

## **TOWN BOARD REGULAR MEETING, TUESDAY, January 11, 2022, 6:00 PM, CROW WING TOWN HALL**

**Board Members Present:** Chairman Tucker Schuety, Supervisor Doug Kern, Supervisor Paul Stephany, Treasurer Diane Stephany, and Clerk Sue Kern.

Tucker called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Residents were reminded to sign the roster.

There were no gopher bounties.

Tucker asked if there were any changes to the agenda. Paul stated he wanted to add internet and key for fireproof file cabinet to add to the agenda. Tucker made the motion to approve agenda as amended. Doug seconded. No Discussion. Motion passed 3-0.

**New Business:** Appointment of March election judges and AB Ballot Board. Doug made a motion to appoint the election judges and AB Ballot board of individuals that were trained and qualified and had accepted the request. Paul seconded. It was asked if more can sign up and yes, they can for the primary and general election in November 2022. Training will take place between now and August. Motion passed 3-0. We ordered 50 ballots in 2020 and 2021 for the annual township election. Tucker made the motion to order 50 ballots for the March election. Doug seconded. No discussion. Motion passed 3-0.

Paul brought up that our fireproof cabinet was not able to lock and in order to keep permanent important files it should be repaired, and a new key purchased. Tucker made the motion to have Paul have a new key for \$15 made and he and Doug to repair the cabinet. Doug seconded. No discussion. Motion passed 3-0.

The need for internet was discussed. It is needed by our township planner as well as the clerk and treasurer and for Planning and Zoning meetings. The use of a hot spot has not been very successful. Paul has talked with both Century Link and CTC. Century Link was more customer service savvy and rates were \$50/month, \$15/month for modem or \$200 to buy a modem, a phone would be \$40/month, and installation would be \$99 plus taxes and fees for all. It was decided that a phone wasn't really needed as most people have a cell phone. A surge protector is also considered. Tucker made the motion to go forward with getting internet because it is needed for scanning, emails, streaming of meetings when needed and for subcontractors, and to go with Century Link with a modem, with surge protector, and be password protected and 1 guest that discontinues in 30 minutes. Doug seconded. No further discussion. Motion passed 3-0. Paul will get that set up.

**Unfinished Business:** The Planning Commission held their January meeting where public hearings were held for Ordinance Amendments 01-22 and 02-22. Both are fully supported by the full Planning Commission. Tucker made the motion to approve Ordinance Amendment 01-22 Agri-Business as per staff findings and facts as it is fully supported by the Planning Commission. Paul seconded. No more discussion. Motion passed 3-0. Tucker made a motion to approve Ordinance Amendment 02-22 modifying the Crow Wing Township Land Use Ordinance regarding Solar Energy systems. Doug seconded. No further discussion. Motion passed 3-0. A publication is required and written by Amanda. Doug made the motion to publish the Ordinance Summary. Paul seconded. No further discussion. Motion passed 3-0.

At our last meeting, the Preliminary Plat Application 01-21 and Conditional Use Application 01-21 for a Planned Unit Development was brought forward for Owned Storage 371. The full board agreed with it, but a more formal action has been requested for the preliminary. With that, Doug made the motion to approve Preliminary Plat App 01-21 and Conditional Use App 01-21 for Owned Storage 371 based on the staff findings and facts. Paul seconded. No further discussion. Motion passed 3-0.

The town board discussed getting a new attorney. Ginny Knudson has been suggested by Brad as she is the attorney for 6-7 townships in our county and is very in the know on how to handle township business and titles. Brad has talked to

her, and she would welcome the opportunity. She will be sending information/rates via email. Tucker made the motion to start the process on getting her on board as she is familiar with township law. Brad said if she had a conflict of interest, she would bow out. Paul seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0.

