

# Town of Duluth

Town Board Meeting October 8, 2020

Call to order: The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance. Supervisors Tim Strom, Michael Kahl, John Schifsky, Rolf Carlson and Penelope Morton were all in attendance.

Approve minutes: Penelope made a motion to approve the minutes from September 10, 2020, Michael seconded. The Motion passed unanimously.

Approve agenda: Tim Strom added Mats/carpets/generator and security system under the Town Hall. By unanimous consent the agenda with those additions was approved.

Finances: The Treasurer reported a beginning balance of \$594,502.73, deposits of \$51,726.22 and expenses of \$22,415.44 for an ending balance of \$623,813.51. Claims were reviewed, the Payroll net pay account distribution was signed, checks were signed and bills were paid.

Public Comment: There were no public comments at this meeting.

## Department Reports:

Police: The police department report was e-mailed

Fire: There were no concerns from the fire department

## Planning and Zoning:

- Stormwater
- Directors Report
  - Homestead Road Driveway: A new driveway was recently put in on the Homestead Road with permission from St. Louis County. The new driveway is within approximately 100 feet of Homestead Drive. Our zoning ordinance says new driveways in the town are to be approximately 300 feet apart. The property owner contacted the County Engineer who said it was a done deal it is up to the County to decide where to put driveways on County roads. The St. Louis County attorney recognizes we have zoning authority in our Town however the County has authority over County Roads. To help mitigate some of the confusion the County is going to add some language to their site entry permits saying there might be other governmental units to check with before building, we will do the same. The County's attorney contacted the Town's attorney, under the County's definition Homestead Drive will be considered a road. There is a lot of grey area in this situation, are we going to pursue making the owner move the driveway? Probably not but we should let the owner know how the town feels about the driveway. Penelope made a motion that we are not going to force Kyle to move the driveway however we strongly recommend that he has some quality conversations with his neighbors before going forward with construction, Michael seconded. Tim abstained from voting on this motion. 4 yes 1 abstained. Motion passed.
  - The town has received a grant to review and revise the zoning ordinance beginning in January
  - Grumdahl/McQuade project update: The issue has been resolved the project will be able to go forward.
  - Penelope wrote thank you notes to each of the Steering Committee members for their hard work on the Comp Plan update.
  - Nokomis Hearing: The Planning Commission decided its definition should be "Mixed Use Residential" however the project will not be moving forward.

- o At the next meeting there will be a Variance and a Conditional Use Hearing for a single family dwelling and a short term rental.
- o At the last Planning Commission meeting the Commission had an interesting discussion: If a person would like to have their parents come live with them what could this person build from which they could recoup the cost after the parents no longer need the space. Could they rent it out in the future?

Legal: Nothing to report.

Roads:

- Use of Private drives for the County Plow. What kind of agreement do we need to put together for the County? Corlis created an agreement based on the County's agreement. We have a file with signed agreements allowing the County to turn around in private driveways.
- Progress is being made on the County's maintenance list, Velkommen and Englund Roads are done. Wrights tree service will finish up their portion soon.
- Nathan Nesgoda has agreed to cover the cost of 150 yards of pit run and 200 yards of class 5 to finish the turnaround at the end of the Torgeson Road.
- Mace Road: County Commissioner Muslof met with the Berggrens. The County is washing their hands of the situation it is now up to the Township. If the turnaround does not meet the 30 x 70 standard now needed to accommodate the larger trucks the road will not be snowplowed. Does the town have eminent domain? Yes.
- Olson Road driveway has been approved. Continue to hold the Security deposit.

Town Hall

- Printer: Tim made a motion to authorize the clerk to collect such information as she sees fit to purchase a printer not to exceed \$1000, Penelope seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
- Election resolution 1008220 Cares: The St. Louis County Board has authorized \$1080 to pay for items purchased specifically for elections through the CARES act. Resolution passed unanimously.
- Election resolution 10082020b polling place: Rolf made the resolution to approve the polling place resolution for 2021, Penelope seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
- Credit Card: John made a motion to put \$5000 on each of 2 cards, Tim seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
- Hall Mats have been ordered.
- Security system on doors is complete, 4 doors with new systems.
- Benson electric completed the Generator conversion to include the Fire Hall and all sensitive items in the Town Hall.

Emergency Operations: Nothing to report Covid continues.

Materials Management: Nothing to report.

Cemetery: Nothing to report.

Communications:

- John finished scanning the landmarks they will go up on the web site.
- There is some updating that needs to be done on the web site.

Personnel

- Deputy Clerk: The board will come up with a simple ad to put in the newsletter.

#### Old Business

- There were a lot of complaints about spraying under the power lines by the company hired by Co-op Light and Power. A letter was hand delivered to the Town Board which said the spray would happen but only on areas cleared last year. The next day spray was done on the Homestead Road which had been cleared this year, residents were not notified.

New Business: No new business at this meeting.

#### Correspondence

- WLSSD District wide allocation for 2021
- TC Energy

#### Calendar Events and Meeting Schedule

- Presidential Election November 3, 2020 7:00 AM – 8:00 PM
- Town Board Meeting November 12, 2020

Adjournment: Michael made a motion to adjourn, Penelope seconded. Motion passed at 8:55