

TOWN OF FAYAL

4375 SHADY LANE, EVELETH, MN 55734

Heidi M. Latvaaho, Clerk/Treasurer

Lee Branville, Chairman

Supervisors: Mark Chad, Michael Erjavec, Richard Sather, Daniel Zbosnik

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REGULAR MEETING OF THE FAYAL TOWN BOARD

MAY 5, 2026

The Regular Meeting of the Fayal Town Board of Supervisors was called to order at 7:00 PM by Chairman Branville. Present were: Chairman Branville, Supervisor Chad, Supervisor Erjavec, Supervisor Sather, Supervisor Zbosnik, Clerk Latvaaho and PUC Billing Clerk Kris Wilson. Chairman Branville 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 April 21st, 2026, made by Supervisor Erjavec, support from Supervisor Zbosnik. Motion carried unanimously.

SCHEDULED GUESTS- None at this time.

AUDIENCE CONCERNS- Town Foreman Jason Latvaaho brought forward Casual Labor employee Dave Lang's wage. He is approaching his fifth year with the Township. He is a tremendous asset and does incredible work. In the past, when Al Jurenic served as the Casual Labor employee, he was paid \$5.00 more than the Casual Labor rate because of running equipment. Discussion regarding a class B license.

Motion to pay Dave \$25.00 per hour, made by Supervisor Sather, support from Supervisor Chad. Supervisor Erjavec questioned how many hours that Mr. Lang works, which ranges from 32-40 per week. ***Motion carried unanimously.***

Fire Chief Steve Shykes let the Board know that Tanner Lokken has met all his employment requirements and is now a member of the Fire Department. Discussion that there are 20 Fire Department members and that there could be up to 25 members. In the late 80's when the Fire Department was first established they were fully staffed at 25 members.

REPORTS

Clerk/Treasurer's Report

Bank statements for the month of April have been received and all accounts reconciled. Revenues were \$78,103.63 and expenditures were \$100,189.59. Ending balances for April were:

Miners Checking- \$546,012.77

CD Savings- \$70.81

4M Fund- \$2,115,478.35

For the month of May to date, revenues are \$13,787.30 and expenditures are \$69,848.86.

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

Other Reports

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

Motion to accept the April Road and Bridge report, made by Supervisor Sather, support from Supervisor Erjavec. Motion carried unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE

April 24th- Email from Range Association of Municipalities & Schools with board meeting minutes from February 26th. Placed on file.

April 29th- Email from Megan Julin from St. Louis County Association of Townships with notice of annual election and meeting scheduled for May 27th at the Cotton Community Center at 6:00 PM. Reservations are due by May 18th. Anyone that would like to attend is welcome to.

May 5th- Letter from the Minnesota Department of Revenue with notice of annual mineral hearing on unmined iron ore assessments for 2026 will be held May 21st at 10:00 AM via Microsoft Teams or a call in number. Anyone interested in attending may contact Clerk Latvaaho for details.

May 5th- Letter from Minnesota Association of Townships with notice that the Board of Directors has appointed Ellsburg Township Supervisor John Upton to represent District 10 on the MAT Board. Placed on file.

OLD BUSINESS

Chairman Branville-

Tennis Courts- Foreman Latvaaho is still waiting on a quote for the painting of the courts, but Mesabi Bituminous provided a quote for \$107,300.00 for new courts and fencing. Unsure how long the quote is good for. Supervisor Zbosnik questioned if some money can be saved by demolishing the courts ourselves. Foreman Latvaaho can ask Tom Nemanich. The staff can remove the fence posts and can discuss with Mesabi Bituminous regarding the current base. Clerk Latvaaho left a message with USTA for a grant manager to contact her. Discussion that an IRRRB grant should be available this summer. Discussion that Jim Prittinen had stated that the courts were still playable.

Road Funding- No updates at this time.

Police Department Budget- Have not received a response back from Eveleth yet.

Reminder Board of Appeal May 6th 1:00-2:00 PM- Supervisors Chad, Erjavec and Sather will be in attendance.

Delinquent Utility Customer- Clerk Latvaaho watched City of Gilbert's Council Meeting from April 14th and the Council did not take any action at the meeting. Councilman Bob Pontinen indicated that they are assuming the customer, but the Gilbert City Council has not made a motion to do so unless it occurred at their April 28th meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Sand Volleyball- Amy Kvaternik would like to hold summer sand volleyball on Tuesdays again this summer.

Summer Schedule- Have typically canceled the first meeting of the month.

Motion to institute our summer schedule for June, July and August the third Tuesday of the month being our scheduled meeting night, made by Chairman Branville, support from Supervisor Chad. Motion carried unanimously.

DNR Grant- Chief Shykes applied for and was awarded a \$2,500.00 matching grant. Approval is needed to accept and sign the grant agreement. The grant will be used for the communication fobs that were previously approved for and two more pagers.

Motion to accept the DNR grant, made by Supervisor Sather, support from Supervisor Zbosnik. Motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Branville brought forward the bills that were received for repair of the garage doors at the Fire Department. The bills were substantial and should have been brought forward to Buildings and Grounds. They could have potentially been done in house. Chief Shykes will share that information with the rest of the staff. Discussion on the repairs. If there is an expense for more than \$750.00 it needs to come before the Board before moving forward.

Email Quotes- Clerk Latvaaho is looking at changing the .org email to .gov and is currently looking into the best pricing options. She has already taken the steps to update the website to a .gov which needed to be in place by June of 2026. Discussion regarding email transition and Clerk Latvaaho needs a little more time to looking into the different options.

PUC Truck- Chairman Branville spoke with Wastewater Operator Rick Bieganek regarding the PUC truck. The truck has 77,000 miles and is a 2015. Discussion regarding the circumstances of the last PUC truck purchase and holding off on a purchase at this time. Foreman Latvaaho will check into pricing as to what the cost would be for replacement.

League of Minnesota Cities Liability Coverage Waiver Form- The form needs to be approved annually.

Motion to not waive the liability coverage, made by Chairman Branville, support from Supervisor Chad. Discussion regarding tort limits. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion to pay the claims in the amount of \$88,709.81, made by Supervisor Chad, support from Chairman Branville. Motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Branville adjourned the Regular Meeting at 7:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Heidi M. Latvaaho

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Clerk/Treasurer Town of Fayal

Approved: _____

Chair

Date: _____

5/19/26

Attest: _____

Heidi M. Latvaaho

Clerk