

## Franconia Township Minutes

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State of Minnesota  
County of Chisago  
Town Of Franconia, 25156 St. Croix Trail, Shafer MN 55074  
Town Board meeting – Tuesday, October 13, 2020

Town Board members present – Owen Kuhnly, Chairman; Dennis Gustafson, Vice-Chair; Sonny Sparby, Supervisor; Karen Anderson, Treasurer/Temporary Clerk; Lee Cartier, Maintenance and Jake Guzik, Engineer.

Citizens present – Angela Dahlstrom; Wendy Kowalke; Neil Hall; Kevin Carlson; Maddie Babel; Peter Smothers; Monique Wallis and Adam Wallis.

The Board met at 6:00 p.m. to review the storage and space situation in the maintenance garage.

At 6:30 p.m. the board held an interview with Angela Dahlstrom for the Clerk position.

The Franconia Town Board meeting was called to order by Chairman Owen Kuhnly at 7:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Motion made by Dennis and seconded by Sonny to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

Motion made by Dennis and seconded by Owen to approve the October 13<sup>th</sup> minutes. Motion carried. There were no September minutes presented.

Clerk updates – building permits issued by the County.

Engineer Jake Guzik – presented to the Board the final payment request from Dunaway Construction for the 260th project for \$11,207.57. Motion made by Dennis and seconded by Sonny to pay the final payment. Motion carried.

Jake informed the board that the crack sealing is complete.

Jake informed the board that he would need some building information before doing the land survey for the new town hall site. Owen will get some examples to Jake and Dennis will send him Chisago Lake Township's building layout.

Per Jake the 2021 bridge inspection report at Lawrence Creek shows that it is not required to repair the bridge.

The treasurer report was presented by Treasurer, Karen Anderson. Motion made by Dennis and seconded by Sonny to approve the report. Motion carried. Motion made by Dennis and seconded by Sonny to pay claims #1218 thru #1239 for a total of \$92,481.26 and payroll. Motion carried. Due to no clerk only the Chairman and Treasurer will sign checks.

## Franconia Township Minutes

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Maintenance – Lee Cartier informed the board that Xcel would install a street light at 260<sup>th</sup> and Olinda Trail for free, but we would have to pay the monthly electric bill. No action taken. Lee received a quote from People’s Security for \$263.88 to fix the security system. No action taken. Board suggested getting a couple of security system quotes from other vendors.

The culvert at Quinton and 260<sup>th</sup> is failing. It is backing water into a field and needs to be replaced. Lee received two vendor quotes for the repairs. R.E. Peterson \$2,500 and we supply the culvert and aprons; J & S Construction \$2,700 and we supply the culvert and the aprons. Motion made by Owen to accept the quote from R.E. Peterson to repair the culvert for \$2,500 with the Township supplying the culvert and aprons and seconded by Sonny. Motion carried. Lee stated the new tractor does a good job mowing and is more economical.

Lee reported that the maintenance truck is now in the shop and equipment attachments are under the lean to.

The board informed Lee when taking PTO time off to send an email with the dates to the clerk and she will forward the email onto the board.

### **New Business**

Kevin Carlson presented a mylar plat that he needed the Chairman and Clerk to sign and date, so he could return it to the County for the subdivision of his property. Chairman and Clerk signed and dated the plat. The Board asked Mr. Carlson to send the Township a copy of the plat.

Peter Smothers, Owner of Model Holdings LLC asked the board to approve a request for subdividing property on Pleasant Valley Road. Motion made by Dennis and seconded by Sonny to approve the subdivision of property. Motion carried.

Adam and Monique Wallis from Bloom Lake Barn presented to the board all of the things they have been doing to help stop their customers from using Quinlan Avenue and were open to suggests by the residence. Neil Hall stated he had a petition from residence living on Quinlan and Bloom Lake Road against the usage of the road for Bloom Lake Barn events. They are concerned about the excessive usage of the road causing potholes, wash boarding and the speed of the traffic and danger to residents. Mr. Wallis stated he is complying with his CUP and has been doing dust control. It was suggested to Mr. Wallis to try to direct the traffic to Redwing Avenue. He stated that in the literature he sends to his customers he does give directions and clearly states to use Redwing Avenue. When people google for directions it is sending them to Quinlan. He has tried to contact people at google to try to get this changed without any success. Board informed the residence that it is not possible to close the access from Quinlan to Highway 8. Mr. Hall stated that there are over 100 cars per day using Quinlan. Suggestions made were to post a weight limit sign, Mr. Wallis to put directional signs out when there is an event. Mr. Wallis has stated that he has done that in the past and the signs were stolen, but he will do it again. He will also try again with google and other direction apps to get directions changed to Redwing Avenue. This subject will be put on the November agenda to discuss more ideas on how to divert the traffic off of Quinlan to Redwing.

Motion made by Dennis and seconded by Owen to accept the CCATO bylaws. Motion carried.

## Franconia Township Minutes

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Maddie Babel thanked the board for issuing the liquor license at the last meeting for the Franconia Sculpture Park event.

Craig Kaiser is requesting his driveway refund of \$1500, as he is not starting to build in the near future. A motion made by Dennis to refund the \$1500 with a letter stating that he would have to repay the \$1500, when he decides to build on the property. Motion seconded by Sonny. Motion carried.

Owen made a motion to hire Angela Dahlstrom as the Franconia Clerk with a monthly salary of \$600.00 and \$60.00 per additional meeting attended not including the regular meeting, a \$50.00 monthly phone stipend. There will be no PTO, holiday pay or health insurance coverage. Angela needs to sign a contract stating her wages and required clerk duties. Her starting date will be November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020. Motion seconded by Dennis. Motion carried.

Citizen Forum – Wendy Kowalke, Sunrise Township Clerk informed the board that she will help Angela with her clerk duties.

### Old Business

Stumps – No action

Board approved to allow Sonny to voluntarily work with Lee when he needs help. Sonny will receive no wages when volunteering.

Website - Dan was not present to give any updates on the Township website. It was suggested to talk with Chisago Lakes and Scandia to see who does their website.

Motion made by Dennis and seconded by Owen to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

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Karen Anderson, Clerk/Treasurer

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Owen Kuhnly, Chairman