

MINUTES
TOWN BOARD MEETING
MARCH 7, 2019

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

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

Janke made a motion to accept the minutes of the previous meeting. Second by Gerard. Motion carried.

Gerard made a motion to approve the current vouchers in the amount of \$ 43,810.30 (Check #'s 44007-44041) to pay payroll and due bills and electronic payments in the amount of \$ 8,545.50. Second by Compo. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Paulson with a second by Compo to revise the 2019 budget to include the \$ 60,000 purchase of a grass fire truck from the capital improvement fund. Motion carried.

Peleski provided the proposed 2020 levy which was developed at the recent budget meeting. It will be presented for approval at the Annual Town Meeting on March 13. The Board is requesting an increase of 3.35% over the 2019 levy. A motion was made by Gerard with a second by Paulson to present the budget as reviewed. Motion carried.

The Firefighters Relief Association recently revised their by-laws. No action was taken on approval until the changes can be reviewed.

Discussion was held on the local Cable Access Television (CAT-7) station. A motion was made by Paulson to appoint John Bergman as the Town's representative on the Cloquet Cable Commission. After lengthy discussion regarding the current representation on the commission, lack of commission meetings, advertising on CAT-7, and televising meetings, the motion died for lack of a second. The issue is tabled until it can be determined if the Town currently has representation on the commission.

Paulson made a motion to begin televising Town Board meetings. Motion died for lack of a second. It was felt by some Board members that it would ultimately stifle audience involvement at meetings.

Fire Chief Kyle Gustafson obtained two quotes for replacement of the grass fire truck. His recommendation is to accept the quote from Kolar Chevrolet in the amount of \$ 35,700. A motion was made by Janke with a second by Paulson to approve the purchase of a 2019 Chevrolet 3500HD Silverado from Kolar Chevrolet in the amount of \$ 35,700. Motion carried.

At 7:00 p.m. a motion was made by Janke with a second by Gerard to recess the regular meeting and convene the Board of Audit. Motion carried.

Peleski presented the 2018 Annual Statement of Receipts and Expenses for the Board to review. All financial records were made available for inspection.

A motion was made by Paulson with a second by Compo to approve the 2018 Annual Statement of Receipts and Expenses as presented. Motion carried. The financial report will also be reviewed once the annual outside financial audit is completed.

At 7:05 p.m. a motion was made by Paulson with a second by Gerard to adjourn the Board of Audit and reopen the regular meeting. Motion carried.

One quote was received for building shelves in the records storage room and sound proofing the wall between the community room and the offices, with separate quotes for the hallway and office ceilings. A second contractor will be viewing the project on Friday and will also submit a quote. A motion was made by Janke with a second by Gerard to authorize Paulson, Peleski and Dan Stangle to review and compare the quotes and award the projects. After discussion Janke amended her motion with a second by Gerard to authorize Paulson, Peleski and Stangle to award the shelving portion of the project based on the quotes received. Motion carried.

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Discussion was held on paving the approaches to the railroad crossing on E. Harney Road and if any additional paving will be done on the road. A motion was made by Compo with a second by Paulson to authorize Joe Jurewicz to get bids for the crossing and two alternate bids. Motion carried. Ditching will need to be improved and new mailboxes installed if additional paving is done.

Discussion was held on the upcoming comprehensive plan and an article being written by a reporter from the Pine Knot. Hill will contact the reporter to expand on the initial information given to her.

Gustafson gave his monthly report on fire department activities. He's gotten two quotes for repairs needed on the ladder truck.

Deputy Rob Lucas gave his monthly report. His activities included Imagine It Day at the school and assisting with vehicles in ditches.

Logan Saline reported on a recent conference he attended in St. Cloud with Minnesota Rural Water Association.

Stangle shared the request for proposals he put together for the comprehensive land use plan. A motion was made by Janke with a second by Gerard to approve the RFP pending review by legal counsel. Motion carried. Stangle will advertise on the League of MN Cities website and in the Pine Journal.

Janke reported on Community Education activities. They're beginning to work on Esko Fun Days and the street dance.

Paulson reported that Cloquet Area Fire District will have a hearing for their state bonding request.

Peleski reported that \$ 42,648.99 for Town Road Money from the State.

A motion to adjourn was made at 7:51 pm by Gerard with a second by Compo. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Rhonda Peleski, Clerk/Treasurer
Town of Thomson

Terry Hill, Chairperson