

Minutes
EAGLES NEST TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING
July 19, 2023

Chair Floyd called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.
The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Sup Richard Floyd, Sup Kurt Soderberg, Sup Frank Sherman Sup David Chiabotti, Sup Jackie Monahan-Junek, Treasurer Mary Beth Monte and Deputy Clerk/Treasurer Gwen Potter were in attendance.

Unless otherwise stated, all motions carried unanimously.

Agenda

Sup Soderberg moved and seconded by Sup Chiabotti to approve the agenda, as amended, for July 19, 2023. Motion carried.

Minutes

Sup Soderberg moved and seconded by Sup Chiabotti to approve the minutes from the June 23, 2023 Board of Supervisors meeting, with corrections. Motion carried.

Communications List Approval

Sup Soderberg moved and seconded by Sup Floyd to approve the communications list. Motion carried.

Recommendation by Sup Sherman to unsubscribe to the Department of Health Administrative Uniformity Committee Updates. Sup Floyd agreed.

Citizens' concerns

Andy Urban asked if there were plans for guard rails by the drop off with the culvert underpass on Dorem Road. Sup Floyd will check to see if they are required.

Reports

Clerk:

No report from Deputy Clerk Gwen Potter.

Discussion on upcoming bike tours. Commitment has already been made to the Mesabi Bike Tour for August 5th. Tents may be set up below by the lower hall. All future requests for use of the Town Hall by bike tours will be denied. Tents will be allowed down by the lower level.

Sup Chiabotti moved and seconded by Sup Sherman to approve the Clerks Report. Motion Carried

Treasurers Report:

Treasurer Monte reported claims in the amount of \$12,104.98 claim numbers 4668-4682 and check

numbers 11018-11020, 11022-11029 and 11031.

Payroll in the amount of \$4,551.65 and check numbers 10997-11017.

The total amount for payroll and claims is \$16,656.63

Voided Checks 11021, 11030, 11032.

Sup Soderberg moved, seconded by Sup Chiabotti to approve the payroll and claims. Motion carried.

Sup Floyd moved, seconded by Sup Soderberg to approve the Treasurer's report. Motion carried.

Building and Grounds:

Potable water sign was put up on water spigot outside.

Sup Chiabotti and his son put up the basketball backboard and rim. It is un-useable yet due to the dead trees and branches around the parking lot that need to be trimmed up.

Sup Chiabotti met with Austin Van Scoy to look at the tree and branch removal project. He put a bid in of \$2500.00.

Sup Chiabotti moved, seconded by Sup Soderberg that we accept the bid of \$2500.00, from Dutchmen Tree Service. Motion Carried.

Sup Chiabotti will place a steel ladder he found in the woods near the road by the entrance to the Town Hall with a FREE sign on it.

Fire:

Report on file.

Open House is scheduled for August 19th. Event also includes a bake sale to raise money for the Fire Department Auxiliary. Event will include kid's activities.

Brush Pick-up: ENCEPT has submitted their request for grant money for brush pick-up. Unfortunately, grant money would not become effective until January 2024. So therefore, there would be no money in the budget for brush pick-up for this year.

Sup Soderberg moved, seconded by Sup Chiabotti to authorize a brush pick-up program for Walsh Road and Swanson Shores Road as originally contemplated in a prior meeting with an anticipated cost of \$4500.00 for this year.

It is the intent of the board that this would continue in future years as long as citizens are participating.

Roads:.

Sup Floyd reported that most of the dust abatement took place on Monday, July 17th. They have not completely finished Lake Four Road. They will come back up and complete this section.

Dorem Road: Still needs brush removal, erosion control blanket put down and some seeding.

FEMA reimbursement was less than anticipated, but still a large portion of our damages.

Sup Soderberg noted the additional hours of work that Sup Floyd has taken on for the FEMA grant as well as the entire Dorem Road Project. Bottom line is the Township will receive a nice amount of money in return for Sup Floyds efforts, Thank you, Sup Floyd.

