

Deerwood Township
Regular Meeting
April 10, 2017

Board of Supervisors:

James Walth - Chair
Josh Thompson - Vice Chair
David Gray - Supervisor

Carol Pundt- Clerk
Amy Donovan - Treasurer
Steve Reilly - Road Overseer

Present: James Walth, Josh Thompson, David Gray, Steve Reilly, Carol Pundt, Amy Donovan

Absent: None

James Walth called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., with the Pledge of Allegiance.

A motion was made by Josh Thompson and seconded by David Gray to approve the agenda. All voted in favor of the motion.

A motion was made by Josh Thompson and seconded by David Gray to approve the March 13, 2017 Monthly Board and March 13, 2017 Public Hearing meeting minutes. All voted in favor of the motion.

A motion was made by Josh Thompson and seconded by David Gray to approve the Treasurer's Report subject to audit for the month ending March 31, 2017. All voted in favor of the motion.

Roads:

Justin Schulz, from WSN, was not in attendance because James Walth had been in contact with him. James Walth updated the Board on the progression of the road project for Nelson Drive. Bid opening for the Nelson and Placid Drive road project is scheduled for April 12, 2017 at 10:00 am at the Widseth, Smith Nolting (WSN) office in Baxter, MN. WSN will review the bids for the lowest responsible bidder. The Board is planning on awarding the project in May or June.

Easements for Nelson Drive: Jerry Bohnsack told the Board he is still waiting for the Legal descriptions of the easements. He has called WSN a number of times for an update on when to expect to see the documents. Easements for the project cannot be signed until the legal descriptions are completed. Jerry Bohnsack is hoping to complete the bond sale at the May Board meeting.

Placid Drive: James Walth gave the Board an update regarding the road project progress on Placid Drive. James told the Board that because the Purple Flower Bladder Wart plant may be present in the proposed road construction project location. The project has been put on hold until the DNR does a botanical site survey of the intended construction area. The DNR was going to bill the Township \$7,000 for the survey. James Walth contacted Dale Lueck, our local State Representative, to see if the bill could be waived for the project. Dale met with the DNR and was able to have the bill waived. Many thanks to Dale for all his efforts in saving the Township some money. The botanical site survey will be done this summer.

There was also discussion in regards to keeping road restrictions on Placid Drive in order to keep heavy equipment from being hauled through the area and damaging the road. Placid Drive may also need to be blockaded to through traffic. Steve Reilly will keep a watch on the roadway while the construction is going on at Nelson Drive. The Township will also leave the 4,000 lb. road restriction on the road during the construction period.

Disaster Relief Update/Steve Reilly: Steve informed the Board he still in negotiation with the State of Minnesota regarding the amount owed to the Township. The County is saying the amount owed is \$103,000. Steve feels the amount should be \$121,000.

Steve also told the Board road sweeping and crack filling will be starting soon. Crow Wing County will be chip sealing the Township parking lot. The partnership between the Township and Crow Wing County will be saving the Township around \$500.

Dennis Graff told the Board the Lakewood Drive road surface is busting up. Steve Reilly will take a look at the road.

Town Line Road Contract: Was put on hold. It will be discussed at the May Board meeting.

Road Easement Vacation: Josh Thompson talked to the resident regarding vacating a platted road. The first step is to petition the Township for the road vacation. All costs incurred by the Township will be paid by the petitioner.

Charter/Spectrum Contract: James Walth has been in contact with Charter/Spectrum. The high speed internet and phone service will cost the Township \$99.97 per month plus an installation fee of \$99.00. The Wi-Fi router connection will be rented at \$5.00 per month. The Township will have a high speed internet connection of 60 MB. Presently the Township is paying around \$179.00 per month to CenturyLink for 5MB. When the frost is out of the ground the new system will be installed. The Township will be able to keep the same phone number. However, e-mail addresses will be needed.

A motion was made by Josh Thompson and seconded by David Gray to approve the claims as submitted in the amount of \$49,989.86. All voted in favor of the motion.

DRT Request – Donald & Bonita Erickson: The DRT was completed in February. The variance request has not been submitted to the Township for review.

A motion was made by Josh Thompson and seconded by David Gray to approve the liquor license for Hartland Hockey Camp. All voted in favor of the motion.

Sheriff Dahl updated the Board regarding happenings in the Crow Wing County. He told the Board driving speeds are higher. If the speed limit is 60 he is stopping vehicles going 80 miles per hour. It is illegal to text and drive in the State of MN. That means even when you are stopped at a traffic sign or light.

Unity Bank gave a presentation to the Board regarding ICS (Insured Cash Sweep) service. There was also some discussion regarding bonding for the road project vs taking out a loan through Unity Bank. If a special meeting is needed to discuss the pros and cons before the May Board meeting James Walth will ask Carol Pundt to schedule one.

A committee was established to look at 3 versus 5 member Township Board. James Walth will head the committee. The committee will have five members. Members of the committee will be Fred Tessmer, Dennis Graff and Jim Rude. James Walth volunteered to find the fifth member. The committee will report back to the Board at the May Monthly Board meeting.

Township Spring Short Course Report: The Board members found the Spring Short Course very beneficial. One of the topics discussed was Conflicts of Interest between Supervisors and their duties as Board members. David Gray proposed a compensation policy for the Board to review and discuss at the May Monthly Board meeting.

Town Hall Plant Update: Nothing to report.

A motion was made by Josh Thompson and seconded by David Gray to adjourn the meeting at 8:45pm.

Supervisor: _____

Dated: _____

Supervisor: _____

Supervisor: _____

Clerk: _____