

Town of Duluth

Town Board Meeting August 11, 2022

Attendance: The regular meeting was called to order with the Pledge of Allegiance at 6:31 p.m. Supervisors Tim Strom, Chair Rolf Carlson, and Penelope Morton were present. Supervisors Jim Ward and Stacia Grayson were absent. Treasurer Melinda Peulen and Deputy Clerk Hannah Jurek were also absent. Clerk Nicole Chatterson was present.

Approve Minutes: There was a typo and was corrected. With the correction Tim moved to approve the minutes. Penelope seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Approve Agenda: A request to discuss Fire Department after public comment and a request to discuss green burials after fire department. With those changes the agenda was approved.

Finances: The Treasurer reported a beginning balance of \$637,908.05, with Deposits \$357,330.94 with expenses \$27,138.56 and ending balance \$968,100.43. The remaining ARPA funds along with the Tax Apportionment distribution have been received. The claims were reviewed for payment. The payroll net pay account distributions and the claims list for approval were approved and signed.

Public Comment: Shane Stolp from North Shore Community Rink was present and provided an update to the Board regarding the work that they have done at the skating rink. He informed the Board they have received \$31,000.00 in grants from three different sources which has allowed them to start working on the hockey board replacement project along with some facility updates. He noted that they have applied for more grants in hope to get closer to their goal of \$80,000-\$120,000 to replace the old hockey boards and replace the fencing at the rink. He requested that the Board set aside the remaining balance due for the hockey boards. The Board suggested that they bring the suggestion to the next Annual Meeting as a proposal for use of some of the ARPA funds. The Board asked Shane to attend the September regular meeting so that the absent Supervisors would be present for further discussion.

Lila White shared a copy of a letter she received from St. Louis County regarding the possibility of the County purchasing some land from homeowners to allow the County to fix the Scenic Route in the upcoming years. It is still in the planning stages.

Green Burials: Judith Torrance provided the Board with information as to what a green burial consists of. Judith has had conversations with Molly about possibly setting aside a space in the cemetery for green burials. She explained that green burials do not use a vault and the body is placed around four feet deep so the naturally occurring organisms can decompose the body. Rolf, Molly and Judith with discuss this further.

Department Reports

Fire: The Fire Department is at 83 calls for the year. There are upcoming Firewise events, a program with St. Louis County and MNDNR. The first event is September 17, 2022, 1:00-3:00 p.m. There will be presenters at the event that will present information and demonstrations. This will be hosted at North Shore Community School. The second event is the annual Chipper Days, October 5-9, 2022. There was a grant was received from the DNR for the Chipper Days event. The sites will be the same as previous years, one at Fire Hall #1 and at the Alden Fire Department. There are 305 fire number signs remaining and are working to help residents install as requested. When the Fire Department did the initial survey for fire numbers, it was discussed that the survey should be completed every five years. With that said, each year the Fire Department delivers the new calendars to the residents, at that time they will complete the survey. The Fire Department has applied for a Firewise grant to clear the damaged trees, caused by bud worms, at the Town Hall, Fire Hall #1 and Alden Fire Hall, with a possibility of clearing the damaged trees at the School. Generator at Hall 1 is not working properly. They are researching what maintenance contract they want, 1 year or 3-year contract. The Board informed the Fire Department that the Town Hall has a three-year contract.

Police: Shawn sent an email regarding his retirement to the Board thanking the Township for the privilege of serving this community.

Chief Haselow Master Joint Powers Agreement JPA and Court Services:

Resolution 08112022: Penelope moves that we approve Resolution 08112022. Tim Seconded. The motion passed unanimously

Motion: Tim moved that Carlson, Chatterson, and Chief Haselow are authorized to sign any other paperwork. Penelope seconded the motion pass unanimously.

Planning and Zoning: Mr. Zurcher, there has been a little bit of progress. Sue spoke with Mr. Whitty, he said let's see if the DNR can do this work, if DNR won't take the "work" that we send a strongly worded letter from the attorney. There was a question raised regarding short term rental, when a resident asks to renew the short-term rental, what ordinance does it fall under? New or old ordinance. This will be a question for the Towns attorney.

Legal: Nothing to report.

Roads: The County sent out the contract for winter plowing, Jim completed it. Tim had a discussion with Jim, and recommend that we start thinking about who we will contract for the 2022-2023 season. Keith does a good job however his full-time job prevents him from arriving as early we would like. They spoke with Phil Carlson on who plows the school, he stated that Curt Rogers provides the snow removal for the school. Jim or Tim will reach out to Curt Rogers and see if he would be willing to take the Township on for snow removal needs.

Town Hall: Jaws Computer provided a camera Quote for one more camera and installation. Tim moves that we authorize the purchase and installation, of an additional camera. Penelope seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Generator Quote: There was a quote provided for an installation for Wi-Fi addition to alert a township member in case of generator failure. This will be deferred until September.

MATIT-New Insurance Exclusion: Tim spoke with the insurance company; the exclusion would not apply to the school. It falls into the Townships. Tim's email will be placed into the insurance folder.

ARPA- American Rescue Plan Act: Tim changed the language of the flyer and decided that we would send it out in the newsletter, an email blast, and post on the Towns website and social media.

Materials Management: Nothing to report.

Cemetery: Some of the monuments are being reset and there was movement of a stockpile to another area of the cemetery.

Communications: Hannah and Penelope will be working on updating the website with up-to-date information. We will also work at sending the flyer out to the residents regarding ARPA funds.

Personnel: Tim thanked Nicole and Hannah on an election well done.

Old Business: No old business.

New Business: No new business.

Correspondence:

- Gnesen Township Newsletter
- WLSSD
- Canosia Township Newsletter
- MAT-District 10 Meeting Notice Penelope will most likely attend via zoom.
- Pipeline Safety Resources

Calendar Events and Meeting Schedule:

- August 13, 2022 1-4:00 p.m. Come on Home Party
- August 25, 2022 6:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. MAT-District 10 meeting
- September 8, 2022 6:30 p.m. Town Board Meeting

Adjournment: Penelope moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:02 p.m. Tim seconded. The motion passed unanimously.