

MINUTES
TOWN BOARD MEETING
FEBRUARY 6, 2020

Present: Terry Hill, Ruth Janke, Bill Gerard, Jason Paulson, Rhonda Peleski, David Pritchett

Absent: Tony Compo

Chairperson Hill called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. in the Town Board Room at the Town Hall.

Gerard made a motion to accept the minutes of the previous meeting with one change. Second by Paulson. Motion carried.

Paulson made a motion to approve the current vouchers in the amount of \$ 67,744.95 (Check #'s 44930-44979) to pay payroll and due bills and electronic payments in the amount of \$ 10,560.44. Second by Janke. Motion carried.

Peleski presented a list of election judges for the upcoming Presidential Nomination Primary election. A motion to approve the list, pending confirmation of completing required training hours, was made by Janke with a second by Gerard. Motion carried.

Janke presented the recommendation from the Planning and Zoning Commission regarding the Finn Ridge subdivision being developed by 1LLC. The developers had previously submitted a plat with nine lots in the subdivision. It had been approved pending the approval of the wetlands delineation by Carlton County. Unfortunately, Carlton County's Technical Evaluation Panel did not agree with the 1LLC's wetland delineation.

The developers have now submitted a plat with four lots. The recommendation from the Planning and Zoning Commission is to approve the preliminary and final plat for Finn Ridge Subdivision on Torma Road. A motion to approve the subdivision pending payment of all developers' fees was made by Janke with a second by Gerard. Motion carried.

Road Maintenance Supervisor Logan Saline informed the Board about the availability of lease return graders at two local dealerships. He requested the Board's approval to do more research and also schedule a demonstration of the equipment. Discussion was held on trade in value of the current equipment and the increased efficiency if the grader is replaced. Saline was given approval to continue to look into the lease return graders. It was also noted that the pickup is scheduled for replacement and possibly the backhoe.

Town engineer, Joe Jurewicz, created an inspection form for the sewer lateral inspections that will now need to be completed before a house on the sewer line can be sold. This is per Ordinance No. 44 which regulates Inflow and Infiltration Compliance. A motion was made by Paulson with a second by Janke to approve the form as presented. Motion carried.

In the interest of public safety, a motion was made by Gerard with a second by Paulson to donate \$ 150 to the 2020 Esko All Night Graduation Party. Motion carried.

An email was received from Aaron Gunderson, Assistant County Engineer, regarding future County road projects in or near the Township. The Midway River bridge is scheduled for replacement. Pavement replacement and shoulder paving will be done on Erickson Road from Highway 61 to No. Cloquet Rd. Dalles Avenue in Carlton will also have the pavement replaced. Gerard and Saline will schedule a meeting with him to get additional information.

Saline inquired if the recent approval of PubWorks software included \$975 for training and also data conversion. The two items were included in the approval.

Zoning Official Dan Stangle was present with his report. He met recently with area fire chiefs and Jay Cooke State Park staff to continue the discussion of addresses within the Park. He is still working with the consultants on the Comprehensive Plan to schedule the final meetings. The consultant isn't available in February and there are conflicts with scheduling in March.

Saline reported that there have been 42 emergency calls so far in 2020 for the fire department. There was also a recent house fire in the township.

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Saline reported that the road crew has been busy ice cutting and steaming culverts.

Deputy Rob Lucas was present with his monthly report. He is in the process of locating stolen property. He'll also participate in Imagine It Days at Esko School in February.

Gerard requested a dead-end sign be installed on Kangas Road.

Gerard reported on the Mission Creek watershed tree planting project. A grant application was submitted to the U of M Sea Grant program by the Duluth Urban Watershed Advisory Committee.

Janke reported on the recent school board meeting she attended. The sports complex will be closed for the summer due to construction projects in that area.

A motion to adjourn was made at 7:19 p.m. by Gerard with a second by Janke. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Rhonda Peleski, Clerk/Treasurer
Town of Thomson

Terry Hill, Chairperson