

SALEM TOWN BOARD MEETING
www.salemmn.com
December 6, 2023

Members Present: Sharon Petersen
Brian Connelly
Diana Connelly
Rick Lutzi
Drew Moessner
Sonya Mansfield

Members Absent:

The meeting was called to order at 7:06 pm by Drew Moessner with the pledge of allegiance.

Drew Moessner requested to add an item to the agenda pertaining to question from Jered Staton, TCPA for township input on the Zimmerman proposal to be added under TCPA. Rick Lutzi made a motion to approve the agenda as amended. Brian Connelly seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The claims presented for payment tonight are as follows:

Claim No. 11618 to 11633
Payroll Checks 11511 to 11521

The total for claims presented tonight is \$67,222.87

Brian Connelly made a motion to approve the claims as presented. Rick Lutzi seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The mail was reviewed.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Road grading change from 75th Avenue to 70th Avenue. Brian Connelly made a motion to approve the secretary minutes as amended. Rick Lutzi seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Diana Connelly read the treasurer's report:

Beginning Balance	\$299,468.33
Total Receipts	\$161,179.62
Total Disbursed	\$ 11,937.99
Ending Balance	\$448,758.96

Certificates of Deposit

70945	2.000%	\$121,401.01
70946	1.500%	\$ 25,467.51
71232	4.050%	\$148,057.26
71233	4.050%	\$ 50,188.90

71266	4.500%	\$100,000.00
71267	4.500%	\$147,500.00
71321	5.250%	\$ 26,011.87
Total		\$618,626.55

Outstanding check for \$49.00, has been outstanding for 4 months. Checks are voided after 90 days. Attempts have been made to contact check recipient via phone with no response. Clerk will send a letter to check recipient.

Diana Connelly has updated the bank account information. The owner of the bank account is Salem Township; no individuals are listed as owners, only signers. The Township will have a debit card with the bank in the names Diana Connelly and Salem Township. We can not get a debit card with only Salem Township on the card.

Motion was made by Brian Connelly to approve the treasures report. Rick Lutzi seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

TCPA

David Meir of TCPA stated the Township has reviewed Conditional Use Permits within the township which are no longer in use and the current landowners agreed to dissolve the CUP's. Three CUP's are being presented; Keith & Kathleen Champion (CUP #01-01), Paws and Claws (CUP #84-15), and RG Enterprises of Rochester Contractor Storage Area (CUP #19-01B). The motion passed unanimously.

Brian Connelly made a motion to open the public hearing at 7:16pm. Rick Lutzi seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. No comment during public hearing. Brian Connelly made a motion to close the public hearing at 7:17pm. Rick Lutzi seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Brian Connelly made a motion to dissolve the three CUP's presented. Rick Lutzi seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. David Meir stated letters of dissolution will be sent to the Township and dissolution of CUP's will be noted on property abstracts.

Jon Jestus was questioned on the number of vehicles parked at his business which are in violation of his CUP; only allowed for 5 cars to be at the business at one time. Mr. Jestus has been working on reducing the number of vehicles parked at the building of business. Other vehicles are family vehicles. Mr. Jestus stated they do business with customers on Saturday's. Has only taken one vehicle in on a Saturday for tires. Mr. Jestus has no desire to work on Saturday's. The Board informed Mr. Jestus if he needs to change business hours for emergency issues, he should contact the Board to inform of their intentions.

David Meir of TCPA explained the CUP #91-8 issued in 1991 for spreading of bio-solids on Bryce and Brenda DeCook's property from the City of Rochester Wastewater Treatment Plant. Olmsted County was comfortable with the MPCA's permitting process for the spreading of bio-solids on agricultural land and did not require a Conditional Use Permit for spreading of bio-solids. Olmsted County changed the ordinance to not require a CUP for the spreading of bio-solids on agricultural land. The MPCA regulations and permits requirements for spreading of bio-solids of which are required to meet. The permit remains in effect, however as the regulations change, items added or revised, the new parameters are the requirements and regulations which

