

Town Board Meeting
February 9, 2012

Pledge of Allegiance

Present: Mary Ann Sironen, Dave Miller, Dave Mount, Barry Lobbestael, Barb Crow

1. Approve Minutes

- Town Board Meeting January 12, 2012
 - Mary Ann Sironen made a motion to approve the January 12, 2012 minutes, Barb Crow seconded. Motion passed

2. Meeting Schedule

- February 16: 7:00 p.m. Public Hearing on the Zoning Ordinance. This will also need to be posted as a Planning Commission meeting.
- March 1: 7:00 p.m. review Public Comment on the Draft Zoning Ordinance
- March 8: 7:00 p.m. Town Board Meeting

3. Concerns from the Audience

- John Abrahams asked to submit a letter to the Town Board. This issue has been tabled until the March Town Board meeting to allow the Supervisors and our attorney time to review Mr. Abrahams letter.

4. Approve Agenda

- Addition: Annual meeting and budget presentation added to Old Business
- Dave Miller made a motion to approve the agenda with the above addition, Barry Lobbestael seconded. Motion passed.

5. Treasurers Report

Beginning Balance	\$705,045.27
Deposits	\$ 43,017.33
Expenses	\$ 25,536.42
Ending Balance	\$721,526.18

- Review Claims for Approval
- Pay Bills: approved and signed

6. Tabled agenda items from previous month

- Recreation Cell phone expense: remove from agenda, this issue has been resolved.

7. Department Reports

a. Police Report

- Community Education Instructor Guidelines and Form: Mary Ann Sironen will talk to MAT and then Community Education to see what is required. Barb Crow would like to replace the wording "Town of Duluth" with "Duluth Township Police Department". This form is for the community education and recreation departments, it is important we create a cover letter letting people know the only people who will see this information will be the Police Department.

b. Fire Chief Report

c. Planning and Zoning

- Directors Report
 - Only 6 to 8 people showed up for the Draft Zoning open house and to date no comments have been received on the draft ordinance. One issue our attorney will have to look into is non-conforming lots in particular along Greenwood Road. The Planning Commission will need to look into how it works with the North Shore Management Board. After the Public hearing the Commission will summarize the comments and present them to the Town Board. Sue Lawson isn't sure if Beth Mullan posted a public notice for a public hearing in the News Tribune but comments can still be taken. We will open it up for public comments on March 1st before the Public Hearing. There were no particular issues mentioned at the open house other than the non-conforming lot issue. At the open house we did not take verbal comments as the request for that night was written comments. We are now silent on short term rentals, it is not a use that is listed so it will have to come before the Planning Commission to be approved or denied. At one time it was the Planning Commission's request to not allow short term rentals.

