

MINUTES
EAGLES NEST TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING
March 16th 2021

Meeting was held by teleconference
Chair Floyd called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Sup Richard Floyd, Sup DeAnn Schatz, Sup Kurt Soderberg, Sup Skip Carlson, Sup Frank Sherman, Fire Chief Larry McCray, Clerk Keely Drange, Treasurer Mary Beth Monte and Deputy Treasurer Gwen Potter were in attendance.

Roll call votes are taken and unless otherwise stated, all motions carried unanimously.

Agenda, Minutes and Communications List Approval

Sup Soderberg moved, seconded by Sup Schatz to approve the agenda, as amended for the March 16, 2021 Meeting. Motion carried.

Sup Carlson moved, seconded by Sup Schatz to approve the minutes as revised of the February 16, 2021 BOS meeting. Motion carried.

Communications List: Sup Schatz moved, seconded by Sup Soderberg to approve the Communications List. Motion carried.

Citizens' Concerns; none

Reports

Clerk: Nothing at this time

Treasurers Report: A monthly report was made by Treasurer Mary Beth Monte who presented and explained the following: Payroll and Claims List for Approval. Sup Carlson moved to approve the treasurer's report, seconded by Sup Soderberg. Motion carried.

Claims and payroll:

Claims and payroll were reviewed.

Claims of \$ 7,167.82 Claim # 4194-4211,4206a Checks #'s 10113-10124, 10126-10132 (Voided claim # 4206 for Dick's welding due to incorrect amount)

Payroll of \$3,847.47 Checks #: 10099,10101-10112 (Voided check due to PERA 10100, 10125)

Sup Schatz moved to approved the payroll and claims and Sup Soderberg seconded. Motion Carried.

Fire: Fire report available on file. Sup Soderberg moved and seconded by Sup Schatz to approve the purchase of turnout gear for 3 new fire fighters at the cost of \$2,600 per set at a total of \$7,800. Motion Carried.

Sup Soderberg moved and seconded by Sup Carlson to approve the modification of the DNR grant to provide as many items as are allowable up to the \$5,000 amount provided by the DNR. Motion Carried.

Building and Grounds; Sup Carlson will replace both sets of blinds on the east side of the meeting hall room. The "Little Library", from the Ely school shop class was placed under the lower hall awning. A thank you card will be sent to Karla Lundstrom for the coordination of the library.

Roads: Nothing at this time.

Land, water and website: Report available on file. Supervisor Floyd moved and Supervisor Carlson Seconded to accept Laura Butterfield as a volunteer noxious weeds inspector.

Emergency Preparedness: Nothing at this time

Old Business: Sup Sherman moved and Sup Carlson seconded the acceptance of Minnesota Association of Townships Insurance Trust (MATIT) Insurance policy resolution 03-21-06. Motion carried.

Sup Floyd moved and Sup Schatz seconded to accept the revisions to the COVID 19 directive. Motion Carried.

New Business: Residents have brought up interest in using the lower fire hall parking lot to play pickle ball. A financial contribution from the township was requested in the amount of \$450 for paint, nets and other equipment.

Sup Soderberg moved and Sup Floyd seconded the authorization of the use of the lower fire hall parking lot for pickle ball with the understanding that our business needs come first. Any set up and take down of nets or equipment would be the responsibility of the pickle ball players. Motion carried.

The board discussed the financial contribution for equipment and to allow storage of equipment in the lower fire hall. In the future the board may discuss the pickle ball equipment being stored under the awning of the lower fire hall in a box. The board decided to not financially contribute towards the purchase of paint and equipment.

The acceptance of Spruce Street Resolution discussion:

Sup Floyd gave a brief history on the Parkland and the platted streets associated with the area. If Spruce Street is accepted the township, then accepts responsibility for the building and maintenance of the road. There are three primary benefits to the township, if Spruce Street was accepted. One benefit would be egress in the event of wildfire or other emergency that blocks roads. Another benefit is the close proximity of the proposed road to the fire department and would provide a place for fire tankers to fill up with water in the event of a structure fire. The final benefits could be if the Parkland was accepted in the future, then Spruce Street would provide access to it. In addition, the road could also provide lake access to those with back lots in the plat.

The single quote that came back after solicitation of bids for the building of the road was from Jeff Schulze at \$33,026. There may additional cost associated with the acceptance of Spruce Street for surveying, permitting and legal fees.

Spruce street was chosen for acceptance over other platted roads in this area due its close proximity to the fire hall, it is a level and straight shot to the lake.

Residents and property owners of the township provided discussion regarding their thoughts on the acceptance of Spruce Street. After discussion, Sup Floyd asked for written comments for the Board to consider at the next meeting.

Sup Floyd suggested postponing the vote on the resolution for accepting Spruce Street until next month's Board of Supervisors meeting so the clerk could find documentation regarding a possible past request to vacate Spruce Street.

Sup Soderberg moved and Sup Schatz seconded a motion to table the discussion and voting on the resolution to accept Spruce Street until the April 20, 2021 Board of Supervisor meeting. Motion carried.

The Eagles Nest Lakes Association is considering tentatively holding the annual picnic later in the summer on August 28, 2021 in the hopes that COVID 19 is better controlled and people will feel more comfortable attending. Sup Floyd moved and Sup Schatz seconded that the township offer August 28, 2021 as a tentative date for the annual Lakes Association Picnic. Motion carried.

Supervisors discussed the Burandt variance request. The applicant's residence is only 45 feet from the lakeshore on the southeast side. The request is for an addition on the southwest side of the applicant's residence and falls entirely within the shoreline setback, as well partially within the shoreline impact zone. The addition, as proposed, increases the expanse of the structure as seen from the lake. The residence could be expanded on the northwest side, away from the lake with little, if any additional visibility from the lake. The township is opposed to the approval of the variance request. Sup Floyd moved and Sup Carlson seconded the approval of the resolution 03-21-07 opposing the Burandt variance request. Motion carried.

After reviewing the Minnesota Association of Township's (MAT) website, Sup Sherman determined that MAT recommended that townships adopt a Discrimination and Harassment Policy. Sup Sherman was able to provide a resolution template recommended by MAT and sent this resolution to supervisors for review. To allow the supervisors to fully read and understand the policy, discussion and voting has been postponed until the April 20, 2021 Board of Supervisors meeting.

Supervisor Concerns: Sup Carlson discussed the new ambulance from Tower. He expressed that it was in excellent shape and should last the township for many years to come. He wanted to thank the Chief for his decision to acquire the ambulance.

Sup Schatz asked when the board would consider opening the hall to the public again. Sup Floyd expressed that there are too many variables to make a decision on opening the hall at this time. He made a guess that perhaps by the end of the summer the hall could be opened up but the board would need to evaluate that at a later date.

Sup Schatz asked where the bike trail route will be located. Sup Soderberg explained that the trail will run from its current end point, at Trygg Road, and would run on the west side of the Bear Head State Park Road and would cross the road at the town hall and run up the hill where our current hall sign is and connect to the trail on the southside of the town hall.

Adjournment:

Sup Schatz moved, seconded by Sup Soderberg to adjourn. Motion carried.
The meeting adjourned at 9.08PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Keely Drange, Clerk