

**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**

**JUNE 17, 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 Erjavec, Supervisor Sather and Clerk Coldagelli. Supervisor Chad arrived at 7:10 PM. Chairman Tammaro led with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Audience members in attendance were Jason Latvaaho and Steve Shykes.

***Motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Town Board Meeting of May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2025, made by Supervisor Branville, support from Supervisor Sather. Motion carried unanimously.***

**SCHEDULED GUESTS-** None at this time.

**AUDIENCE CONCERNS-** Fire Chief Steve Shykes brought forward a request of \$10,000.00 from Mining Effects to purchase turn out gear. Moved to Old Business.

**REPORTS-**

**Clerk/Treasurer's Report-**

Bank statements for the month of May have been received and all accounts reconciled. Revenues were \$87,332.73 and expenditures were \$112,860.76. Ending balances for the month of May are:

Miners Checking- \$472,924.70

Assessment Savings- \$115.71

CD Savings- \$70.73

4M Fund- \$1,811,134.48

For the month of June to date, revenues are \$42,876.33 and expenditures are \$120,448.56.

***Motion to approve the Clerk/Treasurer's report, made by Supervisor Branville, support from Supervisor Sather.*** Chairman Tammaro questioned the reasoning for keeping the small balances in the savings accounts with Miners Bank. Clerk Coldagelli explained that those are separate funds with minimum balances required but the majority of the balance was transferred to the 4M Fund to earn more interest.

***Motion carried unanimously.***

**Other Reports-**

***Motion to accept the Public Utilities Commission meeting minutes from May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2025, made by Supervisor Erjavec, support from Supervisor Sather. Motion carried unanimously.***

***Motion to accept the PUC Wastewater Report from May, made by Supervisor Erjavec, support from Chairman Tammaro. Motion carried unanimously.***

***Motion to accept the Planning Commission meeting minutes from April 16<sup>th</sup>, 2025, made by Supervisor Erjavec, support from Chairman Tammaro. Motion carried unanimously.***

***Motion to accept the Road and Bridge Report from May, made by Supervisor Sather, support from Supervisor Branville. Motion carried unanimously.***

***Motion to accept the Fire Department Report for May, made by Supervisor Sather, support from Supervisor Branville. Motion carried unanimously.***

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

**CORRESPONDENCE-**

May 23<sup>rd</sup> - Email from Range Association of Municipalities and Schools with meeting minutes from April 24<sup>th</sup>.

Placed on file.

May 27<sup>th</sup> - Email from Minnesota Department of Health with notice of change in water monitoring schedule for haloacetic acids (HAA5s) and total trihalomethanes (TTHMS) from annually to quarterly based on a population change. Foreman Jason Latvaaho and Wastewater Operator Rick Bieganeck are addressing.

June 2<sup>nd</sup> - Email from Paul Peltier from RAMS with an invitation on Monday, June 30<sup>th</sup> for a summertime BBQ celebration with the location TBA. Placed on file.

June 2<sup>nd</sup> - Letter from Minnesota State Demographic Center with annual population and household estimates for April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024. Population estimate is 1,769 and household estimate is 789. Note that this is a decrease from the prior year. Placed on file.

June 2<sup>nd</sup> - Email from Tony Tammaro with resignation from the Joint Cable Commission effective immediately. Moved to New Business.

June 12<sup>th</sup> - Email from Minnesota Department of Health with notice of change in water monitoring schedule for water quality parameter with a phosphate inhibitor from one sample location to two sample locations beginning in August due to a population change. Foreman Latvaaho and Wastewater Operator Bieganeck are addressing.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

#### **Chairman Tammaro-**

**Fire Department Hourly Wage-** Will remove from the agenda for now.

**Eveleth-Fayal Cable Access-** Can also be removed from the agenda.

**Fire Department Rechassis Project-** No update at this time.

**Patrick Ziegler Sewer Line-** Home has been sold. The buyer notified Clerk Coldagelli that a holding tank was installed, but there has been no contact or confirmation from Mr. Ziegler that he disconnected from the system. Chairman Tammaro asked that we contact the County to investigate the legality of what has been completed. Chairman Tammaro stated that both properties should be receiving service charges in the meantime until we are notified that its been completed. Foreman Latvaaho clarified that the buyer is working with a contractor to install a drain field. At this point the Township is not sure that it is disconnected. Discussion regarding a sewer access charge has been paid for the garage property and is currently receiving a monthly sewer bill.

**Tennis Court-** Chairman Tammaro has not received a response back yet from the vendor he was working with.

Supervisor Chad arrived at this time.