- Language in Proposed House Bill: Dave Mount gave a brief background on the issue. Section three of the bill discusses Towns and their ability to zone. This bill also takes local control away. Lake County is doing much the same for an interim use and believes it is doing well. The language used in the letter is almost stating that the bill is going to pass and we cannot do much about it. Appealing to the governor to veto it will likely be the way to go. Dave Mount wrote letters last year expressing opposition to last year version of the bill which is basically building a motel in a residential neighborhood. Dave Mount will send his letter again if the board wishes to object. Board approved Dave Mount sending letters again.
 - The next commission meeting will be an outline to begin working on the comp plan. There are practical things that aren't part of the comp plan.
- d. Legal
- e. Roads
- Stormwater
 - Road Report nothing to report.
- f. Community Center
- Facility Report: went over the facilities report and the capital improvement report.
 - Landscape proposal which has come forward from Jennifer Kampf was discussed. The proposal had two estimates a \$7000.00 or a \$9000.00 estimate. The \$9000.00 estimate was approved with a final price of \$9250.00 which will include 3 white spruce. The bill will be split in half coming from both the Township and Community School. Dave Miller made a motion to move ahead with the landscape proposal, and pay up to \$5000.00 towards the project. Mary Ann Sironen seconded. Motion passed.
 - Security: we had a long discussion last month with our Police Department in favor of the updates. This isn't a township project, if they believe the children need to be protected then the Community School needs to investigate. The township doesn't really have an obligation here.
 - Lawn Tractor. There has been discussion about trading in the 2 year old lawn tractor for a bigger model which could sweep the sidewalks, brush the ice rink in the winter and other things. The tractor would cost approximately \$11,000.00. The lawn tractor it would replace cost approximately \$2800.00 new. Action is not being taken at this meeting. We have approximately \$200,000.00 for discretionary use at the Community Center \$14,000.00 is not an inconsequential piece of that. Our spending habits at the Community Center have changed dramatically we are now spending most of what we bring in and last year all ideas were considered individually instead of as the whole. Two priorities this year are a watering system and a lawnmower. Is there a long term maintenance plan set up? If not we need to set up a special project account. Estimate for above ground sprinkler system approximately \$10,000.00, Kevin will bring sprinklers details to the next Board meeting. The Warming House/Dill fund is to help with these sorts of projects. The PTA is running the concession system in our building which will also help.
 - We need to have a discussion about the long term finances of the community center. To replace the roof means we need to set aside approximately \$18,000.00 - \$20,000.00 per year, cost for replacement is almost \$300,000.00 and the roof only has a 20 year warranty. The idea is to build up the Community Center fund so we have the money to replace items as they begin to wear.
 - Orchard Planting
 - E-mail from Dan Schute: The school is interested in developing an area already used for tree planting but they need our ok to apply for a grant. Dave Miller will be the township contact and will follow up with Dan Schute. All supervisors approved the project.
 - Community Education
 - Community Education will become a levied department; it is a valuable service to the township. The levy request for 2013 will be \$2000.00.
 - Recreation

- Community Education and Recreation departments are hosting a Family skating night at the warming house. Hot chocolate, bonfire etc.
- Wrapped items are being sold at the concession stand.
- Winter frolic is March 3rd.
- Basketball league will go until the end of April.

g. Town Hall

- Election: Absentee Ballot Board. Barb Crow made a motion to approve resolution #02092012 forming an Absentee Ballot Board, Mary Ann Sironen seconded. Motion passed.
- Credit Cards: Because of billing inconsistency with Sinclair Fleet Services sometimes the \$1500.00 limit is no longer enough. It was suggested to look into credit cards to solve the problem. Barb Crow checked out credit cards at the Lake Bank. We would have to supply all of our financial information, decide how many credit cards we might need and what total credit limit we would like to have. Each card would have the name of the person using the card on the card. Barb will also check with Sinclair to see if we could raise our limit and resolve that problem.
- Many Thanks to Don Peterson for the bookshelf he donated to our library corner.
- Bill Aho of the Homesteaders is on a mission to get a new refrigerator for the kitchen. The Supervisors approve of Mr. Aho's mission.

h. Materials Management

- Recycling
 - Concern: the aluminum can bin has been broken into again, locks are getting broken and someone is stealing the cans.
- D/NSSD: The sewer district is very expensive. The audit is done there is concern that there isn't enough separation of responsibility. Cost of audit is approximately \$4000.00.

i. Cemetery

j. Communication

- Township day is coming up.
- Short courses coming up.
- DAT meetings are actually pretty good this time.
- Newsletter deadline coming up on the 23rd. We now have 97 businesses listed. There will be another continuing community education insert and a NSCS insert also to be added. Dave Mount will put together budget highlights.

k. Personnel

- Barb Crow and Mary Ann Sironen are still working on a final draft. Mary Ann contacted MAT and asked about hourly compensation. Answer is Supervisors can be paid in whatever manner is approved by the entire board.

8. Correspondence

- i) Land Stewardship Letter and Card: Dave Miller will review.
- ii) Office of the State Auditor: D/NSSD Audit
- iii) St. Louis County 2012 Aggregate Crushing: Dave Miller

9. Old Business

- Dave Mount will put together a power point summary.
- Outside Audit, one thing Dave thought about this is something we have done in the past it is something we can do. In the past it hasn't done anything to bring up our good practices. Technically at the annual meeting the electorate is only allowed to approve the final levy however we have a history of allowing the electorate in our township to be involved in the budget line items.

10. New Business

11. Motion to adjourn: Barb Crow made a motion to adjourn, Dave Miller seconded. Motion passed 9:26 p.m.