

MINUTES
TOWN BOARD MEETING
OCTOBER 17, 2019

Present: Bill Gerard, Ruth Janke, Terry Hill, Rhonda Peleski, Bill Helwig (attorney)

Absent: Jason Paulson, Tony Compo, 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 \$ 27,838.17 (Check #'s 44603 - 44635) to pay payroll and due bills and electronic payments in the amount of \$ 11,005.65. Second by Janke. Motion carried

September receipts in the amount of \$ 41,363.71 and September fund balances were reviewed

Logan Saline provided the Board with quotes for a new culvert steamer. After reviewing and discussing the quotes a motion was made by Janke with a second by Gerard to approve the quote from Hotsy in the amount of \$ 9,291.10. Motion carried.

At the August 20th meeting the Board approved the purchase of four new grader tires. Saline requested that six new tires be purchased instead. A motion was made by Janke with a second by Gerard to approve the purchase of two additional grader tires in the amount of \$ 1,600 each. Motion carried.

The 3rd pay application was received from Veit along with the required IC 134s. A motion was made by Gerard with a second by Janke to approve payment of the final pay application in the amount of \$ 3,815. Motion carried.

Town Engineer Joe Jurewicz reported that the coastal grant program is now open with applications due in December. He also updated the Board on plans for the Keanu Lane stormwater pond. Repairs should be completed in the spring of 2020.

Saline reported that the E. Harney Road paving project is done with the exception of Minnesota Power moving a power pole.

Sinnott Blacktop will be crack filling over the next few days. The road crew will continue to replace culverts and will also be grading roads in the coming week.

Hill questioned where Timberline Drive is on the road repair list. Jurewicz reported that there would be as sewer rehab done in that area in 2020 with roads repairs to follow.

Saline updated the Board on the purchase of a skid steer from the DNR. The one that had been considered went to a different fire department. They'll be going to Willow River to look at a different one for possible purchase.

At 7:00 p.m. a motion was made by Gerard with a second by Janke to recess the regular meeting and open the improvement hearing for Hillside Road. Motion carried.

Jurewicz presented the feasibility study that was completed for the project. Because of the ditching that would be needed, it's decided that the road width would be 20' instead of the standard 24'. Drainage improvements would need to be made along with manholes raised. Some culverts would also need to be replaced.

If the Town agrees to pay the engineering and legal fees for the project, each assessment is estimated at \$ 9,378.

Town attorney, Bill Helwig, questioned the validity of the resident petition that was submitted. Only one owner signed for properties owned by a husband and wife. Both husband and wife should've signed.

Discussion was held on private driveway paving, mailbox replacement, speeding and ditching.

Hill stated that he is hesitant to act on the project with only five of the fifteen properties being represented at the hearing. He also questioned whether it should be acted on when the validity of the petition is questioned.

Helwig stated that the Board can still act without the petition but a 4/5's vote is needed. With only three Board members present the vote can't be taken at this meeting.

Peleski will send a letter to all Hillside Road residents with the estimated assessment amount of \$ 9,378.

At 7:38 p.m. a motion was made by Janke with a second by Gerard to recess the hearing to Thursday, November 7 at 7:00p.m. and reconvene the regular meeting. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Janke with a second by Gerard to agree to have the Town pay the engineering and legal fees for the proposed Hillside Road paving project. Motion carried.

Peleski will follow up with the County Engineer regarding the placement of the radar sign on W. Highway 61.

Pedestrian counts are being done on the W. Highway 61 walking trail.

Discussion was held on the quality of the most recent gravel purchase.

The "Welcome to Esko" sign on Thomson Road will be worked on in spring 2020.

A motion to adjourn was made at 7:48 pm by Gerard with a second by Janke. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Rhonda Peleski, Clerk/Treasurer
Town of Thomson

Terry Hill, Chairperson