**BCA and Master Services Agreement-** Clerk Coldagelli spoke with a representative from the BCA and she had stated that Fayal could likely piggyback with Eveleth's BCA agreement, but Clerk Coldagelli will need to check with St. Louis County if they will prosecute our cases as was handled in the past. She did speak with the County Attorney's Office, but is waiting for a response back. Mike Kearney had the same response that Fayal will need to see if St. Louis County Attorney's Office will prosecute our cases.

**Compost Screening-** Chairman Tammaro hasn't heard any more information, but suggested purchasing black dirt every now and then. Foreman Latvaaho added that black dirt is hard to get right now and a price was \$510.00 for 12 yards. The Yard Waste site only has about 60 yards of material before it runs out. There are two piles started, but won't be ready for next year. Supervisor Branville suggested that we don't purchase any if we have to buy it and pay for it.

**Class 5 Production in the Road and Bridge Pit-** Supervisor Erjavec met with Foreman Latvaaho who had also spoken with employee Albert Jurenec. There are factors impacting such as property line setbacks and wetlands. To determine what is there an engineer would need to come in and survey and complete core drilling samples. It is believed there is approximately 3,000 yards there and the entrance would need to be moved. Discussion regarding past history of the site. Chairman Tammaro questioned if Foreman Latvaaho could speak to Ulland Brothers and take a look and give their opinion? Discussion regarding crushing costs. Foreman Latvaaho has plans for work on St. Mary's Court this year.

**Mining Effects for the Fire Department-** Have not received the second half of Mining Effects yet, but can transfer \$10,000.00 to the Fire Department when the second half is received.

**Motion to approve the \$10,000.00, made by Supervisor Sather, support from Supervisor Branville.** The Fire Department now has 17 members. Turnout gear is good for 10 years and a few sets are purchased each year.  
**Motion carried unanimously.**

Chairman Tammaro brought forward that he met with Eveleth Mayor Adam Roen and Gilbert Mayor Karl Oberstar regarding finishing the fire department consolidation and relooking at it.

***Motion to move forward with it, finish it up and start looking at it, made by Chairman Tammaro, support from Supervisor Erjavec.*** Discussion regarding process, costs and grant availability. ***Motion carried unanimously.***

***Motion to start with a board consisting of Steve Shykes, Mark Chad and the Clerk as the representatives for Fayal, made by Chairman Tammaro, support from Supervisor Sather.*** ***Motion carried unanimously.***

Chairman Tammaro brought forward a question regarding the status of the windscreen for the tennis court. Foreman Latvaaho informed him that it had been ordered and it takes about three weeks before they even ship. Chairman Tammaro also brought forward that he spoke with the property owner on Ely Lake Drive with the tree down in their yard and offered that the Township can remove it for them. The property owner was going to speak to his wife. Discussion that there are now items being moved from the front yard to the back yard on the roadside of Birch Lane. Foreman Latvaaho brought forward a comment that the Road and Bridge Department does not cut down trees in people's yards for anyone else and it could become a liability issue for them to remove the tree and he does not feel comfortable doing that. Discussion regarding liability. Discussion regarding blight status and the Blight Officer will take a look at the property.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

**Dust Control Quote-** The County negotiates a discounted price from the vendor ICO and 5,200 gallons is needed.

***Motion to do dust control, made by Supervisor Sather, support from Supervisor Branville.*** ***Motion carried unanimously.***

**Chipping Brush Pile-** Foreman Latvaaho received a verbal quote for \$7,000.00 to chip the pile. Discussion regarding the cost and inability for another company to match the price. The vendor will be in and out in a few hours and haul it all away.

***Motion to chip the brush pile for \$7,000.00, made by Supervisor Sather, support from Supervisor Chad.*** Three years ago the cost was \$5,000.00 and there is no longer a market for the chips. ***Motion carried unanimously.***

**Solar Panel Repair-** Hometown Electric can look at them. Clerk Coldagelli looked back into the history of payback from MN Power and they have not received much over the years, but they are also not functioning well. Supervisor Branville added that the panels are old and not sure if it makes sense to put any more money into them. Discussion regarding replacement. Hometown Electric can bypass the panels that are not working in order for it to run more efficiently and believed that if it cost \$2,000.00 for him to repair them, the Township will make that back. Until Hometown Electric gets in there and takes a better look, they are not sure how much it is going to cost. Supervisor Branville suggested they take an initial look for a better cost estimate and if its worth repairing or replacing.

