

Franconia Township, Minnesota
Town Board of Supervisors Meeting – November 15, 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:

George DeGidio
Chuck Fitzer
Richard Greene

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. Doug Wallis made a motion to approve the agenda, seconded by Sonny Sparby. Motion carried.

Approval of Previous Minutes:

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

Board Member Reports:

Engineering Report:

Jake presented a proposal for the new Town Hall site. The proposal included a preliminary topographic field survey, environmental work, plan preparation and design, bidding and contract administration and stakeholder engagement. The total estimated fee for engineering services would be \$35,000.00. The estimated soil borings and material testing is \$25,000.00. The estimated construction costs (preliminary estimate) is \$250,000-\$300,000. The Board would like to gather a couple of other bids based on the same scope of work.

Maintenance Report:

Lee reported he has been doing brush mowing and cleaning ditches. He did get grading done, and has been prepping roads for winter. He did get sanding done on Monday, however, the sander on the dump truck was not working properly, so a repair worker will be out to fix it.

The Sheriff dept. called about damage on 280th off of Quinlan today. A quad axle dump truck had tipped over on its side. Lee will assess the damage when the site is clear.

The first load of salt was received. Jim Vitalis came in and took a tour with Lee, and helped Lee clean out culverts and ditches.

There is a new driveway on Que Ave. that there has been no information or permits received for. Lee will review the GIS system to see if he can find information on the residents. The Board did question if there was ever a 2nd permit pulled for the home on Unity. There was no memory of a permit pulled for that drive.

Treasurer Report:

Karen Anderson presented for approval to the board claim #1806 through #1823 for a total of \$8,765.40 and payroll checks #13684 through #13695 for a total of \$6,280.09.

Owen Kuhnly made a motion to approve the Treasurer's report, payroll, and claims seconded by Doug Wallis. Motion carried.

Jodi with MidWest One is putting together a 9-month CD for the ARPA funds. Karen did discuss with the board about possibly putting other funds in a CD, and moving funds from road and bridge to put toward the blacktopping funds.

Township Clerk:

Permits were submitted to the Board for review.

A closed employee review for Angela Dahlstrom is set for December 20, 2022 at 6:30pm.

The County sent out a request for an annual road status map update. Lee did say he would review and complete this request.

MAT did send out a notice of their upcoming election on January 31, 2023 in Annandale.

Citizens Forum

New Business:

Franconia Township held a special meeting November 3, 2022 to hire for a part time interim assistance position with maintenance. Jim Vitalis was hired for the position.

The pay rate for election judges was reviewed. The Board did discuss adjusting the election judge pay to \$13.00 per hour, and the head judge pay rate to \$17.00 per hour effective 11/16/2022. Sonny Sparby made a motion to approve the pay rate, seconded by Owen Kuhnly. Motion carried.

There is a local church selling their chairs used for service for \$10 a chair. The Township has an opportunity to purchase these chairs. The Board did review, at this time, the Town Hall is not equipped to store such chairs without potential mold and mildew damage to the chairs.

Lori Aho did request Franconia Township sign a solar resolution opposing solar power plant construction in Franconia Township. The Board did discuss the resolution. It was determined that it is up to the individual property owner if someone wants a solar power plant on their farmland. Any construction would have to go to the county first for approval as it is.

The Board did discuss wanting a no thru truck resolution.

Midco workers have been running lines out to homes in Franconia, and measured down Franconia Trail. They have been running through existing internet lines, electric lines, etc., and have had to repair lines as they go. Midco reps said they need to get the lines in before the freeze, so they just put in a repair claim for any damage done.

Rick Greene did say Hometown Fiber is putting together a report for County wide coverage, and estimates it will cost around \$68,000.00 to cover Chisago County.

Windstream is supposed to be covering Franconia Township, as they received a Federal grant to cover Franconia Township. Windstream has about 3 years to complete the work.

Old Business:

Owen did provide an update on the book grant. The book is completed, but there is information that needs to be submitted to the committee and then another grant needs to be applied for to complete the process.

Upcoming Meetings

CCATO – December 7, 2022 7:00 p.m. Fish Lake Township

Joint Powers- December 12, 2022 7:00 p.m.

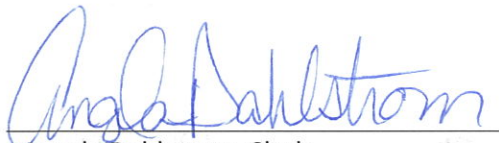
Regular Board Meeting – December 20, 2022 7:00 p.m.

Adjournment

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

Meeting adjourned 8:04 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Angela Dahlstrom, Clerk



Owen Kuhnly, Chairman