must be followed. David Meir requests maps be provided to the Township indicating the parcels of land within Salem Township are receiving bio-solid spreading. These maps will be helpful in allowing the Township to understand and address inquiries from residents. The applicators from the City of Rochester Wastewater Treatment Plant explained their process prior to spreading, spreading parameters for field soils, treatment of bio-solids, thresholds for sampling, testing, research, permitting, maps, documenting and regulations. The State of Minnesota can change their regulations at any time to have other compliances. The City of Rochester is a volunteer site to test input and output effluent. The testing samples are tested through an outside source. John Donovan, from the public, asked who completes the soil testing for the treatment facility; the response was Midwest Testing. The board had dialogue with the Bryce DeCook and the City of Rochester attendees. The City of Rochester will have the GIS Department produce a detailed map on the spreading area.

David Meir of TCPA addressed the Salem Township current ordinance which requires a CUP for spreading of bio-solids. Mr. Meir suggests the Salem Planning and Zoning may want to address and consider criteria in the ordinance.

Mark Leitzen presented the turn lane for his property on CSAH 25 which will be constructed by Olmsted County with the re-construction of CSAH 5 project. The location of the turn lane is being dictated by Olmsted County. The provided plan is an amendment to the grading plan included in the CUP. The Board would like the adjacent property owners to be made aware of the change of the location of the turn lane by Olmsted County. Drew Moessner will address the right turn lane and request notification to the property owners with Olmsted County.

OLMSTED COUNTY SHERIFF

Deputy Zach Wagner, Sergeant Patrol Division attended the meeting to introduce himself and plans to be at our board meetings on his duty nights. Nothing to report on other than normal crime or incidents in Salem Township. The catalytic converter crime has decreased drastically. Dog bites in the township should be deferred to the parties whom the Board has had discussions with.

OLD BUSINESS

TCPA MEETING

David Meir of TCPA, presented a proposal from Joshua Zimmerman who has inquired about building a 80,000-cage free chicken layer facility. Eggs would be shipped to New Hampton, Iowa. The facility would require two 80,000-pound egg loads per week and two loads of 80,000-90,000 loads of feed per week. Chicken flock replacement would be every 18 months. The proposed property is in Section 34 Carolyn Chase property. The Board would like to discuss with the route and plans with the potential business owner.

Vincent Hoover has sold his property and moving to Indiana, closing is February 2024. He attended the meeting to wish the Board well and give an update on his plans. The Board thanked Vince for his service to the Board, Elections and Planning and Zoning.

Rick Lutzi attended the November TCPA meeting. Have a couple Express applicants for David Meir's position. Finances net loss for November. Total assets are in good shape. On the lawsuit, TCPA is joining with Rochester Township as they have an attorney. The personal named parties remain included in the lawsuit. Dangerous dogs, Townships should get the County Commissioners on board with some type of plan. Drew Moessner will attend the December 13 meeting.

ROADS

CLERK'S REPORT

Tree stump grinding at the Salem Townhall was done for free, owed Eric DeCook a favor.

Truck exiting and entering the DeCook Pit via 90th Avenue and 35th Street. Rick Lutzi addressed the issue with the pit manager.

Rick Lutzi was called about garbage being dumped in the ditch on 10th Street.

DITCH WORK

Todd Bucknell reported road work is done for the season. Brian Connelly requested clarification on the varmint inspection fee on the bill. The Board stated the work on 95th Avenue SW looked exceptionally good. The work within the wetland worked out well and drains well. Took approximately 15 loads of excavation out of the site. Spread most of the excavation on the area around the construction site.

Asphalt patch work at Willow Run went well.

Rick Lutzi is on Roads for December.

NUISANCE ORDINANCE

Diana Connelly sent the ordinance to Drew Moessner for review. Drew will send ordinance to Board members for review prior to sending to Courri and Ruppi.

NEW BUSINESS

Planning for Townhall building. Bid from Elias Construction for \$498,377.00.

