

SALEM TOWN BOARD MEETING

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February 1, 2023

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

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 p.m. by Rick Lutzi with the pledge of allegiance.

Rick Lutzi amended the agenda to add Brian Mueller to the printed agenda. A motion was made by Brian Connelly and seconded by Drew Moessner to approve the agenda as amended. The motion passed unanimously.

The claims presented for payment tonight are as follows:

Claim No. 11371 to 11383

Payroll Checks 11219 to 11228

The total for claims presented tonight is \$29,203.58.

The mail was reviewed.

A motion was made by Drew Moessner and seconded by Brian Connelly to approve the claims as presented tonight for payment. The motion passed unanimously.

**SECRETARY'S REPORT**

Rick Lutzi asked the board members if anyone had any additions or corrections to the printed minutes for the town board meeting held January 11, 2023. No changes were made. A motion was made by Brian Connelly and seconded by Drew Moessner to approve the written minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

Diana Connelly read the treasurer's report:

Beginning Balance		\$397,357.89
Total Receipts		\$ 6,977.81
Total Disbursed		\$ 20,602.27
Ending Balance		\$ 383,733.43

**Certificates of Deposit**

70928	.35%	\$ 50,088.22
70929	.35%	\$147,760.65
70945	.45%	\$120,856.55
70946	1.5%	\$ 25,089.75
71100	4.0%	\$ 25,226.48

Total \$369,021.65

Diana Connelly renewed the 71100 Certificate of Deposit for nine months as the bank was running a special. The board approved her decision on renewal.

The board was questioning if we should be checking with other banks to see if better rates maybe available. Also, Diana Connelly will be checking with the bank to make sure all our funds are insured with additional FDIC insurance.

After discussion, a motion was made by Drew Moessner and seconded by Brian Connelly to approve the treasurer's report as presented.

#### **OLMSTED COUNTY SHERIFF**

No one was present.

#### **BRIAN MUELLER**

Brian Mueller gave the board an update on his new position as county commissioner. He updated the board members on some of the issues that the county board is addressing at this time.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

##### **TCPA**

Rick Lutzi will be attending the February meeting for Drew Moessner.

#### **ROADS**

##### **TOWN HALL SNOWPLOWING**

Rick Lutzi has tried to contact Chris Quam about whether he has secured a worker's compensation policy as he has someone other than him doing the plowing. The board directed the clerk to draft a letter informing him that we will be terminating his contract to plow unless he can provide a valid workers compensation policy. It was also noted that he has not sent us a bill for lawn mowing this year. We will process this claim once we receive a bill.

#### **COMMUNICATION FROM KALMAR TOWNSHIP ON CULVERT ON FRONTIER ROAD**

The board decided to wait for more information on this from Kalmar Township. This will probably be a Kalmar Township responsibility as they are responsible for the maintenance on that part of Frontier Road.

#### **ROAD ISSUES**

The board discussed the culvert on 95<sup>th</sup> Avenue that Paul Tieg feels may need some additional attention. The sizing on this culvert maybe needed to be increased in size. The board will look at this when they do spring road inspections. Todd Bucknell has been contacted about some culverts on 50<sup>th</sup> Ave and 52<sup>nd</sup> Street that are showing a dip in the road after being replaced. These issues will be reviewed in the spring.

The board discussed some residents that are plowing snow into our right of way.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **2023 ELECTIONS**

Sharon Petersen reported that Rick Lutzi and Diana Connelly have filed for re-election. No one else has filed.

Sharon Petersen presented a legal publication for approval for the Township Election and Annual Meeting Notice. The board reviewed the notice, and a motion was made by to approve the Township Elections & Annual Meeting notice. The notice has to be published two times. It will be published on February 25 and March 4 as required by statute. The motion passed unanimously.

### **NEWSLETTER**

Diana Connelly gave the board members copies of last year's newsletter. The board discussed what could be in the newsletter and what needs to be added or deleted. The board members made some suggestions for adding some additional information.

