

# Town of Duluth

Town Board Meeting July 8, 2021

Call to order: The meeting was called to order at 6:33 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance. Supervisors Penelope Morton, Rolf Carlson, Tim Strom and John Schifsky were present, Michael Kahl was absent for this meeting.

Approve minutes: Penny made a motion to approve the minutes, Tim seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Approve agenda: The agenda was agreed upon with the following additions

- Justin and Blane from the Farmers Market move to the agenda under public comment.
- NSMB meeting
- Old Business – 2022 budget
- New Business – American Rescue Plan

## Finances

The Treasurer reported a beginning balance of \$441, 616.35, deposits of \$16,605.86 and expenses of \$36,213.41 for an ending balance of \$422,008.80. Claims were reviewed and the payroll net pay account distribution documents were signed. All bills were approved for payment.

## Public Comment

- Tom and Katie Kaylor: 6005 Ryan Road is a problem. John Schifsky sent a letter to St. Louis County regarding the property and received a very mild proforma response in return asking if this issue continues to remain a concern for further assistance from Public Health. John is willing to send another letter or contact the County Health Department and ask for a review of the property. The question was asked about the number of people living in either campers or tents on the property and if the short-term rental limits could be imposed. Planning Director Sue Lawson said there is no way to prove short term rental use, you would have to have evidence and as of now the property owner isn't advertising short term rental. It was recommended by the rest of the board for John to include a recommendation to St. Louis County Health that if they did review the property to bring law enforcement along for safety.
- Farmers Market: Justin said the first 4 weeks of sales have done well. Sales have been slower than they would like but once gardens really start producing more interesting stuff will happen. Tim has some concerns; 1. vehicles parked along the side of the road instead of putting cones along the side of the road. Some of the visibility issues were resolved by putting cones at the top and the bottom of the lot. 2. Next year we should hold the Market on a non-recycling night. The original suggestion was to use recycling as a feeder for the market however having both at the same time adds more congestion. 3. If we had a fire run during the market normally, we would bring the fire trucks back through the South entrance so we can back into the garage with minimal time stopped on Homestead Road. Chief Bob Engelson said we would just have to block Homestead Road a bit longer and back into the garage. At some point Justin would like to come back to the Town Board and ask about a winter market.

## Department Reports

### Police

- New Vehicle resolution 070821: Rolf read the resolution in its entirety; following a discussion about the lease to own purchase Penelope made a motion to approve the resolution, Tim seconded. The Motion passed unanimously, and the resolution was signed.
- It has been a busy summer so far.
- Bluebird landing has nice big boulders, and the new signage is a very nice improvement.
- Stoney Point: Complaints about issues on Stoney Point continue to come to the Town. Half the No Parking signs are so faded they are unreadable and are being ignored. Shawn contacted the County

Road engineer who said it would be a while before the signs are replaced as the County only has 2 – 2-man crews who do nothing but replace signs.

- Just an FYI the County has changed the stop signs on the lower McQuade Road.

Fire:

- Water Damage repair at hall #1: All that to complete is some plumbing and trim.
- Truck Maintenance: we have a major equipment repair that needs to be done next year, the packing is leaking on engine #1 the pump needs to be disassembled and repacked. We have the funds for repairs built into our budget.

Planning and Zoning

- Storm Water: report has been submitted.
- Director's Report:
  - A variance was approved on Greenwood Road.
  - A short term rental on North Shore Drive was approved.
  - This month will be a public hearing for a short term rental on the Ryan Road.
  - Land Use Permits have slowed down however property splits have not.
  - The last meeting for updating the zoning ordinance was in June. Beth and Sue are working on getting the update into draft form for the Planning Commissions review at their July meeting.
  - An addition to the 2022 Planning Budget would be a GPS device to locate where properties are supposed to be. Approximate cost \$500.

Legal: Nothing to report

Roads: Nothing to report

Town Hall:

- Faucet in the women's washroom: Tim would like to make a motion that the Clerk and Deputy clerk are authorized to spend up to \$1500 to replace the faucet in the women's bathroom, Penny seconded. Motion passed.
- Public posting board, somewhere the community can post jobs wanted, rummage sales etc.

Materials Management: Grant is in.

Cemetery: repairs to a few headstones have been done. The Memorial Day service went well.

Communications: great job on the newsletter.

Personnel: Nothing to report

Old Business:

- The Annual Meeting is coming up August 10<sup>th</sup>, the proposed budget is fine no changes.
- Fire signs: we need to continue to work on getting the fire signs put up. It was suggested to hire someone to drop signs off at people's doors.

New Business:

- North Shore Management: The TAC committee talked about places along the shore where people are buying up property and creating short term rentals. This should be maintained by individual jurisdictions.
- Flood plains: French River, Sucker River and the Knife Rivers. You cannot get flood plain insurance unless you have a flood plain ordinance. The DNR is willing to help.
- American Rescue Plan: discussion.
- ABC has asked to revisit the joint use with the school.

Correspondence:

Calendar Events and Meeting Schedule

- Annual Town Meeting 6:30 p.m. August 10, 2021
- Town Board meeting August 12, 2021

Adjournment: Penny made the motion, Tim seconded. Motion passed unanimously at 8:35 p.m.