

## SALEM TOWN BOARD MEETING

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October 9, 2023

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

Members Absent:

The meeting was called to order at 7:13 pm by Drew Moessner with the pledge of allegiance.

Drew Moessner asked if there were any additions or corrections to the printed agenda. A motion was made by Rick Lutzi and seconded by Brian Connelly to approve the agenda as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

The claims presented for payment tonight are as follows:

Claim No. 11495 to 11608  
 Payroll Checks 11292 to 11299

The total for claims presented tonight is \$6,370.74

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**

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

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

Diana Connelly read the treasurer's report:

Beginning Balance	\$321,018.15
Total Receipts	\$ 13.81
Total Disbursed	\$ 19,121.33
Ending Balance	\$301,910.63

Certificates of Deposit

70945	2.000%	\$121,401.01
70946	1.500%	\$ 25,467.51

71100	4.000%	\$ 25,726.48
71232	4.050%	\$148,057.26
71233	4.050%	\$ 50,188.90
71266	4.500%	\$100,000.00
71267	4.500%	\$147,500.00
Total		\$618,341.54

Diana Connelly reported CD #71100 will be maturing on 10/23/2023. The CD can be renewed with the Byron Bank or the MBT Bank in Mantorville which are offering 7-month or 12-month CDs at a rate of 5.25%. Unsure if this rate is for both CD lengths, however, the gentleman at the Mantorville Bank would like to offer more services to Township and would be willing to come to a meeting to discuss options. This is the same bank the Township has a loan with for the seal coating done on Willow Run. Brian Connelly requested to compare rates between the Byron and Mantorville Bank, and it would be preferable to obtain a 12-month CD.

Brian Connelly made a motion to take the funds of the mature CD and obtain a CD with either the Byron or Mantorville Bank; with whichever bank has the highest rate for a 9-month or 12-month CD. Rick Lutzi seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Diana Connelly obtained information from the Byron Bank on obtaining debit cards. The Township can get debit cards; however, the cards cannot say Salem Township, each card would have to have individual names. Each member would have an individual debit card. The way the bank account is set up is the owner is Salem Township along with Brian Connelly, Rick Lutzi and Sharon Petersen. The Bank suggested the owner should only be Salem Township and all the Board Members would be signers. Vince Hoover is on the account as a signer and needs to be removed. These changes to the account need to be reflected in the minutes.

Brian Connelly made a motion to remove Vince Hoover from the Salem Bank Account as a signer and change the ownership to just Salem Township and not individual members of the Board, and all members of the Board are signers. Rick Lutzi seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The board decided to wait until Spring 2024 to obtain debit cards for Board members.

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

#### **OLMSTED COUNTY SHERIFF**

No deputy was present.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

#### **TCPA MEETING**

Drew Moessner attended the September meeting. Working getting the new staff on as signers and Roger Ihrke off as a signer at Bremer Bank. The new Flood Ordinance is moving forward, however, the DNR is reviewing the Ordinance again. TCPA has a prospect on a new employee but did not elaborate on filling

the position. Dave Meir of TCPA is done 12/31/2024. Drew Moessner brought up about the dog bite incident in our Township, which sparked some discussion from other Townships. Townships which have contracts with the Olmsted County Sheriff’s Department have animal control in their township. Financially doing well, had a net income for the month. Drew Moessner discussed Sanitary Sewer crossing into Salem Township (Bill Tointon) letter, and our Township denial of crossing, other Townships were interested in the information. Brian or Diana Connelly will attend the October meeting. Drew Moessner will go to the November meeting.

**ROADS**

CLERK’S REPORT – Dog Bite on September 13, 2023. Write a letter to all the Olmsted County Commissioners to report the Townships concern on continued problems with not addressing dog bites within Olmsted County. Rick Lutzi made a motion to have Drew Moessner contact Township attorney to draft a letter to the County Commissioners addressing the animal control issues in reference to the MN State Statue. Brian Connelly seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

It was reported several trucks (7 or 8) exiting the DeCook pit on 95<sup>th</sup> Avenue and 35<sup>th</sup> Avenue onto the Township Road in about a half hour time frame.

It was reported the Fuller pit had several lights on after 8:00pm on 9/22/2023.

