

Town Board Meeting
March 12, 2009

Roll Call: Present – Dan Tanner, Jeff Cook, Dave Mount, Stephen Dahl, Wendy Meierhoff
Pledge of Allegiance

1. Approve Minutes

- Jeff made a motion to approve the February 12, 2009 minutes, Dan seconded, Motion passed

2. Concerns from the audience

North Shore Community School skating rink: A group of concerned parents spoke on the possibility of skating rink closure.

Wendy Meierhoff: The rest of the town board is unaware of the issue as it happened since the last town board meeting. There have been some concerns regarding the safe use of the skating rink: Unsupervised children, lights being broken, entering the electrical panel, no helmets on the skating rink, garbage, shovels and brooms left lying out, children not following skating policy. We cannot take liability from our insurance for the safety issues and unsupervised children.

Parents: There has been quite a bit of interest from the community, we are creating an association with 5 or 6 group leaders, 12 to 14 members in each group on rotating weeks. We are here to request direction.

Stephen Dahl: This is new to us also; it is nice you are beginning to get a procedure in place to deal with this issue. I would suggest a joint operating committee. We have a mish mash of funds which need to be coordinated.

Wendy and Stephen will schedule a meeting, hopefully by next fall everything will be in place for a great self sustaining skating season.

3. Approve Agenda

- Dave Mount: Cake for Jeff Cook
- Planning and Zoning: Proposals for Landscape - DaveMount
- New Business: Annual Meeting – Dave Mount
- Dan Tanner made a motion to approve the agenda as amended, Wendy Meierhoff seconded. Motion passed.

4. Treasurers Report

Beginning balance	\$791,656.74
Deposits	\$204,399.25
Expenses	\$127,567.21
Ending Balance	\$870,948.01

- Forstner Fire Apparatus Bill: release to pay
- Grant funds from FEMA have arrived to pay for the truck, they were deposited on March 6.
- Review Claims
- The township monthly bills are approximately \$50,000.00 per month.
- Hold Duluth/Superior Communication check 9322 until Keith approves.

5. Tabled Agenda items from previous month

- There were no tabled items.

6. Department Reports

a. Police

- We have been working with the community school on a crisis intervention plan.

b. Fire

- As required by FEMA upon receipt of the grant, we now need to remove the old milk truck from service as a fire tanker. The town board recommended posting the tanker on our web site, and soliciting for bids. We will open bids May 14, 2009 at 8:00 p.m.

c. Planning and Zoning

- WWW.recovery.gov. is the address to follow stimulus funds. There are a lot of rural funds available right now along with funding for education and charter schools.
- We received from CCL a formal master site plan for the Community Center along with a CD of the same.
- An E-mail was received from Dan Schute who would like to begin work on the outhouse and setting grades. Dan is also looking at the space for the picnic shelter. Have we done anything further on grants?
- We received a \$23,000 matching grant from the Musser fund. We need to seek money from the stimulus package to match the fund; however matching can also be done with in kind dollars. This needs to be on the agenda for the summer.
- Next Planning Commission meeting; we have one public hearing on a home based business. The Mohs variance was granted. We held an open house on short term rentals, 10 or 11 people attended. At the March commission meeting, comments from the short term rental open house will be brought forward; hopefully updates on the zoning ordinance will also be brought forth. The fee schedule needs to be updated and we need to clear up the 60 day rule.
- Shawn Padden and Bob Engelson have sent power point information for the Annual Meeting.
- Two letters have been received for the one open planning commission position. Dave Miller will be retiring after 6 years. Interviews will be held 6:00 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. March 24th. Alternate date will be the 23rd.
- The last BoA amended the language re: 7 day rental. They did not consider any other issues.

d. Legal

- Worden lawsuit: The Wordens' attorney has filed for a summary judgment which means the facts are on the table, we wish the judge to decide the outcome.
- We need a new Citizen at Large, Town Board representative and Planning Commission representative for the BoA.
- Scheduling a telephone conference for the Bieraugels.
- Legal was done by e-mail.
- Meyer Cartway hearing at 7:00 p.m. April 22nd will be a status meeting.

e. Road and Bridge

- Nothing
- Annual Meeting: The Road budget is set for \$103,000.00 however we could drop that amount by only spreading calcium chloride at the intersections. We could also eliminate a second grading of the roads in the fall.
- Annual Stormwater Plan Review 6:30 p.m. April 9, 2009.

f. Community Center

- Community School Director Susan Rose received a letter from the American Red Cross wondering if the Community Center could be a major hub in the event of a large scale disaster. It is possible there might be homeland security funding to purchase the switch needed to allow the sprinkler generator to service the entire school in the event of a disaster. We could ask the Red Cross to assist us in finding funding for the switch.

- Lawnmowing: Tabled until April.
 - Roof bids will be open 6:00 p.m. March 26. The bid will be awarded at the April Town Board meeting.
 - Johnson Control contract is up in June; we are required to give them 90 day notice if we wish to renegotiate their contract. Wendy is asking for board approval to write a letter requesting an opening of their contract.
- g. Town Hall
- Computer: The hard drive went on the main township computer. Dave Mount made a motion that the town board authorize Wendy Meierhoff to purchase a replacement laptop and associated software for the town clerk use, she will be authorize to spend up to \$2000.00 Stephen Dahl seconded. Motion passed.
- h. Recycling
- Busy, no icing problems since the buildings have been moved.
- i. Cemetery
- Nothing.
7. Correspondence
- a. USDA Rural Development grants: *Passed to Wendy Meierhoff.*
 - b. Minnesota Department of Revenue re: Taconite Mutual Aid Payment: *Read in its entirety.*
 - c. Watershed Festival notification June 6, 2009: *Passed along to Dan Tanner*
 - d. E-mail from Peg Sweeney Re: Community center funding: *Read in its entirety and passed along to Stephen Dahl.*
 - e. Grandma's Marathon 2 letters: *Dave Mount and Stephen Dahl reviewed*
 - f. St. Louis County Assessor's department: *Wendy Meierhoff and Dan Tanner are good for this year, Stephen Dahl is good until 2012.*
 - g. Gas Tax: *table until April*
 - h. Minnesota Judicial Branch Court Administrator: Conference hearing.: *Noted*
8. Old Business
- a. No old business
9. New Business
- a. Set program of work: 6:30 p.m. April 2, 2009
 - b. Annual Meeting discussion.
10. Motion to adjourn Wendy Meierhoff made a motion to adjourn, Dan Tanner seconded. Motion passed 10:00 p.m.