

**Franconia Township, Minnesota**  
**Town Board of Supervisors Meeting – July 13, 2021**  
**Franconia Town Hall, 25156 St. Croix Trail N Shafer, MN 55074**

**Town Board Members Present**

Owen Kuhnly – Chair  
Dennis Gustafson – Vice-Chair  
Sonny Sparby – Supervisor  
Angela Dahlstrom– Clerk  
Karen Anderson - Treasurer  
Lee Cartier - Maintenance  
Jake Guzik – Engineer

**Residents Present:**

Sheriff Brandon Thyen  
Kathy Dellwo  
Mark Dellwo  
Sarah Eagon  
Dan Eagon  
Terri Shaleen

**Call to Order**

Chairman Owen Kuhnly called the monthly Franconia Township board meeting to order at 6:59 pm.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**Approve Agenda:**

The agenda was reviewed, and two additions to New Business were added; Noise Ordinance and Rescue Plan. Dennis Gustafson made a motion to approve the agenda and seconded by Sonny Sparby. Motion carried.

**Approval of Previous Minutes:**

Sonny Sparby made a motion to approve the June 8, 2021 the Town Board of Supervisors meeting minutes and seconded by Dennis Gustafson. Motion carried.

## **Board Member Reports:**

### **Engineer – Jake Guzik:**

Construction on Lawrence Creek Parkway is underway, and is about 75% completed. Payment request will be added to August meeting. Seal coating estimated to start the 3<sup>rd</sup> week of August. Shouldering will be done before patching, and is estimated to be done by the end of July. There was discussion of moving up the completion date for road projects in 2022 when estimates are obtained.

The Appropriations Bill pertaining to the American Rescue Plan(ARP) was approved, however, the amount approved was not clear as of yet. The State will allocate the funds to all Cities and Townships. The County will get funds from the Federal Government. There was discussion of guidelines on approved spending. Dennis Gustafson suggested to hold a special meeting July 27, 2021 to review parameters for ARP spending. Owen Kuhnly made a motion to hold the meeting July 27, 2021, Sonny Sparby seconded the motion. Motion carried.

### **Maintenance Report:**

The damage on Sierra was not caused by Graphic Homes. A search for the homeowner and permit will be done and reported at the next meeting.

Lee reported dust control was applied on Old Field Road 255<sup>th</sup>, and Panola. The weather has been too dry to grade roads, however, 259<sup>th</sup> was graded. North Olympic has had a lot of traffic, and needs to be graded when it can. Bluhm is set to start repair in a couple of weeks, and then Franconia Trail after that. Culverts on Franconia Trail will be looked at during repair. Quinlan has heavy trucks coming through with backhoes. There was discussion of putting 5-ton weight limit signs on 8<sup>th</sup>. Summer Street had class 5 laid to the boat landing. Reviewed spraying for weeds, the Township does not spray for weeds, it was recommended citizens contact the county. The State Law says Townships are responsible for right-of-ways. Mention of an estimate for the cost of a mini-split AC Unit for the Township would be around \$3000.00.

### **Treasurer Report:**

Karen Anderson presented for approval to the board claim #1436 through #1461 for a total of \$48,068.08, and payroll checks #13335 through #13340 for a total of \$7,235.39. Dennis Gustafson made a motion to approve the Treasurer's report, claims and payroll. Owen Kuhnly seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**Township Clerk:**

Angela Dahlstrom verified all driveway permits were reviewed. Right-of-way applications were received from Olson's Sewer Service and Frontier Communications, and also submitted for review.

**Citizens Forum****New Business**

The Book Grant deadline has come, however due to Covid and Health issues that have come up, it has delayed the completion. Dennis Gustafson reached out to the State, and has received a letter extending the deadline for 1 year. It was requested Angela send an email to the Book Project Team to review completion goals and updates.

The Noise Ordinance was addressed. Sheriff Brandon Thyen discussed the noise ordinance, and the requirements to enforce the noise ordinance. The court needs to review the noise ordinance and approve the document. If the ordinance is approved, the ordinance can be upheld if a person contests citations in court. Also signs need to be posted for enforcement. Sheriff Thyen talked about enforcing the ordinance, the parameters of how enforcement would be carried out, and if the Township wanted a contract may be an option. Dennis Gustafson did say it is a requirement that MN Dot place signs, at a cost to the Township. MN Dot recommends a sign at entrances to the township. The cost of each sign and placement is \$1000.00. Sonny Sparby made a motion for a sign, Owen Kuhnly seconded. A request to amend that motion to two signs, one for Highway 8 and one for 243, was made by Sonny Sparby and Owen Kuhnly seconded that amended motion. Motion carried.

The Federal Government has passed the American Rescue Plan (ARP) in response to the Covid pandemic. The ARP funds for the Township will be \$220,000 distributed in two payments. The Government will have implemented guidelines of how the fund can be spent. The Board discussed possible scenarios and guidelines. Dennis Gustafson made a motion to get a meeting together to discuss the guidelines for the relief funds and Township improvements. A special meeting was set for Tuesday, July 27, 2021 at 7:00pm. Owen Kuhnly motioned to approve the special meeting, Sonny Sparby seconded. Motion carried.

Residents Kathy & Mark Dellwo, Sarah & Dan Eagan, and Terri Shaleen of Quiet Valley Road were present to gather information on possibly blacktopping the Road. The Board let them know for a dead end road, Residents cover 75%, the Township covers 25%. On a through street road the Township covers 75%, Residents cover 25%. If a majority of the Residents sign to request getting the road blacktopped, the Board will review to get estimates written up. There was review of other residential roads that were blacktopped, and the process used for blacktopping the road itself. Also discussed was the payment process if approved. Typically, residents could pay their portion within 90 days, or it could be put in with their taxes. If decided to add to taxes, it would go over 10 years, but if the property is sold, that amount would have to be paid back before the title transfer of the property.

**Old Business:**

**Upcoming Meetings**

Regular Board Meeting – August 10, 2021 7:00 p.m.

CCATO – August 25, 2021 7:00 p.m.

Annual Meeting Cont.- August 24, 2021 7:00 p.m.

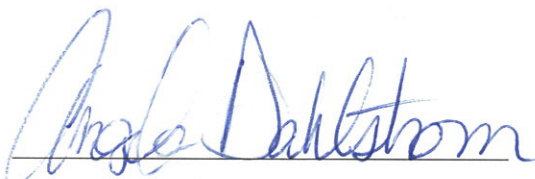
Joint Powers – September 13, 2021 7:00 pm

**Adjournment**

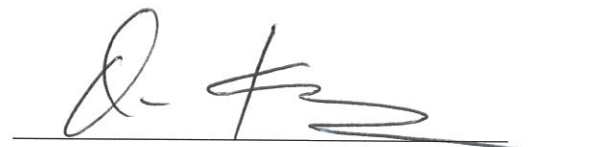
A motion to adjourn the July Regular Board Meeting was made by Owen Kuhnly and seconded by Sonny Sparby. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned 8:27 pm

Respectfully Submitted,



Angela Dahlstrom, Clerk



Owen Kuhnly, Chairman