Minnesota Boulevard is missing a sign. St. Louis County has been notified.

Regarding chevrons on Flesvig's corner, not sure when this will happen. Sup Floyd will keep checking on this.

Flat tires on Mud Creek and Trygg roads due to the aggregate that the County put down has been fixed.

Snowplowing: Our current contractor will not be doing the snowplowing this year. Sup Floyd has checked with Aaron Nickolson with Robinson Lake Trucking. He may be interested. We do not know what his fee will be yet.

Land Website and Broadband:

Sup Soderberg reported St. Louis County has moved the 40 MPH speed limit sign coming off of the ATV cutoff trail to the park road. ATV riders coming off of the trail can now see this sign.

The campsite on Sunshine Lane is DNR responsibility not the Forest Service. If there are concerns or problems call 911 and ask for the Conservation Officer.

Website: If the zoom notification and invitation is for the township website is not up, look on Facebook.

Frontier Broadband has not been very responsive.

Have had a couple requests to do something on the Parkland Encroachment agreements and License agreements for things that are on our property. Sup Soderberg will work on getting the committee together again. In the settlement agreement we agreed not to do anything until August 1, 2023. The attorney that represented the Township agreed that we are under no obligation to do things quickly.

Emergency Preparedness/Water:

Sup Sherman would like to re-iterate August 12th will be this year's evacuation exercise. It will be scaled back and focus on Road Ambassadors and Communications. This may involve door to door contact with people on their roads.

August 19th will be the Fire Department Auxiliary Open House. Everyone is encouraged to come and support the Auxiliary.

No Report on Water

Legislative Liaison:

No Report

Old Business:

Review of Supervisor Duties:

Sup Soderberg moved, seconded by Sup Floyd approval of all of the Supervisor Duties as written with a couple minor changes. Change Legislative Liaison to Outreach & Networking. Motion Carried.

Outreach & Networking stated "draft and send...". Sup Floyd reminded Sup Monahan-Junek that he signs all correspondence.

Chiabotti Conflict of Interest Resolution:

Sup Sherman moved, seconded by Soderberg that we adopt the Resolution Authorizing Contract with

Interested Officer Under Minn..Stat. 471.88, subd. 5. Motion carried with Sup Chiabotti abstaining.

Sup Chiabotti will provide maintenance and groundskeeper duties at the Eagles Nest Town Hall as an employee of the Township.

New Business:

Deer Feeding:

Sup Sherman referred to two articles that have come out in the last month. One article spoke of the increasing likelihood of chronic wasting disease being transmitted to humans from deer. The other article mentioned Corona Virus spreading widely in deer and possibly back to people. Both articles mentioned that these problems are made worse by deer congregating in large groups, such as large-scale feeding.

Sup Sherman encourages people of the Township to not feed deer.

Short Term Rental (STR) Moratorium Violation Enforcement:

Eagles Nest Township has a one-year moratorium in place for any new STR's. This went into effect October 18, 2022.

St. Louis County does not respect our moratorium. They will continue to process and approve STR applications. If the Township wants to enforce this moratorium we must do so on our own.

Mr. & Mrs. Thull of 1164 Jesse Boulevard are in violation of the Townships' Moratorium.

Sup Soderberg moved, seconded by Sherman that we authorize our attorney Couri & Roupe to send a letter to Mr. & Mrs. Thull (Eagles Nest Lodge LLC) as presented tonight. Motion carried.

Fire Signage:

The Urban's will continue to update the Smokey the Bear Sign. We will need to find someone to put up the Fire Ban signs when needed.

Sup Sherman will find a location for the Firewise Sign.

Sup Monahan-Junek will research signs and pricing.

Supervisor Concerns:

None

Adjournment:

Sup Floyd moved, seconded by Sherman to adjourn. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 7:12 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Gwen Potter, Deputy Clerk