

Franconia Township, Minnesota
Town Board of Supervisors Meeting - Tuesday August 13, 2019
Franconia Town Hall 25156 St. Croix Trail. N. Shafer, MN 55074

Town Board Members Present

Dennis Gustafson - Chair
Owen Kuhnly - Vice Chair
Kevin Rochel - Supervisor
Starsha Froberg – Clerk
Karen Anderson - Treasurer
Lee Cartier - Maintenance
Jake Guzik - Engineer

Others Present:

see attached sheet

Call to Order

Chairman Dennis Gustafson called the monthly Franconia Township board meeting to order at 7:00PM. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Approve Agenda:

Dennis Gustafson recommended the following changes to the arrangement of items listed on the agenda. FTCC to present after Elizabeth West and the addition of ARMER radio with a discussion regarding Lawrence Creek Road. Kevin Rochel made a motion to approve the agenda with the changes. Owen Kuhnly seconded the motion. Motion carried.

New Business:

Franconia Sculpture Park:

Elizabeth West in association with Franconia Sculpture Park presented all the necessary paperwork to the board of supervisors seeking approval for a temporary liquor license. Dennis Gustafson motioned to approve the temporary license. Owen Kuhnly seconded the motion. Motion carried.

FTCC:

Franconia Township Communications Committee prepared an educational presentation for the residents of Franconia Township on a desired future broadband project in Franconia Township. The committee presented to the board a resolution to be signed by the Chairman in support of working together with Consolidated Telephone Company to apply for a border to border grant. The program, if awarded to the township would fund part of a widely accepted community fiber optic project. Board members Owen Kuhnly and Kevin Rochel offered their support to the community members present. Dennis made a motion to sign the Resolution for CTC. Seconded by Owen Kuhnly. Motion carried.

Meeting Minutes:

A motion was made by Kevin Rochel to approve the July Meeting minutes. Owen Kuhnly seconded the motion. Motion carried.

New Business Continued;

Engineer Report:

Township engineer, Jake Guzik delivered to the supervisors pay requests needing signatures for the 285th Street and Franconia Trail Street Improvement project for a total of \$62,923.25. As well as the 2019 Bituminous Patching Project totaling \$222,446.11. Dennis Gustafson made a motion to accept and to sign the pay requests. Kevin Rochel seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Treasurer Report:

Karen Anderson presented the board with claim numbers to be submitted for approval; 000719; #407 through #4011; ph00819; 12845 through 12858; and #12863 for a total of \$295,395.70. Payroll checks #12859; #12860; #12861 and #12862.

Kevin Rochel made the motion to approve the Treasurers report, claims and payroll. Dennis Gustafson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

MidWestOne & Security State Bank of Marine:

Kevin Rochel made a motion to add Clerk, Starsha Froberg to the list of designated signers for the banks. Owen Kuhnly seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Couri & Ruppe, P.L.L.P.:

The Board discussed details of an invoice billed to the township for legal services. Gustafson suggested the bill not be paid by the Township. Dennis Gustafson asked for a roll call vote if the invoice is to be paid by the township. Kevin Rochel and Owen Kuhnly voted yes and Dennis Gustafson voted no. The motion for the township to pay the invoice carried 2-1.

Special Meeting Legal fees:

Chisago Lakes Township in association with Franconia Township called a special meeting to be held at the Chisago Lakes Township Town Hall on August 13, 2019 at 4pm. The meeting was called to discuss with attorney, Bob Ruppe from Couri & Ruppe P.L.L.P. different funding options regarding a possible future broadband installation project in Franconia Township. Special Assessment 429, SSD and Tax Abatement (levy) options were discussed in detail.

Supervisor Kevin Rochel made a motion to equally split the legal fees accrued with Chisago Lakes Township. Dennis Gustafson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Special Meeting; setting levy:

Dennis Gustafson suggested to the board calling a special meeting to reassess the levy for 2020. No decision was made at this time. The levy will be tabled until the next board of supervisors meeting.

Board Approval for attending meetings:

Chairman Dennis Gustafson commented on how the approval for meetings was set last March during the Town Board Meeting and found "no need to discuss". Gustafson added that board members are welcome to attend the Annual Minnesota Association of Townships meeting this November (2019).

Old Business:

ARMER Radio:

Dennis Gustafson shared the invoice from the county for the ARMER radio. This invoice is paid through the Shafer/Franconia Fire Department.

Chairman Gustafson briefly shared information on a grant application being considered by the joint powers board to purchase more radios for the county. Gustafson will update the board when he receives more information before going further in the grant process.

Franconia Township Website:

Supervisor Owen Kuhnly commented to the board that the website needs to be updated with board member information as well as the importance of the webhost working with one board member to do this. After discussion between board members it was agreed that Clerk, Starsha Froberg is to be Lynn Koalska's first contact regarding information for the township website.

Maintenance Report:

Lee Cartier presented to the board contact information to receive credits for damages made by Xcel on 280th during a repair. He also suggested to the board to consider setting up an area of land designated for homeowners to use as a community brush pile. Lee agreed to compile more information on logistics before the board makes a decision.

Clerk Report:

Starsha Froberg presented to the board the septic and building permits approved by Chisago County in the month of July. Clerk Froberg also asked the board for their opinion and suggestions on the need to appoint a deputy clerk at this time. If and when needed, the Clerk will appoint a Deputy Clerk.

Wage Review:

Wage review for Lee Cartier. Dennis Gustafson shared he is taking the same stance as he had stated in the last month's meeting to table this topic until a later date. Discussion on what to set the newly appointed Clerk, Starsha Froberg's wages concluded in staying at the same rate of pay as the previous clerk. Dennis Gustafson made a motion to pay Starsha Froberg the same monthly wage as the previous Clerk, Shirley Gustafson was paid as a clerk. Owen Kuhnly seconded the motion. Motion carried.

A motion made by Dennis Gustafson to adjourn the meeting at 9:06 PM (August 13th 2019) was seconded by Kevin Rochel motion carried. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Approved