Drew Moessner talked to Olmsted County Planning and Zoning on setbacks and variance options for a new townhall building. He has not gotten an answer from the County on support of setbacks. Drew Moessner has a person who can do demolition of the existing townhall. Drew has called a company in the Twin Cities for an asbestos inspection for \$2500 or less.

Brian Connelly made a motion to approve Drew Moessner to contact an asbestos inspection after he has favorable support for setbacks from Olmsted County. Rick Lutzi seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Kreoskfy proposed a structural footing with conventional framing, no poles. Concrete slab on grade with thicken edge, cheaper than footing and concrete slab as proposed by Elias.

Rick Lutzi reported the Jennie-o barns are not going to be used for turkey farming. Maybe a possibility to purchase some land for a townhall site.

BYRON FIRE DEPARTMENT

Review and sign contract for 2024. Brian Connelly made a motion to accept and sign the contract for Byron and First Responder service for 2024 as presented. Rick Lutzi seconded the motion. Motion was passed unanimously.

PLANNING AND ZONING

Review Bond Report - Everything is up to date.

Secretary for Planning and Zoning guidelines and expectation was discussed at the November meeting. When meeting minutes should be sent out, agenda prepared, and recording the minutes. Greg Reich will be following up with the secretary and discuss expectations.

PIT INSPECTIONS

Daniel DeCook's pit inspection was in November. Rick Lutzi discussed with David Meir at TCPA on the availability of Daniel amending the grading plan for the pit. Mr. DeCook can amend his grading plan with his engineer. Most of the items which were non-compliant in the past, has been taken care of and done satisfactory.

2024 TOWNSHIP ELECTIONS

Rick Lutzi made a motion to approve the polling hours for elections. Brian Connelly seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Brian Connelly made a motion to approve the filling period publication and posting notice and approve setting up additional space for absentee voting during Presidential Primary. Motion was seconded by Rick Lutzi. Motion passed unanimously.

Rick Lutzi made a motion to approve the January 2024 meeting change to January 10, 2024 for the Town Board meeting. Brian Connelly seconded the motion. Motion approved unanimously.

Drew Moessner made a motion to increase 2.1 salaries by \$50.00 and change 2.2 and 2.3 hourly rate to \$25.00 and keep the webpage task at the hourly rate for the Treasurer and to approve the Resolution Establishing a Policy for the Compensation and Reimbursement of Town Officers with changes for the year 2024. Motion was seconded by Rick Lutzi. Motion passed unanimously.

Brian Connelly made a motion to purchase a new Dell computer for the Deputy Clerk as deemed necessary. Motion was seconded by Rick Lutzi. Motion passed unanimously.

Review the Administration Policy and note changes for the January meeting.

SNOWPLOWING POLICY

No change to the policy.

NEWSLETTER

Items for the newsletter to go out in February should be the Townhall information, snowplowing policy, notice of elections, and any other ideas should be sent to Diana who is doing the newsletter.

OLMSTED COUNTY TOWNSHIP ASSN MEETING

Rick Lutzi reported storage units are being broken into. ZooDazzle is back this year at Oxbow Park. Building a new campground out of the flood plain across from the bison in 2024 in Oxbow Park. Chester Woods had

their Veterans hunt with 27 hunters which took 30 deer. The lottery hunt was the next weekend, and they were hoping to have 30 more deer taken. Chester Woods will be renting the cabins for winter camping January to April will be renting snowshoes, cross country skies for \$5.00. At Lake Zumbro working on boat launch, parking lot, bathrooms, picnic shelter and updating the docks.

MATS Annual Conference St. Cloud December 7-9, 2024.

ITEMS BROUGHT UP BY BOARD MEMBERS

Drew Moessner – During COVID the Township purchased two years of Go to Meetings, discovered the service is on auto renewal.

Sonya Mansfield – Nothing.

Brian Connelly – Nothing.

Diana Connelly – Nothing.

Sharon Petersen – Nothing.

Rick Lutzi – Will contact Rochester Township for salt for this winter.

CITIZEN COMMENT

None.

Meeting adjourned at 10:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Drew Moessner
Chairman

Sonya Mansfield
Deputy Clerk

