

## MINUTES

State of Minnesota

County of Chisago

Town of Franconia

The Franconia Town Board met on December 17, 2013, at the Franconia Town Hall with the following present: Supervisors: Vern Greene, Dennis Gustafson, Jim Birkholz, Missy Glenna, Clerk, Karen Anderson, Treasurer, and Mike Warner, Township Engineer. Guest: Tena Rytel, Geronimo Solar Panels.

Vern motioned to open the meeting at 7:05 p.m. The pledge of allegiance was waived.

Dennis motioned to approve the agenda for the meeting. Jim seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

Dennis motioned to approve the December 3, 2013, minutes as presented. Vern seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

### **Correspondence:**

Jim motioned that maintenance continue to plow DaySpring Hills development and charge \$115 per hour with a one hour minimum with a \$5 invoicing fee. Dennis seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

The Clerk received a phone call from a citizen regarding plowing a cul-de-sac. The Clerk contacted Stan to attend to this.

Tena Rytel from Geronimo Solar Panels presented information regarding their competition to sell renewable energy for peak usage locally in the summer. They have had a positive response in Chisago County. The Public Utilities Commission will decide in March or April of 2014. Geronimo is requesting support of their solar panels at a substation near County Road 25 in Franconia Township. The solar panels will not be visible from the road, are noiseless, and six feet tall. There will be a barbed wire fence and security cameras around the panels. If Geronimo is chosen by the Public Utilities Commission, they will have 20 year contract with Excel Energy and Franconia Township would receive \$1,200 per year.

### **Maintenance:**

Jim reported Stan has been busy plowing snow including drifting snow from the wind. Stan also addressed an issue on plowing in a cul-de-sac.

There have been citizens who have been plowing snow from their driveway across the road. This is a safety concern as it creates frozen snow drifts that stick out on the edge of roads and causes the snowplow to lurch out into the roadway.

### **Mike Warner, Township Engineer:**

Mike stated the DNR is on board regarding the Franconia Bridge. A box culvert is being considered. The County has a permit with the DNR.

Dennis motioned to pay up to \$15,000 for preliminary engineering fees for the Franconia Bridge. Jim seconded the motion. Discussion ensued. Mike stated \$28,000 is needed to get to the design stage. Motion was defeated 3-0.

### **Treasurer's Report:**

- The Treasurer provided a Cash Control Statement, a Current Investments Statement, a Receipts Register, a Disbursements Register, and a Statement of Orders Issued (Schedule 9).
- Dennis motioned to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented. Jim seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.
- Vern motioned to approve the payroll with checks #11345 and #11346. Dennis seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.
- Vern motioned to transfer \$68,507.90 from the Blacktop Fund to the 260<sup>th</sup> Street Bond Fund. Jim seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.
- The Treasurer provided Resolution 2013-12-17. Vern motioned to accept \$36,000.00 from the Shafer Volunteer Fireman's Association. Dennis seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:           Dennis, yes  
                                  Jim, yes  
                                  Vern, yes

Motion carried.

- Vern motioned that the Treasurer purchase a certificate of deposit at the State Bank of Marine in the amount of \$36,000 at the Treasurer's discretion for the best rate. Dennis seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

### **Clerk's Report:**

- Vern motioned to approve claims #01213, 11347-11353. Dennis seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.
- The Clerk published the Affidavit of Candidacy Filing Notice in the December 12, 2013, and the December 19, 2013, Chisago County Press papers. This was also posted at Franconia Trail/Redwing Avenue and the Franconia Town Hall. The Filing Notice was posted on the Township's website as well. The Filing period is from December 31, 2013, through January 14, 2014.

Township Engineer, Ryan Goodman entered the meeting 9:15pm.

There was discussion regarding the Franconia Bridge.

Dennis motioned to pay \$26,000 to Bolton and Menk for the preliminary engineering fees for the Franconia Bridge L0164. Jim seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

### **Old Business:**

There was discussion regarding engine size versus cost for purchasing a plow truck.

**New Business:**

Lindstrom Fire will be inviting townships who pay for services to a meeting in January.

Jim motioned to support Resolution 2013-12-17-01 in support of a Comprehensive Omnibus Transportation Bill. Dennis seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:                   Dennis, yes  
  Jim, yes  
  Vern, yes

Motion carried 3-0.

**Committee Reports:**

Dennis and Jim reported the Shafer/Franconia Fire Department received a small grant for equipment in the amount of \$1200, with which a new hose was purchased.

Bob Nash from Shafer Firemen’s Relief Association asked for Franconia Township to contribute to the Fire Relief Association which goes to the firemen’s pension.

**Upcoming Meetings:**

- Franconia Township regular meeting, January 7, 2014, 7pm, Franconia Town Hall
- Franconia Township regular meeting, January 21, 2014, 7pm, Franconia Town Hall
- CCATO meeting January 29, 2014, 7pm, North Branch Senior Center

Jim motioned to adjourn the meeting at 9:41pm. Dennis seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Melissa (Missy) Glenna  
Franconia Township Clerk

Vern Greene  
Franconia Township Chairman