**Planning and Zoning Report:** The Planning Commission recently discussed the possibility of meeting the first Monday of the month vs. the second Monday of month. Pros and cons were discussed. It was decided that the P&Z packet would also go to the Supervisors so they could read up over the weekend and then Amanda could send brief update of decisions after Monday night's meeting, prior to the Tuesday Town Board meeting. Amanda indicated she had enough time to do that. We had a year of many public hearings, and a lot of info was needed. It was decided it would create more problems than it solves to move the meeting dates. No action was needed.

Scanner discussion. Heather Bandeen from Sourcewell had called the Clerk to see if we had any needs in the township. It has been mentioned that we need a new scanner. There is a possibility of getting funds in matching eligibility but probably not until June. The clerk will talk/email her regarding a presentation in person or by email to see if we would qualify for funds. Follow up discussion to follow.

Regarding violations: Jillson violation has been ongoing for two years. We did not hear from him until the deadline was nearly up. Letters are being sent to him from Amanda. The commission may be doing on-site inspection in April. The probation officer is involved as well. Regarding the Ream violation, they have been responsive, cooperative, doing as much as they can. The immediate problem was taken care of but now it is winter and there will be a plan in April with a contractor. A letter was being sent by Amanda.

**Public Comments:** Gerry brought up that a couple of our tables need replacing/repair. Paul will fix one table. Various board members will be looking for a cost-effective replacement that sits 6-7 people for meetings and events.

**Treasurers Report:** Payroll was reviewed and approved. The Treasurer's report and claims #1684 to #1700 were reviewed and approved. Diane reported that still 3 processed checks can not be printed off her computer online and is having problems with customer service at Wings. She requested to switch the checking account to Mid MN in the next 3-4 months. Doug made the motion to proceed with the change. Tucker seconded. No discussion. Motion passed 3-0.

**Road Report:** Gerry took care of the oak tree on 80<sup>th</sup>. Two mailboxes were hit by moving snow from the plow. Doug has repaired one but may need replacing in the Spring as the ground thaws. He has repaired them so that they can be used in the meantime. There was a complaint at the end of Town Hall Street that someone was getting more help than others. It was decided last year at the meeting, to do clean ups in the cul de sacs and find areas to put the snow as best as it can be done. We have had a lot of snow this year already. Everyone has a lot of extra snow. The Road Supervisor is cleaning up the snow as best as can be done where he can. It is especially difficult in the cul de sacs. Next year one resident will be removing some trees so there will be more room for snow at the end of Town Hall Street. Regarding the Wild Rice Depot stop sign, he couldn't get the 811 people over there for approval as the workers were all down South because of the tornado. Doug will try to get a temporary sign up in the meantime and place a sign in when the ground thaws.

**Cemetery Report:** Paperwork for two plots were notarized.

**Fire Administration:** The incident report for the year was reviewed. No action taken.

**Administrative Business:** The Crow Wing County Election contract was reviewed. Tucker made the motion to accept the contract for the March election. Doug seconded. No discussion. Motion passed 3-0. There will be a \$300 charge for their services.

**Communications:** Cindy Rader has sent an email about Commodities from the county highway department. Doug said we get cold patch from Anderson's. We will probably get the same salt/sand as last year. Culverts we don't keep on hand and get on as needed basis. Mailbox supports will be replaced as we do road work. Tucker made a motion for Doug to take care of the request form, get ahold of them regarding the sand, and get a few mailbox supports by February 1<sup>st</sup> if possible. Paul seconded. No discussion. Motion passed 3-0.

Brad Miller did not send email regarding pickle ball courts. No action necessary. It was noted that would be out of our area.

**Announcements:** Paul will be on the ballot for a 3 year term as Supervisor, Sue for a 2 year term as Clerk, Diane for a 1 year term as Treasurer and no other candidates have filed.

**Approve Minutes:** The minutes December 14, 2021, were reviewed. Doug made the motion to approve. Tucker seconded. No discussion. Motion pass 3-0.

**Adjourn Meeting:** Tucker made a motion to adjourn. Doug seconded. No discussion. Motion passed 3-0 at 7:43 pm.