

Minutes
EAGLES NEST TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING
December 20, 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 Jackie Monahan-Junek, Sup Dave Chiabotti Clerk Keely Drange, Treasurer Mary Beth Monte and Deputy Clerk/Treasurer Gwen Potter were in attendance. Sup Sherman was absent.

Unless otherwise stated motions carried unanimously.

Agenda

Sup Soderberg moved and seconded by Sup Chiabotti to approve the agenda for the December 20, 2023. Motion carried.

Minutes

Sup Floyd moved and seconded by Sup Soderberg to approve the minutes from the November 15, 2023 Board of Supervisors meeting. Motion carried.

Communications List Approval

Sup Chiabotti moved and seconded by Sup Monahan-Junek to approve the communications list. Motion carried.

Citizens' concerns

None.

Reports

Clerk:

Clerk Drange attended the mandatory presidential primary (PNP) election training on December 6th.

Some highlights that came out of the training, were the township will be turning in the assistive Automark machine to the county. The Township may be able to put in for reimbursement for costs associated with the PNP elections including wages and mileage. The Clerk will put in for reimbursement to the township for training wages.

The Clerk and the Board will revisit posting BOS packet material on the website at a later date.

Treasurers Report:

Treasurer Monte reported claims in the amount of \$18,612.79 claim numbers 4760, 4761-4763, 4765-4785 and check numbers 11216-11235.

Payroll in the amount of \$4,075.74 and check numbers 111196-111215.

The total amount for payroll and claims is \$22,688.53.

EFT: 11195 (claim 4764). 11236, 11237, 11238, 11239

Voided Check # 11194 November Withholding: \$1,499.93

Sup Soderberg moved, seconded by Sup Monahan-Junek to approve payroll and claims. Motion carried.

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

Building and Grounds:

Sup Chiabotti met with contractor Josh Ojala. He thought it may be \$6,000 to \$ 7,000 to have the air conditioning installed into the existing HVAC System.

Lighting in the fire hall is old and has been there since the building was built. Sup Chiabotti will have H7S Electric assess converting to LED lights. They will also look into the possible repair of the handicap door assist system.

Lower hall has gas and electric heaters. Gas is primary and electric is a backup. The larger electric heater is not working. This will be looked at with other items. He will ask the contractor about relocating the heat source from the ceiling to the floor.

Sup Chiabotti will report next month on the quotes for new utility replacements and lights. He will also look into getting rebates for using energy saving lighting.

There are rodent issues in the hall. Sup Chiabotti has set out glue traps and hopefully this will address the rodent issue.

There was a large jump unknown jump in power usage in the from lower hall in October but has since been back down. Sup Chiabotti will monitor the online usage more closely to see if the problem comes up again.

Fire:

Sup Monahan-Junek met with Chief Kruger and encouraged him to Zoom into meetings when he is able. Sup Monahan-Junek will write up a job summary for chief to approve and submit.

Roads:

At the time of the last meeting Lake Four East Road aggregate had been placed but not graded. It has since been graded.

Dead tree in Bradach right of way has been removed by Austin Van Scoy for approximately \$700. The slash was chipped but bole of tree was left for the landowner.

The original contract for the culvert placement on Dorem Drive had the placement of only one side of erosion material placed. However, both sides need the whole bank protected. Placement of material to other side of the bank would be in addition to the original contract. Sup Floyd will look into the \$16,000 bill sent by the engineer overseeing the project and report back at the next meeting.

Land, website and broadband:

The Short Term Rental Committee recommendations were sent to Mr. Rigney at St. Louis County. After several attempts to meet with Mr. Rigney and the planning commission a letter was sent back to the township. The letter stated that the planning commission will be reviewing the ordinance sometime in 2024 and at that time the township may submit comments during the public comment period. Sup Soderberg would like to get a meeting with county officials and the County Commissioner to go over the

ordinance. Sup Soderberg would like to meet with the County Commissioner and Mr. Rigney early January to go over the ordinance and have the recommendations discussed.

Sup Monahan-Junek says we should be more vocal and keep trying to get a meeting with them.