**DISCUSS TOWNSHIP LINE AGREEMENT WITH KALMAR TOWNSHIP**

Brian Connelly gave the Kalmar Township the Township Line Agreement for their signature. Make sure the Salem Township gets a copy of the signed agreement. Brian Connelly will get the agreement to Canisteo Township (Dodge County).

**DITCH WORK**

Ditch at 95<sup>th</sup> Avenue (Section 4). Drew Moessner met with Skip Langer (DNR) to discuss culverts and wetlands. Far south culvert can be repaired. Need to talk to landowners about cleaning out drainage way and culverts. Cannot put the spoils into the wetland, spoils need to be hauled off site or into the farm field for disposal. Waterway, ditches and culverts have been silted in. Approximately 90 percent of this drainage issue is on private property, however this work benefits the Townships culverts. Salem Township does not have a drainage easement for this drainage/waterway. May want to pursue a drainage easement. The Township does not need to obtain a permit to do the work. Skip Langer will shoot some grades on the drainage/waterway. Todd Bucknell would like to meet with Skip Langer (DNR) to determine the best approach to doing the work.

Todd Bucknell to get the scope for ditch work completed. Todd Bucknell asked if any complaints on the Township Road grading. There have been no complaints. No bill turned submitted for grading work done thus far.

Drew Moessner is on Roads for October.

**NUISANCE ORDINANCE**

Drew Moessner is in the process of revising. Once the ordinance is revised, the ordinance with suggested changes and send onto Couri & Ruppe for review.

#### NEW BUSINESS

Planning for Townhall building. Drew Moessner met with Mickey Elias of Elias Construction; he will have an estimate at the meeting on October 26, 2023, for a comparable building estimate from Kreofsky.

Setbacks for proposed building, recommended to ask Olmsted County for a variance. Drew Moessner will contact TCPA.

Recommended a 2250 gallon holding tank for septic. No drain field is necessary with holding tank and pumping contract.

#### PLANNING AND ZONING

Letter of Dissolution of Conditional Use Permits should be for Rochester Asphalt, Hope Ranch, Lutzi, Paws and Claws. Need to set up a Public Hearing to dissolve CUP's, possibly schedule for November, 2023, Town Board meeting.

Review Bond Report-Chris DeCook Olmsted County Aggregate bond expires 10/30/2023. Review the CUPs with the CPI Issued and Expired dates.

#### PIT INSPECTIONS

Pit Inspections are complete. TCPA letters of inspection results will be available detailing items of issues on each pit. Drew Moessner, Brian Connelly and Rick Lutzi discussed each inspection issue for each pit, details of items completed by owners and improvements. Pit inspections are moving in a positive direction and improvements are progressing.

#### SLUDGE

Bryce DeCook received a letter on the sludge application. Drew Moessner had a conversation on the letter. Rick Lutzi will contact Olmsted County Planner Dave Dunn to discuss how to proceed with Olmsted County issued CUP violations.

#### JESTUS CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT

Will be reviewed by P&Z at the October meeting for approval.

#### ANNUAL POLLING PLACE RESOLUTION

Salem will not be a polling place for the Rochester School District referendum; polling has been consolidated.

Will need to determine if the Salem Townhall will be a polling place for 2024 elections. Sharon Petersen will verify if the Byron Firehall can be a poll place as a backup.

#### OLMSTED COUNTY TOWNSHIP ASSN MEETING

MATS Annual Conference is in December in St. Cloud.

#### ITEMS BROUGHT UP BY BOARD MEMBERS

Drew Moessner – Nothing.

Sonya Mansfield – nothing.

Brian Connelly – Replacing field drive culvert on 50<sup>th</sup> Avenue. Culvert is plugged and packed full of dirt, as culvert is not worth repairing.

Diana Connelly - computer issues, addressing them with Dell.

Sharon Petersen – Computer issues, band-aid for now. Will cost approximately \$750.00 to repair, On Site Computer recommended purchasing a new computer. On the ballot board for the upcoming elections.

Rick Lutzi – Nothing

**CITIZEN COMMENT**

None.

Meeting adjourned at 10:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Drew Moessner  
Chairman

Sonya Mansfield  
Deputy Clerk