

MARCH 19, 2024, TUESDAY, TOWN BOARD REGULAR MEETING @ 6:00 PM, CROW WING TOWN HALL

Board Members Present: Chairman Doug Kern, Supervisor Nathan Hulinsky, Supervisor Paul Stephany, 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 added items to the agenda. Doug made the motion to approve the agenda as amended. Nathan seconded. No discussion. Passed 3-0.

New Business: Gorrion Road Improvement BIDS: Anderson Brothers submitted a bid @ \$293,275.41. The road bid request was advertised in Brainerd Dispatch as well as the Echo. Brad and Doug will be working with Anderson's on the project. Doug made the motion to accept the bid of \$293,275.41 from Anderson Brothers for the whole road (about 1 mile). Paul seconded. Passed 3-0. **Oath of Office:** Supervisor Doug Kern and Clerk Sue Kern were sworn in, and the Oath of Office was recited. **Elect Chair & Vice Chair:** The Supervisors discussed the officer appointments. After discussion, Doug made a motion for himself to be Chair and Nathan to be Vice Chair. Nathan seconded. No discussion. Passed 3-0. **Annual Meeting Donation Requests:** There were 6 requests. The residents approved \$2000 for Zone One First Responders, \$500 to the Crow Wing County Fair Association and \$250 to the Crisis Line. Other requests were \$0.00. Nathan made the motion to approve the \$2,750 donations as listed above for the betterment of our community. Paul seconded. No discussion. Passed 3-0. The AED purchase was discussed, and Nathan will investigate prices and quality and report back. **Snowplowing and Tree Trimming:** The budget regarding these was discussed. This year we had record low snow falls and S&K Outdoor Services can do tree trimming. Doug made a motion to have S&K Outdoor Services cut trees up to a cost of \$20,000 @ \$325/hour. They have all the big necessary equipment and workers. Doug will be monitoring the work and revisiting the scope of work at the next meeting. Paul seconded. No discussion. Passed 3-0. Gerry and Linda will work on the trees on Wetherbee Road.

Unfinished Business: At the Annual Meeting the residents approved the levy for 2025:

General Fund: \$61,000
Road and Bridge: \$440,000
Fire Fund: \$65,000 (increase of \$1000)
Total: \$566,000

Paul made the motion to approve the levy as above. Doug seconded the motion. No discussion. Passed 3-0.

CIP Garage Addition Application: Brad presented a garage addition cost estimate. It was not a sealed quote but an estimate. An SSTS inspection will be needed and was not included in the estimate. Possible resources may be obtained through Sourcewell. **Consultant Reimbursement Community Solutions-Consultant Services Reimbursement for Local Governments:** It is possible that costs of the Planning and Zoning Administrator may be reimbursed partially through this program through Sourcewell. Paul will pursue.

Public comments: None.

Planning Commission Report: The Planning Commission did not meet in March. Brad will be meeting with Scott. Brad reported the County is updating their Comprehensive Plan and Ordinance language. Brad discussed violations and procedures. Possibilities of a Township clean-up day were discussed.

Treasurers Report: Time sheets were reviewed. Claims #2276 to #2286 were reviewed and approved. The MN Benefit Plan was reviewed. The Bronze policy for \$5000 per board member has been in place for years and there has not been an increase in the rate. Doug made the motion to approve keeping the MN Benefit Life Insurance Policy for the Board with the Bronze policy @ \$405. Paul seconded the motion. No discussion. Passed 3-0. First National Bank is offering the IntraFi program. No action was taken.

Road Report: Doug did the road report. Tree trimming is underway.

Cemetery Report: There are trees down in the Cemetery. Gerry will be working on clean-up.

Fire Administration: No report.

Administrative Business: MN Benefit Life Insurance: Approved earlier in the meeting. **2024-2025 Calendar:** The calendar for the Regular Meetings was reviewed. Doug made the motion to approve the calendar as presented. Nathan seconded. Passed 3-0.

Re-Organizational Items: The appointments were discussed. Doug made a blanket motion to keep the appointments the same. Paul seconded. No discussion. Passed 3-0. Doug will be Road Supervisor and in charge of the cemetery. Paul will be on the Planning and Zoning Commission. Nathan will be on the Fire Administration.

Doug made the motion to keep the depositories at First National Bank North. Nathan seconded. Passed 3-0.

Doug made the motion to continue with the two designated posting sites: town hall as the official site and on the Crow Wing Township website, with Special Meeting notices printed in the Brainerd Dispatch. Sending a newsletter to residents in February to include the Board of Audit and to reflect the date/time of the Annual Meeting and Election. Nathan seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Doug made the motion to continue with the following: Beaver bounty at \$40, gopher bounty at \$2, use of personal equipment @ \$15 per hour, with a minimum of \$15, and use of personal skidster at \$40 per hour, with a minimum of \$40. Nathan seconded. Passed 3-0.

Nathan made the motion to continue with the following: AWAIR Meeting Rate at \$25, Annual Meeting Moderator at \$25, Cemetery Actuary at \$25/per job, Hourly Employment at \$20 per hour, Lawn Mowing, Handyman, Cleaning Person at \$20 per hour. Paul seconded. Passed 3-0.

Wages for Township employees and committee members were reviewed. Doug made the motion to keep Supervisors @ \$100/month and \$100/meeting. Nathan seconded. Passed 3-0. Nathan made the motion for the Treasurer salary increase to \$600/month and \$100/meeting, and Clerk salary increase to \$1,200/month; \$20/hour for additional P&Z work and \$100/meeting. Doug seconded the motion. Passed 3-0. Paul made the motion to keep the Planning Commission Chair @ \$80/meeting & \$20/hour for additional P&Z work with Members @ \$50/meeting. Nathan seconded the motion. Passed 3-0.

Doug made a motion to set the Inspection Fee for P&Z violations at \$50 for each Planning Commission member present at the inspection. Paul seconded the motion. Passed 3-0.

Doug made the motion to keep Election Judges pay @ \$20/hour for Head Judge; \$15/hour for other judges (including township employees) plus mileage. Paul seconded the motion. Passed 3-0.

Nathan made a motion to keep the following at the same rate: Notary Stamp – free at the meetings, title searches – free unless by mail then \$25 fee will be charged, entry permits at \$50, photocopies – first 10 free, \$0.25 per page thereafter, and the Town Hall and Park Rental & Deposit - \$30 for resident, \$60 for non-resident with a damage deposit of \$250 which is refunded after the Town Hall is inspected. Paul seconded. No discussion. Passed 3-0.

Communications: Miscellaneous mail was reviewed.

Announcements: Spring Short Course @ Breezy Point on Monday, March 25, 2024. Road Tour April 20, 2024. AWAIR Meeting on May 14, 2024 @ 5:30 pm.

Approve Minutes: The March 7, 2024, meeting minutes were reviewed. Doug made the motion to approve the minutes as written. Nathan seconded the motion. No discussion. Passed 3-0.

Adjourn Meeting: Doug made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Nathan seconded. No discussion. Passed 3-0. The meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm.