



Fish Lake Township

2170 Brunswick Road
Harris, MN 55032
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www.fishlaketownship.com

Town Board Meeting Minutes September 14, 2020

Board Members Present: Chair Bruce Fitzwater, Vice-Chair Corey Johnson,
Treasurer Sharon McAndrew, Clerk Andrea Nekowitsch

Board Members Absent: Supervisor Diane Larkin

Others Present: Gary Guse, Road Maintenance,

Call to Order and Approval of the Agenda: Chairman Fitzwater called the Regular Monthly Fish Lake Town Board meeting to order at 6:00 pm in the Town Hall at 2170 Brunswick Road, Harris, MN. The pledge of allegiance was recited by all. Motion made by Johnson and seconded by Fitzwater to approve the agenda as presented. All ayes; motion passed.

Road Report: Gary Guse presented the road report. In the month of August, most of the time was spent on road maintenance and ditch mowing

The tires for the JD tractor that were approved last month have been purchased and installed by Bauer Built.

Motion made by Fitzwater and seconded by Johnson to approve Resolution 2020-07, purchasing a Diamond ditch mower for \$42,148. The Township was able to sell the Berti Ditch mower for \$3500. The amount to be financed for the Diamond ditch mower will be \$38,648. Motion passed.

Treasurers Report: The Board reviewed the treasurer's report.

Bank Balances as of: August 31, 2020

Savings (Camb. State)	\$425,781.91	Anchor Ave. Debt Service	\$38,842.80
Broadband Debt. Service	\$52,448.31	Checking	\$48,085.05

Motion made by Johnson and seconded by Fitzwater to accept the Treasurer's Report, approve payment of check #13497 to #13528, for the amount of \$53,152.37, authorize up to \$900.00 in operating disbursements for the upcoming month, approve the claims list as presented and transfer \$20,000.00 from savings to checking and the transfer of \$750.00 from Broadband to Checking fund. All ayes; motion passed

Minutes: *Motion made by Fitzwater and seconded by Johnson to approve the minutes of the previous month's meeting. All ayes; motion passed.*

Appointments:
None.

Clerk Report:
None.

Board Member Reports:
None.

Old Business:

440th turnaround

In August 2020, resident Garrett Schuller, 440th, attended the meeting to discuss installing turn-around at 440th and Ash Ave. to deter busses, garbage trucks, and general traffic from turning around in their driveway. Before a letter sent by the Clerk to property owner of 03.0028020 and 03.00298.20 discussing with the property owners that a turn-around needs to be established at the intersection of 440th and Ash the Clerk contact the Township Attorney to see if there were any other information that should be taken into consideration before doing so. A permanent agreement would require a survey, legal and filing fees that would result in several thousand dollars. However, if a written agreement is established that would negate the additional fees but has the possibility of being revoked by the landowner in the future. The Board determined that the cost to construct the turn-around is far less and with the landowner agreeing the Township will move forward with a handshake agreement.

CARES Act update

The Township has received its portion of the local government CARES act funding in the amount of \$51,400. These funds will be used to cover necessary costs related to the pandemic that weren't account for in the budget and equip the town hall with automatic amenities to reduce the number of frequently touched objects along with other allowable costs under the grant.

The Township also entered into an agreement with Chisago County to request funding to help cover the additional election costs incurred due to the pandemic.

Response from Nessel Township

The following response was received via email from Nessel Township regarding Blue Heron Trail on 8/13/2020. *“Andrea, At our board meeting last night, we decided that if Fish Lake is willing to perform the feasibility study at their risk then Nessel would pay for half of the feasibility study and engineering fees on the project if the project is awarded the grant. Meaning, that if the project is not selected for the grant then Fish Lake would pay the full cost of the feasibility study and any engineering fees. If the project is selected for a grant we agree that this is a good thing for both Townships, on the other hand we have our doubts that the road is in poor enough condition to qualify for the grant. Let us know if you have any questions. Thanks, Branden Mell”*. The road in question, Blue Heron Trail, was originally paved in 2007 by assessment requested by the landowners of that road. The Fish Lake Town Board feels that this road is a good candidate for the grant that will cover the cost of reconstruction, widening, paving and safety and believes that paying \$2500 for a feasibility study to apply for the grant that would ultimately cover 90% of the cost of improving the safety and quality of the road is worth the expense. If that grant is not awarded, the feasibility study is still a needed tool for future improvement.

New Business:

None.

Citizen Comment:

None.

Motion made by Fitzwater and seconded by Johnson to adjourn at 7:45 p.m. All ayes; motion passed.

Bruce Fitzwater, Chair	Date	Andrea Nekowitsch, Clerk	Date
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