

July 13, 2021

Chair Sandstrom called the regular monthly meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance. All board members were present.

Reading of the minutes was waived by motion of Supervisor Nygren, seconded by Supervisor Card. The remainder of the board concurred.

Treasurer Report: Treasurer Meier reported a total working cash balance of \$756,656.65. The report was approved and filed for audit at a later date with a motion by Supervisor Card and seconded by Supervisor Newkirk. The remainder of the board concurred.

Road Report: Mike Lahr reported that the roads are in fair condition. Normal routine maintenance of the town roads, township equipment, fire equipment, and refuse and recycling center has been ongoing.

Mike has fixed some washout and clearing up trees. The batteries have been replaced in the weather sirens. He hauled granite and gravel on Lakeshore Drive to reconstruct the turn around and end of the road. Some maintenance was done on the AC unit at the town hall. Freon was added to the unit. The contractor reminded Mike that the AC unit is over 30 years old.

Mike checked with Steve Backowski at the county about a speed limit sign on 40th Avenue. 40th is a 55 mph road and cannot be posted for a lower limit as there is no way to enforce it. Suggested speed limit signs with a lower speed can be posted.

Paving on 70th Avenue and 350th Street is to begin next week. Ideal Construction gave Mike a price of \$79,995.00 for some additional work that he would like done, including reclaiming the parking lot and various patch projects. Supervisor Nygren, seconded by Supervisor Newkirk, made a motion to approve the additional work. The remainder of the board concurred.

Fire Report: Assistant Chief Brian Post reported three calls. The July training will be preparing for Summerfest. Summerfest will be August 7, with fireworks on Saturday night, August 7.

O.B.: Supervisor Nygren reported that the bonding interest rate has increased to the point that bonding will not save the township any interest. Supervisor Altrichter, seconded by Supervisor Card, made a motion to take out a Certificate of Indebtedness with Unity Bank for \$800,000.00 to pay for the contracted road projects. The remainder of the board concurred.

Morrison County Public Works sent a Public Hearing Notice for the Lincoln railroad crossing closure that has been discussed in the past. The hearing will be at the town hall on August 26 at 7:00 p.m.

Supervisor Nygren gave the supervisors a handout on the proposed Ag zoning for them to review. They would like Amy Kowalzek to come to the August or September meeting to give them more information.

Chuck Schiemo and Russ Neterval talked to the board about establishing a Veterans Memorial. The board pointed out that they cannot legally do something like that with public funds. They suggested approaching the Lions about the project.

N.B.: Supervisor Nygren, seconded by Supervisor Card, made a motion to approve the Morrison County Auditor's list of tax-forfeited properties for sale. The remainder of the board concurred.

Supervisor Altrichter, seconded by Supervisor Nygren, made a motion to waive the 50' setback for the Crown Gas storage facility that had done a 30' setback. The remainder of the board concurred.

Supervisor Newkirk stated that with the lifting of the Covid-19 restrictions the town meetings could revert to the normal seating plan. The reminder of the board agreed.

Claims 21183 – 21211 totaling \$284,612.19 were read and approved for payment. Motion made by Supervisor Card and seconded by Supervisor Nygren. The remainder of the board concurred.

Correspondence was read and dealt with. A "Thank You" was received from Glen & Jean Jans whose cabin in on Lakeshore Drive. They thanked the township for the work done on Lakeshore Drive to make their cabin accessible.

The supervisor closed the meeting at 7:45 to discuss the job applications received for the full time maintenance position. Four applications were received. Clerk Headley will set up interviews for Saturday, July 31. The meeting resumed at 8:10.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 8:11 p.m. The motion was made by Supervisor Nygren and seconded by Supervisor Card. The remainder of the board concurred.

Terry Sandstrom – Chair

Kathie Headley – Clerk

From: Shannon Wettstein <shannon.wettstein@morrisonswcd.org>

Subject: Future Composting Site

To: Headley Richard <klheadle@brainerd.net>

Cc: Alan Ringwelski <alan.ringwelski@morrisonswcd.org>

Date: Monday, 19/07/2021 12:50 PM

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Kathy,

This last weekend at the Fish Trap Lake Association/LID meeting I had a landowner inquire about disposing of aquatic plants. As we do, I encouraged them to haul the material to a composting location and not dump it to a lake, ditch or wetland.

Would Scandia Valley be open to considering a composting location for residents? I would encourage your board to consider it as often times what I believe is happening is residents are removing plant material from their yards or from the lake and dumping it at the most convenient location (aka, somewhere like a ditch or wetland) where it eventually breaks down and contributes additional nutrients to the lakes in the area. Of course not every situation has such a direct connection but I would like to believe if people were given an opportunity to do the right thing and haul to an approved compost location that they would do this.

I do realize this would be an investment of township resources to dedicate an area or to haul this material out but it would also be a service with a community benefit, much like your current recycling center.

If you have any additional questions on this please feel free to follow-up with me.

Thanks again,
Shannon

Shannon Wettstein

District Manager

Morrison SWCD

office: 320-631-3553

cell: 320-547-1651

16776 Heron Road

Little Falls, MN 56345

Morrison SWCD staff are still available to help and are only a phone call or email away but please be aware our offices are currently closed to the public due to the COVID-19 health pandemic.