

Franconia Township, Minnesota
Town Board of Supervisors Meeting – August 8, 2023
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 and Clerk
Chuck Fitzer – Deputy Clerk

Residents Present

Patrick Anderson
Deb Montange
Mary J. Murray
Michael J. Morris
Jorge Arrizon
Liz Arrizon
Karen Linde
Josh Leonhardt
Wade Glenna
Amanda Novak
Jonathon Anderson
Shawn Kupclio-Widseth
Brian Leonhardt

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. It was noted that the Clerk Position and Oath of Office listed near the top of the agenda had already been moved to the New Clerk Position section. Sonny Sparby made a motion to approve the agenda with the above note, seconded by Doug Wallis. Motion carried.

Approval of Previous Minutes

Minutes from the July 11, 2023, Franconia Township Board of Supervisors monthly meeting were reviewed. Doug Wallis made a motion to approve the minutes as presented, Sonny Sparby seconded. Motion carried.

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Approval of Special Meeting Minutes

Minutes from the special July 20, 2023, Franconia Township Board of Supervisors monthly meeting were reviewed. Sonny Sparby made a motion to approve the minutes as presented, Doug Wallis seconded. Motion carried.

June Meeting Minutes Correction

A correction to the June, 2023 minutes was reviewed. Doug Wallis made a motion to approve the correction as presented, Sonny Sparby seconded. Motion carried.

New Business

Signatures for Tony Randall plat – Shaun Kupclio-Wideseth asked for these signatures. Owen Kuhnly and Karen Anderson will sign.

Josh Leonhardt – Paving 285th and adopting private streets of Dayspring – Jake Guzik estimated the cost to take over the two private roads in the Dayspring development would be \$161,000. The culverts have to be cleaned out, the ditches cleaned and mowed.

Josh Leonhardt asked that, on 285th from Snowgoose to Highway 95, what costs the township would be looking to be covered. Jake Guzik responded that it would have to be a double chip seal or bituminous and that it will be a job that we are going to get a quote on for this coming year. Owen Kuhnly said that if they want to get together to discuss this, they should let him know.

Home Town Internet/Chisago County ARPA Grant Application – The county has a lot of questions for HTI about this. It will be tabled until September.

Well Water Screening – September 7 – the notice is on the website.

U.S. Department of the Interior – National Park Service – discussed easement land along the river.

Engineering Report – Jake Guzik

Jake Guzik reported that the gravel maintenance project was underway. The gravel projects on Quinlan and Olympic are done. Franconia is not done yet. It will be graded later. Testing is lined up. They have not yet done top soiling off to the sides.

Lee Cartier stated that on Quinan, the inslopes are so steep that there is not much to hold the edge of the road together and that early snows could break off the edge because it is so steep, becoming a safety issue. Jake Guzik said that he doesn't think safety will change as much. We want to maintain as much gravel as we can for a stronger base and we should possibly consider guardrails in the future. Owen Kuhnly said that if we think it is good for right now, we can leave it as is and revisit it in the future. Owen Kuhnly noted that we have spent a lot on roads this year.

Maintenance Report – Lee Cartier

Lee Cartier reported that he did storm damage cleanup ditch work. He also said that the car count on 285th has increased to over 300 cars per day. Jake Guzik said that when the count goes over 150 cars per

day is when you start doing something other than a gravel road. Lee Cartier suggested paving and Owen said we would have to bond for that. Jake said a double chip seal would last 7-10 years.

New Clerk Position

Clerk Position – Doug Wallis made a motion to approve Chuck Fitzer as the new Franconia Township clerk, seconded by Sonny Sparby. Motion carried.

Oath of Office – Chuck Fitzer was sworn in as the new Franconia Township clerk.

Signature Card Approval – Motion to add new clerk – Doug Wallis made a motion to add Chuck Fitzer to both bank accounts, seconded by Owen Kuhnly. Motion carried.

Karen Anderson noted that all current signers and will also need to sign the bank account signature pages again.

Credit Card – Owen Kuhnly made a motion for Chuck Fitzer to get a credit card for supplies, etc. for up to \$500 month without prior approval and, for amounts over \$500, to get prior approval, seconded by Doug Wallis. Motion carried.

Cellphone Stipend – Sonny Sparby made a motion to approve a \$50 per month cellphone stipend for Chuck Fitzer, seconded by Doug Wallis. Motion carried.

Treasurer Updates – Karen Anderson

Reports and Claims - Karen Anderson then presented for approval to the board claims #2010 through #2033 for a total of \$25,575.93 and payroll checks #13867 through #13870 for a total of \$5,621.06. Karen Anderson went through the Treasurer's Report. Doug Wallis made a motion to approve all claims and payroll checks as presented and to approve this month's Treasurer's Report as presented, seconded by Sonny Sparby. Motion carried.

ARPA CD – Karen Anderson stated that if the board takes no action, the CD will automatically renew for nine months. We need to take action by August 12, 2023. Doug Wallis made a motion to let the ARPA CD automatically renew for nine months, seconded by Sonny Sparby. Motion carried.

Town Aid – town aid for 2023 and 2024 was discussed.

Karen's Wages – Sonny Sparby made a motion to return Karen Anderson's monthly wages to the amount prior to when she took on the clerk duties, seconded by Doug Wallis. Motion carried.

Old Business

Cement by Town Hall – Sonny Sparby said he will get a hold of Steve and work a price for this project.

It was noted that the snowplowing cards will go out by Halloween.

Upcoming Meetings

District 7 Meetings and Elections – August 10, 2023 – 6:00 p.m., Anoka Ramsey community College
(Cambridge Campus)

CCATO – August 30, 2023 – 7:00 p.m., Historical Society Building in Lindstrom

Joint Powers – September 11, 2023, 7:00 p.m.

Regular Board Meeting, September 12, 2023, 7:00 p.m., Franconia Town Hall

Township Legal Seminar – September 16, 2023, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. – Rutledge City Hall

Adjournment


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

Meeting adjourned 8:26 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Chuck Fitzer, Clerk


Owen Kubly, Chairman

Approved September 12, 2023