**Promissory Note Cerar-** Joe Cerar had contacted the Township regarding connecting water to the property and the Clerk discovered that the property was also subject to a sewer availability charge due to a property split a number of years ago. The Cerar's would like to finance the water and sewer availability charges. The Public Utilities Commission recommended a 4.5% rate at five years. Clerk Coldagelli provided both a five year and a ten year repayment plan.

***Motion to grant at 4.5% on a five year basis, made by Supervisor Erjavec, support from Chairman Tammaro.*** ***Motion carried unanimously.***

**Lift Station K Impellers-** Quote received from Minnesota Pump Works for \$1,682.00 plus freight. Discussion regarding a number of power issues occurring at the lift stations for the last three weeks.

***Motion to approve, made by Chairman Tammaro, support from Supervisor Branville.*** Payment can come from the Maintenance Contingency. ***Motion carried unanimously.***

**Public Safety Fund to 4M Account-** Clerk Coldagelli would like to transfer the \$40,000.00 Public Safety Fund to the 4M Fund to earn more interest. Clerk Coldagelli and Chairman Tammaro recommend also moving a water and sewer availability charge received for \$10,125.00 and move \$50,000.00 from the Fayal Sewer Company checking to the 4M Fund.

***Motion to move all those funds, made by Chairman Tammaro, support from Supervisor Sather.*** ***Motion carried unanimously.***

Clerk Coldagelli brought forward that the CD has come due from the 4M Fund. New rates were provided. Current rate in the 4M Fund is 4.22%. Moving to a CD is at a lower rate.

***Motion to leave as is, made by Chairman Tammaro, support from Supervisor Erjavec.*** Year to date interest

including the \$12,000.00 just received from a CD is \$41,000.00. **Motion carried unanimously.**

**Fire Department Camp House Fire Payroll**- Chief Shykes would like to pay the Fire Department payroll from their existing budget for now until the reimbursement from the State is received. The Department would like to use the excess to get some items that they would not be able to normally afford.

**Motion to approve payroll for the Camp House Fire for \$21,420.00, made by Supervisor Erjavec, support from Supervisor Chad. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Quotes for Pavement Repair and Thunderbird Trail**- Chairman Tammaro would like to get additional quotes. Foreman Latvaaho has contacted numerous companies that either are not interested, not returning calls or no longer in business. Previously contacted another company and it was estimated \$5,000.00 per culvert (two were needed) and \$20,000.00 was estimated for Thunderbird Trail. The quote received from Midwest Construction is for \$14,705.00. Discussion that work could possibly start work tomorrow. Foreman Latvaaho stressed the danger on Thunderbird Trail and discussion followed regarding the condition.

**Motion to go ahead and do it, made by Supervisor Sather, support from Supervisor Erjavec.** FEMA monies of \$16,000.00 have already been received for the culvert repairs. Previously, when the project came under budget, FEMA allowed the Township to keep the excess as long as it was used for public use. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Chairman Tammaro brought forward his resignation from the Cable Commission.

**Motion to accept his resignation, made by Supervisor Sather, support from Supervisor Chad. Motion carried unanimously.**

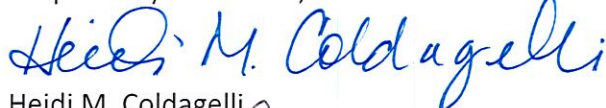
Chairman Tammaro also brought forward that he is not sure how much longer he will be on the Town Board but will let the Board know if and when in order to find a replacement.

Supervisor Sather brought forward that he would like to start looking for a new loader earlier than anticipated. Discussion regarding condition and finances and Chairman Tammaro doesn't think it can be possible sooner due to the Fire Truck purchase. The dump truck will be paid off in 2028. So far the dump trucks are in good shape and hopefully can be kept longer. Chairman Tammaro suggested that Foreman Latvaaho spec out a loader. It is estimated to cost \$250,000.00. Discussion regarding attachments and the sweeper is no longer functioning. The loader is a 2008 and that is Road and Bridge's number one piece of equipment and used almost daily. Supervisor Sather suggested Ziegler look at it and give Fayal a health report.

**Motion to pay the claims in the amount of \$140,391.79, made by Supervisor Branville, support from Supervisor Chad. Motion carried unanimously.**

Chairman Tammaro adjourned the Regular Meeting at 7:58 PM.

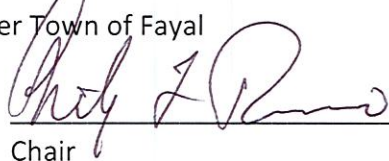
Respectfully submitted,



Heidi M. Coldagelli

Clerk/Treasurer Town of Fayal

Approved:

  
Chair

Date:

7-15-25

Attest:

  
Clerk