters when the physicals identify a need to see their primary care provider to receive clearance to participate. Discussion that the Town can deal with those situations on a case by case basis and will likely need to assist those individuals to maintain staff.

Transfer Standby Water Fees to 4M Fund-

Motion to transfer \$1,899.39 in Standby Water Fees to the 4M Fund, made by Chairman Tammaro, support from Supervisor Branville. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion how well the 4M Fund has performed. In 2024, the Town received \$85,734.41 in interest. Discussion regarding potential use of the funds if the water or sewer rates were to increase.

Ballfield- Chairman Tammaro discussed with Matt Reid regarding youth baseball utilizing the field. A representative should be coming to a meeting to discuss.

Chairman Tammaro brought forward the tennis court grant application.

Motion to apply for the tennis court grant, made by Supervisor Branville, support from Supervisor Chad. Motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Tammaro brought forward the 4H donation. Last year donated \$100.00.

Motion to donate \$100.00, made by Supervisor Erjavec, support from Supervisor Branville. Motion carried unanimously.

March Meeting Schedule- Typically eliminate second meeting in March due to the Annual Meeting.

Motion to eliminate the last meeting of the month of March, but still authorize the Clerk and Chairman to pay the bills that need to be paid, made by Chairman Tammaro, support from Supervisor Erjavec. Motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Tammaro brought forward a question if the rink is closed for weather conditions are the rink attendants still getting paid? Clerk Coldagelli responded that no one is getting paid if the rink is closed. Discussion that the rink lights are on a timer.

Assistant Fire Chief Hoffmann questioned if two AED cabinets could be purchased. One could be placed at the warming shack and the other can be placed at the concession stand at the Ballfield. The Fire Department has an extra AED that could rotate between the two buildings.

Motion to pay the claims in the amount of \$38,440.58, made by Supervisor Branville, support from Supervisor Chad. Motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Tammaro adjourned the Regular Meeting at 7:38 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Heidi M. Coldagelli

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Clerk/Treasurer Town of Fayal

Approved: *Chad Tammaro*
Chair

Date: 2-4-25

Attest: *Heidi M. Coldagelli*
Clerk