

# Town of Duluth

Town Board Meeting August 12, 2021

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

Approve minutes: Penelope made a motion to approve the July 8, 2021, minutes, John seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Approve agenda:

- Tim: American Rescue Act
- John: Notice about broadband funding, they want matching funds, place under communications.
- With those additions the agenda was approved.

Finances: The treasurer reported a beginning balance of \$422,008.80, deposits of \$204,168.95 and expenses of \$31,767.21 for an ending balance of \$594,410.54. The claims were reviewed, a discussion about the high cost of the Fire Departments pump testing and maintenance. A discussion about beginning and ending balances. The claims were approved for payment, the payroll net account distribution and claims list for approval were signed.

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

Department Reports

Police: Report e-mailed

Fire: PERA 2022 contribution requirements: was reviewed and discussed.

Planning and Zoning:

- Stormwater: it has been suggested we hire Val Brady to manage our stormwater.
- Director's Report:
  - Sue presented a proposed process for adopting the updated zoning ordinance and map.
  - There was a short-term rental public hearing at the last meeting which resulted in a tie vote. The public hearing will be continued in August.
  - The zoning draft has been reviewed one more time and is now ready for public review. An open house will be held October 19, comments will be accepted in the Clerks Office until November 5, a public hearing will be held December 2. The Planning Commission will review the comments December 16 and a report to the Town Board will follow.
  - A special date in January will be set to discuss just the ordinance – table until October.
  - A request that the Town Board send a thank you letter to the Coastal Council for allowing Clint Little to offer technical assistance during our zoning review process.
  - Upcoming in October – “Glamping” has become “Isolated camping site” and is a Conditional Use Permit.
  - A request for reimbursement has been submitted for the grant.

Legal: Bille appellants brief has been received from our attorney.

Roads:

- Chloride has been placed on the roads
- Nordling Road: We have a location for our ditching materials.
- Wildwood Road: the culvert is still our top priority.
- We will be removing the Mace, Englund and Swanson roads from the County plow list, the roads will be plowed with a contractual agreement this year.

## Town Hall

- \$1500 was authorized to install a new faucet in the lady's room at the Town Hall. Thank you to Roger it was purchased and installed for approximately \$130.00.
- Public Posting kiosk: Tim authorized the Clerk's office to work with Roger and spend up to \$500.00 to install a public posting place, Michael seconded. Penelope made a friendly amendment to increase the amount to \$550.00, Michael seconded the amendment. Both the amendment and the motion passed unanimously.
- American Rescue Act (ARA): Minnesota Association of Townships is strongly encouraging townships to apply for ARA funding. Tim made a motion to authorize Strom, Carlson and the Clerks to apply for the American Rescue Act, Penelope seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
- Mask mandate: Discussion. At this time, the Board is not imposing any COVID mandates such as masks, and will allow departments, users, and renters to establish appropriate rules or procedures, if any, as they may see fit.
- Library Coordinator: Thank you to Jana Pastika for her years as the Community Center Volunteer Librarian. Jana has done a wonderful job keeping the books and space well organized. A request for a new Volunteer Librarian will be in the next newsletter.

Materials Management: We are again having issues with garbage being left and dumped in the recycling bins. Metal roofing is not recyclable at the Town Hall, those types of items should be taken to the Rice Lake reclamation center.

Cemetery: Nothing to report

## Communications

- Newsletter Item: The Clerk's Office received a letter regarding pallets being burnt on the lake shore leaving nails, hinges and garbage behind. The letter is like the article placed in the last newsletter; a slightly edited version of the letter will be included in the next newsletter. Things have calmed down at Bluebird landing with the new signage.
- Broadband: This is a matching grant. Duluth Township is not 100% covered there are still spaces within the township who have no internet.

Personnel: Nothing to report

Old Business: John wrote a letter to the Health Department regarding 6005 Ryan Road but has not yet heard anything.

## New Business

- General Township Insurance: passed to Penelope for review.
- Congdon Trust: John and Tim have met with Cheryl Skafte.
- The Homesteaders applied for and received a Co-op Light and Power grant for new chairs and coffee servers. The Homesteaders plan on applying for another grant to install a dishwasher in the kitchen.

## Correspondence

- WLSSD 2022 budget meeting schedule
- Gnesen Newsletter
- MAT District 10 meeting notice
- WLSSD Field Green Program

## Calendar Events and Meeting Schedule

- Town Board meeting September 9, 2021

Adjournment: Michael made the motion to adjourn, Penelope seconded. Motion passed unanimously at 8:40 p.m.