

## **MAY 9, 2023, TUESDAY, TOWN BOARD REGULAR MEETING, @ 6:00 PM, CROW WING TOWN HALL**

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

**The Regular Town Board Meeting** was called to order at 6 pm by Doug and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Residents were reminded to sign the roster. There were no gopher bounties. Doug asked if there were any changes to the agenda. Paul added chair repair for discussion. Doug made the motion to approve the agenda as amended. Nathan seconded the motion. No discussion. Motion passed 3-0.

**New Business: Crow Wing County Fair Association:** Sharron Ryappy stated that there are approximately 28 townships and only 12 Fair Association board members and they can not attend all the township meetings as they fall on the same day. Nathan is on the Fair board, but he stated the residents expressed a lack interest in donating to the Fair Association. Doug asked that their letter state the areas of need at the Fair. Sharron informed everyone of some of the organizations that get financial benefit from the Fair Association including Veterans. The 4-H group, law enforcement, fire administration and ham radio operators have use of the fair grounds free of charge. Sharron was very helpful in describing what funds would go towards and the Board thanked her for coming. No action was taken. **Table and Chairs – Resident Use:** A resident recently wanted to use chairs/tables from the town hall for a gathering. Brad stated it was policy to not allow tables/chairs outside of the town hall. No action was taken. **Short Term Rentals:** Brad stated that the Township is required to act regarding the Short-Term Rental Ordinance that the County has brought forward. Brad stated we are required to be at least as restrictive as the County. The Planning Commission has reviewed the ordinance at length and is in full support of approving the ordinance. This is a trial period with only about 7 months left and it terminates 12-31-23. Renewal would be annually, if adopted. Short-term rentals are clearly defined. Law enforcement needs an ordinance in place to act when needed. Recreating our own ordinance would be a big undertaking. Scott Saehr has talked with the County and supports our acceptance. A Resolution will be required along with a public hearing. The Township's only cost would be to publish the hearing in the Dispatch. Doug made the motion to approve the ordinance since it is a trial period. Nathan seconded the motion. No further discussion. Motion passed 3-0. Brad will follow up with the County, the Planning Commission and with Scott and report back to the Board.

**Planning Commission Report:** Brad stated that permit requests are picking up. People are calling for applications. The requests are 'normal' for this time of year. Brad stated there have been two complaints. One being on Heron/Robin Street and the other on Barrows Avenue. The residents of Barrows Avenue have been talked to and a letter will be going out from Scott to the Robin Street resident. Brad will follow up. Brad reviewed the Financials of the Planning and Zoning Fund. Diane had prepared a report. The balance as of April 30<sup>th</sup> was \$29,894. Brad mentioned the possibility of a Clean Up day. Paul mentioned that Sourcewell has a program for consultant reimbursement up to \$10,000 yearly. Brad will follow up with Justin Burslie. Brad questioned if there is training for P&Z for new members.

**Unfinished Business: Septic update:** Wicks Advanced Drain Cleaning came and repaired the problem. A pipe had been installed too close and it caused a backup. The pipe has been cut off. There shouldn't be any problems next year.

**Sourcewell Community Impact Funding:** All paperwork has been submitted for the lottery. Sourcewell will contact us with the results. Doug had looked at getting a smaller tractor that could be used for shouldering, snow blowing at the cemetery and other attachments in addition to a new lawn mower. **Sourcewell Matching Funds:** This is a lottery we can apply for, and they will match funds up to \$10,000 for much-needed office equipment. Paul presented a list including a printer/scanner copier, ink/toner, 7 chairs, fireproof file cabinet, shredder, chair protector for the floor, cork board and a surge protector. The matter was discussed at length. Paul will complete the paperwork and follow up.

**Folding chair repairs:** Paul noted that some of our folding chairs have missing leg covers and needed replacement covers to protect the carpet. The vinyl is broken on other chairs which aren't worth repairing. Doug made the motion for Paul to order the leg covers up to \$40 and have Gerry put them on. Nathan seconded the motion. No further discussion. Motion carried 3-0.

**Public comments:** Randy questioned if the roads will be swept. Brushes are on order. Diane asked about the playground equipment at the park and the black fabric that is under the equipment. It was decided that pea gravel was a better option. The porta potty will be installed the next day. The fire extinguishers were discussed. They were all checked or purchased last year. Gerry noted that one of the blinds was broken and he was told to buy a new one at Ace Hardware or Menards.

**Treasurers Report:** Payroll was reviewed and approved. Claims #2034 to #2058 reviewed and approved. Papers were signed by the Board adding Nathan to the account at First National Bank North.

**Road Report:** The Road Tour minutes were reviewed, and the 5-year road plan was discussed. The Barrows project is being done right now. The high traffic and high-speed roads need to be repaired above other roads. Goron Road needs to be addressed soon, possibly by next spring. Doug will check with Scott at Anderson Brothers about getting some hot mix. It had been decided on the road tour to get the crack sealing done on 50<sup>th</sup>, 70<sup>th</sup> and Lone Oak up to \$20,000. Doug received a bid from Jet Black for 50<sup>th</sup> @ \$10,773 & Wetherbee @ \$11,610 for a total of \$22,383. Doug made a motion to approve that bid. Nathan seconded the motion. No further discussion. Passed 3-0. There was also a bid for Estate Circle for \$4,151.50 for crack sealing as it is a high traffic area. Doug made a motion to approve that bid. Paul seconded the motion. No discussion. Passed 3-0. It was agreed that crack sealing is a guaranteed return on your investment every single time. Doug will bring back a revised 5-year road plan for approval. St. Mathias and Fort Ripley joint maintenance agreements were discussed. Gravel is needed. Estimates are needed and a possible culvert repair. Multiple culverts were talked about and need to be cleaned or at least checked. The end of Depot Street is gravel, and it is a township road. There are now multiple landowners there. It was discussed to tar a straight stretch of tar. Doug made the motion to tar that portion. Nathan seconded. This will be added to the current road project in Barrows. Motion passed 3-0. There is still a lot of cleaning up that needs to take place in the ROW. Doug mentioned that there should be a raise for all the tree trimming and clean-up in the ditches.

**Cemetery Report:** There are a couple of plots that need to be marked and the owners need to find their records of the lot, block & site first.

**Fire Administration:** No report.

**Administrative Business:** None.

**Communications:** MN Department of Revenue Mineral Hearing letter was reviewed. They are required to inform the Township of the meeting. Other miscellaneous mail was reviewed.

**Announcements:** None.

**Approve Minutes:** The April 11, 2023, meeting minutes were reviewed. Paul made the motion to approve the minutes as written. Doug seconded the motion. No discussion. Passed 3-0. The minutes from the Board of Appeal and Equalization meeting on April 27, 2023, were reviewed. Doug made the motion to approve the minutes as written. Paul seconded the motion. No discussion. Passed 3-0.

**Adjourn Meeting:** Doug made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Nathan seconded the motion. No discussion. Motion passed 3-0. Meeting adjourned at 8:07 pm.