

Franconia Township, Minnesota  
Town Board of Supervisors Meeting – April 9, 2024  
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  
Chuck Fitzer – Clerk

**Residents Present**

Marshall D. Hillstrom  
Darron Nelson  
James Gremore  
Lorelei Walker  
Bridget Korman  
John Dotolo  
Sarah Schulte Myers  
Teresa Schulte  
Roscoe Benoy

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

**Approval of Previous Minutes**

Minutes from the March 26, 2024, Franconia Township Board of Supervisors monthly meeting were reviewed. Doug Wallis made a motion to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by Sonny Sparby. Motion carried.

**New Business**

Sarah Schulte Myers – Owen Kuhnly and Chuck Fitzer signed the document presented.

Carlson Lake Farm Runoff – The town board members and several residents, led by Marshall Hillstrom, Darron Nelson and John Dotolo, discussed the possible reasons for the deterioration of Carlson Lake over the past several years, along with potential solutions. Owen Kuhnly said that this is the responsibility of the county. Owen Kuhnly said that the township would go out to take a look at what

was going on. Sonny Sparby suggested doing it on the road tour. Owen Kuhnly said that, once the township took a look at it, they would contact Marshall Hillstrom and/or John Dotolo with an update.

CUP – Korman-Walker Wedding Venue 15323 260th Street – Lorelei Walker and Bridget Korman presented plans for their potential new wedding venue. After review of the proposal, Owen Kuhnly recommended that the proposal should include a full parking lot with Class 5 or some kind of gravel, as recommended by the excavator. Owen Kuhnly made them aware that there was a dirt bike track nearby and recommended that they talk with their neighbors about the new venue. And rather than having the county issue a CUP right away, Owen recommended an interim permit for five years, or some other time period, that could later be turned into a CUP.

#### **Engineering Report - Jake Guzik**

Updates and Reports – Jake Guzik reported that there were no schedules yet for the projects on 285<sup>th</sup> or Quiet Valley Road.

#### **Maintenance Report – Lee Cartier**

Maintenance Report – Lee Cartier he is cutting trees and brush and he is starting to grade – the roads are in good shape this year. On Quinlan south of 260<sup>th</sup>, Lee thinks we should stabilize it or lay down gravel. It's a good candidate for a double chip seal. On Quinlan north of 260<sup>th</sup>, it needs gravel and he would like to replace the culvert. The board agreed to take a look at it on the road tour. ~~From 260<sup>th</sup> to Panola, it would be \$30,000 to \$35,000 just for reclaim. If you added gravel, it would go into the \$50,000 to \$60,000 range.~~ Jake Guzik asked Lee to check, on Saturday's road tour, how deep the gravel in that stretch is.

Mailboxes – Lee Cartier reported that the swing arm mailbox assemblies are \$109.15 each. The township sells them to residents for \$90.00. Lee Cartier reported that he had eight of them in stock, and would like to order another 15 or 20 of them. We will get it on the front of the township website and note that, if residents install a swing arm, we will replace it if it's damaged by plowing.

Doug Wallis made a motion to increase Lee Cartier's hourly wage by 3.5% as of April 1, seconded by Sonny Sparby. Motion carried.

Dust Control – It was reported that dust control would cost \$8,184 per mile. Jake will look into the cost of using a car counter.

#### **Clerk Updates – Chuck Fitzer**

Permits – Chuck Fitzer sent the monthly building permit report to the town board members after he received it.

#### **Treasurer Updates – Karen Anderson**

Reports and Claims - Karen Anderson reported that the checking account is balanced. Karen Anderson presented for approval to the board claims #2214 through #2229 for a total of \$11,915.64 and payroll checks #14001 through #14019 for a total of \$6,326.40. 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 – Karen Anderson reported that we need to designate the purpose for the ARPA money. This can be changed. For now, the township will designate the purpose for the ARPA money as construction of the new town hall.

**Old Business**

Township Ordinances Update – No update. We are still waiting to hear from the county.

Center City Fire Department Contract – Doug Wallis made a motion to accept the Center City, Fire Department contract for the period January 24, 2024 through December 31, 2025, seconded by Owen Kuhnly. Motion carried. Owen Kuhnly and Chuck Fitzer signed the contract, and Chuck Fitzer will email the signed contract to the Center City Clerk.

Ditch Cleanup Letter Update – The return receipt for this letter has not yet been received.

**Upcoming Meetings and Events**

Road Tour – April 13, 2024 – 9:00 a.m. – Franconia Town Hall

CCATO – April 24, 2024 – 7:00 pm – Nessel Township

Board of Appeal and Equalization Meeting – April 25, 2024 – 1:30pm – Franconia Town Hall

Franconia Township Board Meeting – May 14, 2024 – 7:00pm

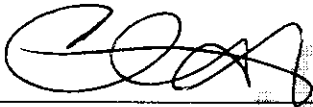
Recycling Day – June 1, 2024 – 8:00am – 12:00pm – Franconia Town Hall

**Adjournment**

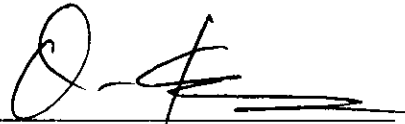
A motion to adjourn the April regular Board Meeting was made by Sonny Sparby and seconded by Doug Wallis. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



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Chuck Fitzer, Clerk



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Owen Kuhnly, Chairman