

MINUTES  
TOWN BOARD MEETING  
JUNE 4, 2020

Present: Terry Hill, Ruth Janke, Bill Gerard, Tony Compo, Jason Paulson (late), 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.

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

Compo made a motion to approve the current vouchers in the amount of \$ 60,935.44 (Check #'s 45302-45344) to pay payroll and due bills and electronic payments in the amount of \$ 8,730.43. Second by Gerard. Motion carried.

The personnel committee presented their recommendation for hiring for two seasonal positions. A motion was made by Gerard with a second by Janke to approve the hiring of Avery Compo for the part-time seasonal grounds' maintenance position. Motion carried with 3 yeas and Compo abstaining.

A motion was made by Janke with a second by Paulson to approve the hiring of Eric Enerson for the full-time seasonal laborer position. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Gerard with a second by Janke to increase the wages for the part-time seasonal position to \$ 13 per hour. Motion carried with 3 yeas and Compo abstaining.

A motion was made by Janke with a second by Gerard to increase the wages for the seasonal laborer position to \$ 15 per hour. Motion carried.

Two quotes were received for sewer line cleaning and televising. One additional quote is expected. A motion was made by Compo with a second by Gerard to award the work to whoever submits the low quote. Motion carried.

Resolution 2020-06 which will approve the MPCA loan agreement in the amount of \$ 165,000 for the purchase of a road grader was presented by Compo with support from Janke. Resolution passed. A thank you was given to Road Supervisor Logan Saline for putting together the funding mechanism.

Gerard has been working with Esko soccer to find practice space for them. It seems Northridge Park can be used once the new entrance is in.

Gerard inquired about the status of the request to upgrade the railroad crossing on East Stark Road. Saline was not present at the meeting when it was discussed and was not aware that he was to follow up. He'll now look into it.

Fire Chief Kyle Gustafson reported that a \$ 1,000 donation was received from Widdes Feed and Farm Supply. This will be used toward the purchase of auto extrication equipment. A thank you was given to Widdes. The department has been doing drive-by birthday parties as well as participated in the Esko school graduation parades.

Gustafson also informed the Board of his plans to use part of the money that was budgeted for additional turnout gear and instead purchase SCBAs. Also, Carlton County received a FEMA grant for surgical masks and a donation of gloves was received from Holiday gas station.

Saline reported that the pumps at lift station # 1 will be replaced on Tuesday. Hillside Road paving will be complete next week. The road crew continues to haul gravel in preparation for calcium chloride. The Esko Historical Society has taken possession of the 1949 Chev.

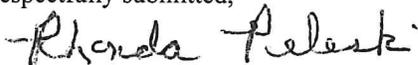
Deputy Rob Lucas updated the Board on his activities. There was a recent drug arrest in the area.

Gerard has taken down seven trees in Northridge Park in the area of the new driveway.

Paulson updated the Board on Cloquet Area Fire Districts search for a new chief.

A motion to adjourn was made at 6:58 p.m. by Gerard with a second by Compo. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Rhonda Peleski, Clerk/Treasurer

Terry Hill, Chairperson