

## **MARCH 18, 2025, 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 Lori Thramer, Deputy Treasurer Cody Osell, and Clerk Sue Kern.

**The Regular Town Board Meeting** was called to order at 6 pm. An invocation was given. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Residents were reminded to sign the roster. There were no gopher bounties.

**Approve Agenda:** Paul added a discussion about the 3<sup>rd</sup> party reimbursement through Sourcewell for Saeher Consulting. Doug made a motion to approve the agenda with the addition. Paul seconded. No discussion. Passed 3-0.

**Public Comments:** None.

**New Business: Oath of Office:** Supervisor Paul Stephany and Treasurer Lori Thramer were sworn in and the oath of office recited. **Election of Chair and Vice Chair:** The Supervisors discussed the officer appointments. Doug made the motion to appoint Nathan as Chair. Paul seconded the motion. No discussion. Passed 3-0. Nathan made a motion to appoint Doug as Vice Chair. Paul seconded. No discussion. Passed 3-0. **Committee Assignments:** Doug made a motion to keep the committee assignments as before with Doug being the Road Supervisor and in charge of the Cemetery, Paul being on Planning and Zoning, and Nathan in charge of Fire Administration. Paul seconded. No discussion. Passed 3-0.

**Annual Meeting Donation Requests:** After a lengthy discussion at the Annual Meeting, the residents voted to send no money to any of the organizations due to increases in cost of living and in their taxes in all areas except for the Township taxes. The residents felt there were no excess funds, and we needed to take care of roads that needed repairs. Each request was voted on individually but each were for no donation to be sent. Doug made the motion of a \$0 donation to Lakes Area Rescue, Crow Wing County Fair Association, American Legion School Safety program, Cuyuna Range Youth Center and the Crow Wing County Historical Society per the residents' request. Paul seconded. No discussion. Passed 3-0. The Clerk was instructed to send letters/emails to all the organizations.

**Unfinished Business:** At the Annual Meeting, the residents approved the levy for 2026:

General Fund: \$61,000  
Road and Bridge: \$440,000  
Fire Fund: \$65,000  
Total: \$566,000

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

**Planning Commission Report:** None.

**Treasurer's Report:** Payroll and claims #2570 to #2573 were reviewed and approved. After discussion about the need for a Deputy Treasurer and Lori choosing Cody, Doug made the motion to approve the appointment of Cody as Deputy Treasurer @ \$20 per hour. Paul seconded. No further discussion. Passed 3-0. The Clerk was instructed to write a letter to First National Bank North and have Lori added on to the account.

**Road Report:** Doug stated he was going to have S&K look at Lone Oak Drive & Stone Ridge and the potholes on Wetherbee just down from Wild Rice Depot.

**Cemetery Report:** No report.

**Fire Administration:** No report.

**Administrative Business: MN Benefit Life Insurance:** Nathan made the motion to approve keeping the MN Benefit Life Insurance Policy for the Board with the Bronze policy for \$5000 per board member @ \$405. This policy has been in place for years and there has not been an increase in rate. Paul seconded. No discussion. Passed 3-0.

**Reorganizational Items:** Nathan made the motion to keep the depositories at First National Bank North. Doug seconded. No discussion. Passed 3-0.

Paul made the motion to keep Wild Rice Depot as a courtesy site and to continue with the two designated posting sites: Town hall door as the official site and on the Crow Wing Township website, with Special Meeting notices printed in the Brainerd Dispatch and to send a newsletter to the residents following the Board of Audit in February to reflect the date/time of the Annual Meeting and Election. Doug seconded. No discussion. Passed 3-0.

Doug made a motion to approve the meeting schedule on the 2025-2026 calendar as written. Nathan seconded. No discussion. Passed 3-0.

Doug made a motion to continue with the following: Beaver bounty at \$40, gopher bounty at \$2, use of personal equipment \$15/hour with a minimum of \$15, and use of personal skid steer at \$40/hour with a minimum of \$40. Paul seconded. No discussion. Passed 3-0.

Doug made a motion to continue with the following: AWAIR meeting rate at \$25, Annual Meeting moderator \$25, Cemetery Actuary \$25/ per job, hourly employment \$20/hour, Handyman, lawnmowing and cleaning increased to \$25/hour and added Tree Removal/brushing \$40/hour. Paul seconded. No discussion. Passed 3-0.

Doug made a motion for township employee wages and committee members as follows: Supervisors \$100/month and \$100/meeting; Treasurer \$600/month and \$100/meeting; Deputy Treasurer \$20/hour was added; Clerk \$1,200/month, \$20/hour for additional P&Z work and \$100/meeting; Planning Commission Chair \$80/meeting & \$20/hour for additional P&Z work, PC members \$50/meeting. Nathan seconded. No discussion. Passed 3-0.

Doug made a motion to approve the P&Z Violation inspection fee at \$50 for each Planning Commission member present at the inspection. Paul seconded. No discussion. Passed 3-0.

Doug made a motion to keep Election Judge pay \$20/hour for head judge and \$15/hour for other judges plus mileage as in the past. Paul seconded the motion. No further discussion. Passed 3-0.

Doug made a motion to set the following: Notary stamp-free at meetings, title search-free unless by mail then \$25 fee will be charged, entry permits \$50, photocopies-first 10 free, \$0.25 per page thereafter, town hall and park rental & deposit \$30 for residents, \$60 for non-residents, damage deposit \$250. Paul seconded. No discussion. Passed 3-0.

**3<sup>rd</sup> Party Reimbursement with Sourcewell:** Paul contacted Sourcewell regarding reimbursement for the Planning and Zoning Administrator and he was told they have changed the rules, and it needs to be applied for in advance so Sourcewell can work on their budget. Paul will follow up.

**Communications:** Miscellaneous mail was reviewed.

**Announcements:** Spring short courses are coming up and board members were encouraged to attend. The AWAIR meeting is April 8<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 pm prior to the regular meeting, the Road Tour is April 12<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am with alternate date of May 10<sup>th</sup> if inclement weather, the Local Board of Appeal & Equalization at 10 am, and CWCATO is April 29<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm at our town hall.

**Approval of Minutes:** The minutes for March 4, 2025, were reviewed. Doug made the motion to approve the minutes as written. Paul seconded. No discussion. Passed 3-0. **The Annual Meeting Minutes** were reviewed.

**Adjournment:** There was no further business; meeting adjourned at 7:29 pm.