

Franconia Township, Minnesota
Town Board of Supervisors Meeting – July 19, 2022
Franconia Town Hall, 25156 St. Croix Trail N Shafer, MN 55074

Town Board Members Present

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

Residents Present:

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|-----------------|----------------|------------------|
| Richard Greene | George DeGidio | Dennis Gustafson |
| Alison Ogren | Ani Kasten | Garett Bartholme |
| Starsha Froberg | Ron Elfstrom | David Strack |

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, and an addition to Clerk Reports was requested for two Conditional Use Permits. Sonny Sparby made a motion to approve the agenda with the addition, and seconded by Doug Wallis. Motion carried.

Approval of Previous Minutes:

June Minutes were reviewed. Doug Wallis made a motion to approve the minutes and seconded by Sonny Sparby. Motion carried.

Board Member Reports:

Engineering Report:

Jake Guzik presented Contractor's Pay Request No. 1 in the amount of \$109,531.40 to Fahrner Asphalt Sealers, LLC for the 2022 Seal Coat Project. Owen Kuhnly made a motion to approve the payment, seconded by Sonny Sparby. Motion carried.

Jake gave information about Midco doing right of way work in Franconia, and presented a right of Way Permit for Midco, for the proposed fiber optic line installation in Franconia Township.

Chisago County Rd 86/Redwing Ave. resurfacing project is set to start August 1, 2022. The project is anticipated to be completed in mid-September.

Maintenance Report:

Lee reported he got in mowing, wrapped up grading, did spot graveling on North Quinlan and a couple of other roads. North Quinlan had dust coating at the north end, but Lee did not receive notice of when it was going to be done, so he was not able to get out and prepare the road. Lee and Gary did get tree storm damage cleaned up. The guardrail was installed on the hill down to Franconia. A couple of posts need to be adjusted, the company that did the work will come back and straighten out the posts. Reflectors were also put on the road. The septic tank at the town hall a couple of years ago had a pipe collapse. Lee noticed there is now a dip in the pipe. The dip will hold a couple of inches of water at this point, and will cause a freezing issue in the winter. There is the option to either do the concrete work to straighten it out or change it out. Lee will get a couple of estimates on repair work.

Treasurer Report:

Karen Anderson presented for approval to the board claim #1709 through #1739 for a total of \$182,581.22 and payroll checks #13600 through #13606 for a total of \$7,321.52. Doug Wallis made a motion to approve the Treasurer's report, payroll, and claims seconded by Sonny Sparby. Motion carried.

Karen has attempted to reach out to Auditor Michael Pofahl to see if he contacted Ehlers Public Finance Advisors about the Master Arbitrage Services Contract from Ehlers Public Finance Advisors. Karen did not get ahold of Mike, as he has no voicemail, and no text but she will continue to try and reach him.

Karen did say she had been called into the office at MidWestOne, to be shown the interest rates on CDs. The Board talked about putting ARPA funds into a CD. Owen asked if funds are put in a CD, can they be pulled out at any time without a penalty. He

wanted to be sure if funds needed to be pulled out they could be. He asked if the terms could be a shorter time period. Also ARPA funds may want to be separated out in its own account. Karen will look into further information.

Township Clerk:

Permits were submitted to the Board for review.

August 9, 2022 Primary Elections are coming up. Angela, Doug and Lee will set up Town Hall at 6:00pm for Election day.

A Conditional Use Permit was presented by Alison Ogren and Garrett Bartholme, at 28445 St. Croix Trail N. They are submitting a commercial recreational use application to have up to 3 sites that would consist of 2 four season Bell Tents. The Board did approve the Conditional Use Permit.

A Conditional Use Permit was presented by Ani Kasten at 29815 Unity Ave. She is submitting an application for a commercial recreational area. She is requesting to continue to use the barn as a small studio, but to be able to use it commercially, to be able to operate year round, and to add the ability to rent her two-person Bell Tent. The Board did talk to her about the driveways, and she may need to pull a driveway permit. Lee will get her a permit application. Ultimately the Board did approve the Conditional Use Permit.

Citizens Forum

Starsha Froberg asked about CDs through the Financial Institution, and if it would have to be a Board meeting vote. The Board did say it would not have to be a vote, as the money was not being spent.

A question was asked about spraying for weeds in ditches. It was recommended to contact Chisago County.

An inquiry was made for when the 243 bridge will be worked on. The estimated date is now set for 2026.

Dennis Gustafson asked what the current projection was for road projects in the township. The Board did say Quiet Valley is looking at a double chip seal, there has been graveling done, patching, an apron for Highway 8. Dennis thought the road budget seemed like it was low. Dennis wanted to know what the Township has done for the budget. Jake did say \$450,000 included more than just the road maintenance. Inflation has affected the costs, fuel has gone up substantially, but Dennis was welcome to come to the annual meeting continuation and the road funds spent will be addressed there.

Starsha asked how to sign up for the Fire Department, Ron did say the Fire Hall was open the 1st and 3rd Wednesday at 7:30pm.

Rick Greene asked if Hometown Fiber had met with Franconia Township. Hometown fiber did meet with Franconia, but did not present quotes. Hometown was presenting to the Townships in Chisago County to see how many would be interested in participating which would determine costs. Windstream did win the contract for Franconia Township some time ago, which was supposed to be no cost. Windstream was to start bringing Fiber to Franconia Township within six years. Franconia Township is reviewing options.

New Business:

Karen Anderson did request a review of changing the date of the monthly meeting. The Board did say they would think about that.

David Stack with Midco Construction was in attendance to review the Right of Way permit. A Certificate of Liability Insurance was presented. Jake Guzik did recommend approval of the proposed fiber optic line installation based on conditions that were presented. The Permit was approved and signed.

A request to put together a Town Hall Committee was discussed at the June meeting. There were 5 residents who did come forward and request to be a part of that committee. Dennis Gustafson, Starsha Froberg, George DeGidio, Ron Elfstrom, and Chuck Fitzer. A meeting for the Town Hall Committee was set for August 4, 2022 at 7:00pm. Owen Kuhnly made a motion to approve the committee, seconded by Sonny Sparby. Motion carried.

The Town Hall website was reviewed; the Fire Department information needs to be updated. Owen did have Lynn update the website information.

The monthly meeting date for September needs to be changed. The continuation of the annual meeting is set for the third Tuesday of the month, September 20, 2022 at 7:00pm. Therefore, the regular Board meeting will be set for September 22, 2022 at 7:00 pm. Doug Wallis made a motion to approve the date, seconded by Sonny Sparby. Motion carried.

Old Business:

The book grant for Franconia Township was due in June. It was requested Angela reach out to Fizzie and Tony to find out where the book progress was at.

Upcoming Meetings

CCATO – August 31, 2022 7:00 p.m. Franconia Town Hall

Regular Board Meeting – August 16, 2022 7:00 p.m.

Joint Powers – September 12, 2022 7:00 p.m.

Adjournment

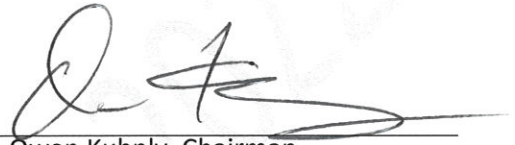
A motion to adjourn the July Regular Board Meeting was made by Sonny Sparby and seconded by Doug Wallis. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned 8:34 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Angela Dahlstrom, Clerk



Owen Kuhnly, Chairman

