

**Franconia Township, Minnesota**  
**Town Board of Supervisors Meeting – November 9, 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  
Jake Guzik – Engineer (not present)  
Lee Cartier - Maintenance  
Karen Anderson - Treasurer  
Angela Dahlstrom– Clerk

**Residents Present:**

Daniel Omdahl  
Jen McLaughlin  
John Zach

**Call to Order**

Chairman Owen Kuhnly called the Employee review meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

**Employee Review;**

The Board of Supervisors held an Employee review for Clerk, Angela Dahlstrom. The Board recommended to get training from MAT for CTAS classes. No further issues at this time.

**Adjournment:**

Employee review adjourned at 6:41 pm.

**Call to Order**

Chairman Owen Kuhnly called the monthly Franconia Township board meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

### **Approve Agenda:**

The agenda was reviewed; an addition of Employee Review was added to Clerk Updates. Dennis Gustafson made a motion to approve the agenda and seconded by Sonny Sparby. Motion carried.

### **Approval of Previous Minutes:**

October Minutes were reviewed. Owen Kuhnly made a motion to approve the October Town Board of Supervisors meeting minutes and seconded by Sonny Sparby. Motion carried.

October Special Meeting minutes were reviewed. Sonny Sparby made a motion to approve the October Special Meeting minutes and seconded by Dennis Gustafson. Motion carried.

### **Board Member Reports:**

#### **Engineer – Jake Guzik:**

Jake Guzik was unable to attend, but did submit two pay requests. One for Lawrence Creek Road Improvement Project, and one for the 2021 Gravel Project.

#### **Maintenance Report:**

Lee reported it has been dry out, so he has been brush mowing. He said there have been numerous road signs run over as of late. About 6-8 signs he has had to reinstall. He has been trying to get grading in before the snow and freeze come. Lee mentioned that there had been a culvert failure on North Quinlan. The charge to get it repaired was quoted by Peterson Co. to be \$7041 and RE Peterson quoted \$6518 to repair the culvert. North Quinlan needs work on the road, for sure class 5, and maybe material. Mainly the repair is needed between Co. 26 and Hwy. 8. Also the South end of Olympic Trail gets rough. The dog boarding place at the end of that road gets a lot of traffic, it was mentioned that a CPU/dust control may be looked into. That may also want to be reviewed with Panola Valley Garden. The brush on 259<sup>th</sup> did get cleaned up after the storm. There was someone hired to grind the stumps. Lee said that Gary would be in at 8:00 am to talk about possible back up/part time employee with the Township. Lee did get two quotes for a plow for the truck. Cry Steel in Fridley quoted \$6431 for a plow and install. Stan's Equipment in Pine City quoted \$5589 for plow and install. Sonny Sparby made a motion to go with the lowest bid, and seconded by Owen Kuhnly. Motion carried.

**Treasurer Report:**

Karen Anderson presented for approval to the board claim #1529 through #1546 for a total of \$58,938.98 and payroll checks #13428 through #13430 for a total of \$4,586.21. Dennis Gustafson made a motion to approve the Treasurer's report, payroll, and claims. Sonny Sparby seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**Township Clerk:**

Angela Dahlstrom submitted permits for review. Right of Way permits were approved for Xcel/Hauge and Frontier/Weinzetl. A review for redistricting for Franconia Township was discussed, as the Auditor will be requesting a resolution. Franconia Township will have no changes.

**Citizens Forum****New Business:****Old Business:**

There was review of the Midco expansion of services into Franconia Township. Midco was planning to cover 188 homes in Franconia. Dan Omdahl was present, and said that funding has come in from the Government to all fiber optic/ internet providers, and that may mean many companies will be looking to install internet services throughout the county. He did say Midco does work in sections. Midco did not get ARP funds for Franconia, Windstream was awarded those funds. Windstream bid on all of Chisago County. East Central Energy had sent out an email expressing they were interested in getting into broadband as well. At the CCATO meeting Chase Burnham had presented information on Hometown Fiber coming into Chisago County, and will most likely be putting fiber optic throughout the County. The question was asked what happens if both Windstream and Hometown Fiber install services? At this time there was not an answer for that question.

The Board received an email from Tony Minnichsoffer requesting reconsideration for payment of a claim submitted to the Board by Fitzie Heimdahl. The Board reviewed the claim submitted for a luncheon discussing the book. The grant states "no grant funds may be used to pay indirect costs". Dennis Gustafson did say there was an account that was held at MidWestOne Bank with funds that Taylors Falls had left over from the

Sesquicentennial. Sue Thompson with the Historical Society said there were funds left in the coffers that Taylors Falls needed to disperse. The Board discussed that those funds are Township funds, and the Board did not feel they could disperse the funds for luncheons. The Board did suggest inviting Mr. Minnichsoffer and Mr. Heimdahl to the December Board Meeting to discuss.

Joint Powers met on October 4, 2021. An amendment to the Joint Powers Agreement was completed between the City of Shafer and Franconia Township for the Shafer/Franconia Fire Department. Dennis Gustafson made a motion to approve the amendment, and Owen Kuhnly seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

Residents Jen McLaughlin and John Zach of Quiet Valley were present to see if there were any updates on the Quiet Valley paving project. Owen Kuhnly said he reran some numbers and took some costs off the initial base estimate. Owen believed it would be about \$3000 per resident including Engineering fees. That would be strictly for the Quiet Valley Road.

Plans for a new Town Hall were discussed, and using ARP funds toward a new Town Hall. Drafts were sent out to be looked at to B&B Built. Also contact was attempted to Sherman Associates. Walters was believed to have constructed Chisago City Town Hall, and may be contacted as well. At the CCATO meeting discussion of Relief Funds came up. Legislation is trying to pass that there are no restrictions on how the ARP funds are used. Joint Powers had discussion of where the new Fire Department building would be placed. There is no land in Shafer to build the Fire Department. The city has Pull Tabs to raise funds for the Fire Department, it has made \$520,000.00 in three years. Not all funds go specifically to the Fire Department as fees have to be paid for rent, taxes, etc. The Fire Department will also need tanks in a couple of years, so funds will be needed to cover that cost.

### **Upcoming Meetings**

CCATO – December 8, 2021 7:00 p.m. Amador Township

Joint Powers – December 13, 2021 7:00 p.m.

Regular Board Meeting – December 14, 2021 7:00 p.m.

**Adjournment**

A motion to adjourn the November Regular Board Meeting was made by Sonny Sparby and seconded by Dennis Gustafson. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

  
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Angela Dahlstrom, Clerk

  
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Owen Kuhnly, Chairman