Sup Monahan-Junek and Sup Soderberg met with CTC broadband. CTC currently leases fiber from Northeast Service Co-op. A representative from CTC will look into who owns the other fiber in the township not owned by the Northeast Service Co-op and put together an engineering estimate to service the entire township population. The township represents the definition of the underserved. CTC may need to partner with Isaac Olson of Treehouse broadband to do some of the work.

Emergency Preparedness/water:

Clerk Drange reported on the meeting that took place on December 9th regarding the Community Wildfire Defense Grant. She explained some of the activities the Township has already done to receive the funding and additional activities the township may participate in such as hazardous fuel reduction around the township hall.

Outreach and Networking:

When Sup Chiabotti finalizes the list of town hall improvements and the estimated costs, Sup Monahan-Junek will write up a letter for Senator Gran Hauschild asking for funding considerations for these projects. Sup Monahan-Junek will ask Sup Floyd to sign the letter as board chair.

Old Business:

Driveway Ordinance

Sup Floyd asked that this subject be put in abeyance until Sup Sherman is present. Sup Floyd stated that this ordinance only applies to township roads.

Website Development and Downpayment

Sup Soderberg has extended Carolyn Quick's contract one more month to give more time for the website management transition to Chris Ellerbroek. Carolyn is making requested changes to the website be completed before the website is transitioned.

Rob Mattson has requested a link to his music be added to the website. After discussion the board decided not to post a link for his music to the website.

CTC phone Service

Sup Monahan-Junek provide a quote from CTC for phone service in the hall. Quote is on file. Will be substantially less than the monthly bill from Frontier.

Sup Monahan-Junek moved and Seconded by Sup Soderberg to accept quote from CTC with the removal of the V-Fax line feature from the service list. Motion carried.

New Business:

Park Land Recommendations

Sup Soderberg stated that Sup Sherman is confident that the Township owns the other two Park Land parcels due to the Moratzka Decision. The Township has already accepted two parcels of Park Land to aid in the construction of Spruce Street. It is possible that because the township already owns the parcels that were not previously accepted and that no further legal action is needed.

The Township is willing to allow for two and perhaps other Township residents to have a dock on the parkland and nothing else. Further committee recommendations would be to charge the Kromers and Turner-Ryan's dock rental for a removable dock on Park Land property. The fee would be for \$600 per year and the dock must be removed and stored on private property in the winter.

The Township would assess an annual fee for the Turner-Ryan cabin on Park Land. The rental fee would be based on St. Louis County's fee structure at \$430 for anything up to 540sq or \$725 for more than that. The Turner-Ryan estate would have a number of issues including garbage and unsafe conditions that need to be addressed. The Turner-Ryan cabin would need to be removed from the Park Land by July of 2025 if the Turner-Ryan property owners do not sign the agreement and pay the annual fee. If the township were to remove the cabin, then the Turner-Ryan estate would be charged for the cabin's removal.

Both landowners (Kromers and Turner-Ryans) will be required to sign an annual encroachment agreement This will be to protect the liability of the township. The agreement also states that Park Land use will be for the dock only and the use of Park Land as personal beach front would not be allowed.

Signage will be needed for the end of Spruce Street and on Park Land to designate no parking.

See Short Term Rental Committee recommendations report on file.

Sup Soderberg moved, seconded by Sup Floyd that the Park Land Committee to have Couri and Ruppe draft annual encroachment agreements based on the Park Land Committee recommendations. Motion carried.

American Rescue Plan's State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF) Program

The township has \$16,000 left of the American Rescue Funds. Sup Floyd has suggested the funding be used for certain repairs to Dorem Drive. Sup Monahan-Junek suggested the funds may be used for public safety such as fire or EMS.

Sup Monahan-Junek has spoken with the chief and he is drafting a list of items that the fire department needs.

The Township has until 2025 to use the American Rescue funds.

Supervisor Concerns:

The 2025 budget workshop will be on Tue January 9th at 8 am.

Adjournment:

Sup Monahan-Junek moved, seconded by Sup Soderberg to adjourn. Motion carried.
The meeting adjourned at 6:52 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Keely Drange, Clerk