### **DOG BITE**

The board has received no additional information and requested that this issue be removed from the agenda.

### **CORONAVIRUS STATE AND LOCAL FISCAL RECOVERY FUNDS**

The report is due in April. Brian Connelly asked about what had to be included in the April report. We will have to report on the resolutions about possible renovation or replacement of the town hall to serve as community center.

### **PLANNING FOR TOWN HALL PROJECT**

We have a special meeting planned for February 20, 2023 where we will be working on making up a presentation for the annual meeting about the options for remodeling or building a new town hall. Drew Moessner will contact Randy Ayshford about getting information from him for our February 20 meeting.

John Donovan asked about whether the board was getting an appraisal. The appraisal will cost about \$2,000 to \$3,000. There are a lot of issues with an unusual property such as the town hall because there are no comparisons for the appraisal.

### **PLANNING AND ZONING**

#### **NOISE ORDINANCE**

The Planning and Zoning board has reviewed the Noise Ordinance and sent it to the town board for their review. Brian Connelly will send our ordinance to Courri and Ruppe for their review. Drew Moessner will contact the sheriff about the ordinance and make sure it is enforceable. The clerk was instructed to send a copy of the ordinance to Roger Ihrke for his opinion. After this

information has been received, we will schedule a public hearing. A copy of the proposed ordinance is attached to the minutes of this meeting.

The Planning and Zoning Board reviewed the Noise Ordinance that was passed by Rochester Township. The board did not feel it was an ordinance that would be appropriate for our township at this time. The state statute covers noise issues, and the board did not feel that it was something we wanted to do.

#### **PIT INSPECTION REPORT**

No information has been received.

#### **BOND REPORT**

All bonds are current.

#### **QUOTES FOR SERVICE**

The board discussed whether we wanted to again specify state standards for rock. The board decided to leave the state standard off the quote specifications. The board discussed how much sanding needs to be done on our roads. The board discussed whether they want to change how much rock is applied per mile. There was discussion about doing all roads with less rock per mile.

The board reviewed the proposed publication for requesting quotes for services. The board made some additional changes to the document. After review, a motion was made by Brian Connelly and seconded by Drew Moessner to approve the Quotes for Products and Services as amended. The motion passed unanimously. Letters will be sent to vendors.

#### **WORKERS COMPENSATION COVERAGE**

The board discussed the insurance requirements for workers compensation for all vendors. Dave Walters has signed a waiver for him and his wife for no workers compensation coverage. He has extended his hiring to other relatives. He has been informed that he needs to fill out and get permission to exempt other relatives by the Minnesota Department of Labor. The township must have proof of insurance or an exemption for relatives.

#### **OLMSTED COUNTY TOWNSHIP ASSN. MEETING**

The board discussed the issues that were brought up at the meeting. The board discussed the changes MATS is making to L&R with a new format. Diana Connelly was elected to the ROCOG board by the association.

#### **SPRING SHORT COURSE**

The board discussed possibly sending some people to the Spring Short Course on March 21 at the Rochester Event Center. The township will cover registration costs.

#### **BYRON FIRE AND FIRST RESPONDER CONTRACT**

We have received no additional information about the contract. It will be presented to the Byron City Council in February, and we will get a final copy for review for our March meeting.

**ITEMS BROUGHT UP BY BOARD MEMBERS**

Sharon Petersen showed the board the maps we received from Olmsted County at the OCTA meeting.

Diana Connelly is working on a new website. If anyone has pictures that could be included on the website, please send them to her.

Rick Lutzi suggested that if we take trees off Martin Larsen's property, we should get a signed authorization for their removal.

Drew Moessner is on roads in February.

**CITIZEN COMMENT**

No comments were made.

A motion was made by Drew Moessner and seconded by Brian Connelly to adjourn the meeting at 9:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rick Lutzi  
Chairman

Sharon Petersen  
Clerk