

MARCH 7, 2023, TUESDAY, TOWN BOARD REGULAR MEETING, @ 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. There were none. Tucker made the motion to approve the agenda as written. Paul seconded. No discussion. Motion passed 3-0.

New Business: Sheriff Eric Klang and Chief Deputy Andy Bradley were in attendance. Sheriff Klang introduced himself and Deputy Bradley and made phone numbers and emails available to the board and invited the Board to contact them as needed. Tucker stated we wanted to touch base with the Sheriff's department and asked for assistance with having a radar sign placed on 50th Avenue. There have been complaints with speeding and dumping of garbage and the Sheriff's department will continue to patrol the area. The radar machine will give information as to the time of day and days that people are speeding. Further, the matter off 75th & 80th Avenues with tents and possible squatting was reviewed. Tucker showed Sheriff Klang the exact location of the 40-acre parcel area in question. Last year a cease and desist order was needed to get squatters/campers off the property. There were multiple vehicles coming and going with out of state licenses last year. Drug paraphernalia had been found in the ditches and residents were feeling unsafe on their own property near the site in question. Tucker explained our Planning and Zoning Commission has worked on the camping ordinance. Sheriff Klang asked his department to be called should there be a recurrence. They would issue cease and desist order without a charge. He had not heard about the problem. Sheriff Klang further stated there are multiple scams going on and that Fentanyl is a real problem and they recently confiscated a great deal of drugs which are not prescription based. He advised caution to the residents.

The **Annual Meeting Agenda** was reviewed. There are multiple donation requests which will be brought to the residents for possible approval. There was a brief discussion of what statutorily can be approved and what cannot. Doug made the motion to approve the agenda as presented. Paul seconded. No more discussion. Motion passed 3-0. The Clerk is to contact Faith in Action and ask if they provide a service to the township. The **proposed meeting calendar** for 2023-2024 was reviewed. Doug made the motion to approve as presented. Tucker seconded. No discussion. Motion passed 3-0. **Table replacements** were discussed. Two of the tables that residents use when renting the town hall are heavy and weigh about 70-75 pounds. Women are usually the ones who set up for events and because these tables are so heavy, they drag the tables across the floor causing the floor to become very marked up. Gerry has put them in the shed. Doug made a motion for Gerry to buy two 6' long tables, possibly from Menards, that are lighter, collapsible and will go with the other tables we currently have. Tucker seconded the motion. No more discussion. Motion passed 3-0. Paul added the storage room should be rearranged as the tables should not be stacked in front of the electrical panel. The current fire code states items cannot be stored within 3 feet of the electrical fire panels. Further, Paul suggested a shelf be added for storage in the furnace room to get paint cans and debris off of the floor and tiles can be stored in the shed. Gerry will rearrange the tables and possibly put them on end to meet code. Tucker made the motion to investigate putting a shelf in the furnace room and if it was reasonable to put it up. Paul seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0. Paul will look into putting up the shelf.

Unfinished Business: Septic problems: This has not been that cold of a winter yet there have been problems with the septic. The heat tape is plugged in and works. It did freeze last year and was pumped. Doug put root kill in there. The tank has been checked and is not the problem. A tape may need to be used to see if there is blockage. There is a 4" PVC pipe. The problem may be just outside of the building. It will need to be watched. No action was taken. Paul stated the old siren outside has been replaced on the outside of the building and will sound off if someone accesses the shed without disarming the alarm system first. Paul stated they could re-visit adding a pad on the door of the garage in the Spring.

Public Comments: Lori questioned the Levy that will be brought forward at the Annual Meeting.

Planning and Zoning Report: The Commission did not meet January, February or March. Chairman Brad Arnold was not in attendance. The permit list for January and February were reviewed. The Planning Commission is scheduled the first Monday in April at which time Scott Saehr, Planning & Zoning Administrator, is planning to attend.

Treasurers Report: Payroll was reviewed and approved. Claims #1993 to #2006 were reviewed and approved.

Road Report: Doug has done more tree work. He has the cemetery plowed.

Cemetery Report: There is a burial taking place later this week.

Fire Administration: Paul reviewed the 2024 Fire Assessment Calculation report. The costs are going up as expected. The cost is based on the number of calls, population, building values and tax-exempt property. The tax-exempt portion had doubled in cost. Paul is to check into that with the County Assessor. The lawsuit is still in limbo.

Administrative Business: Randy Powers and Doug Kern will do the Board of Canvass at the Election next Tuesday. The Board was reminded of the Spring Short Course at Breezy Point on March 24, 2023.

Communications: There was a letter from CTC regarding a grant program for internet. There were two tree service companies sending advertisements which were given to Doug. (Carr's Tree Service in Ottertail and Doug Johnson Tree Service from Wadena). There was other miscellaneous mail.

Announcements: The Annual Meeting and Township Election is March 14, 2023.

Approve Minutes: The minutes from February 14, 2023, were reviewed. Doug made the motion to approve the minutes as written. Paul seconded the motion. No discussion. Motion passed 3-0.

Tucker left a box of agendas, minutes, and handouts that he had accumulated over the last three years. His term is up, and he did not run for another term as he is moving out of the Township. Tonight is his last meeting. He was thanked for his service on the Board.

Adjourn Meeting: Tucker made a motion to adjourn. Paul seconded. No discussion. Motion passed 3-0. Meeting adjourned at 7:20 pm.