

# Canosia Township

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Town Board: Chair Kevin L. Comnick, Supervisor Kurt Brooks, Supervisor Daniel J. Golen  
Clerk Susan Krasaway, Treasurer Cheryl Borndal

## REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

**December 4, 2019**

ATTENDING: Chair Kevin Comnick, Supervisor Kurt Brooks, Supervisor Dan Golen, Clerk Susan Krasaway, Treasurer Cheryl Borndal, Road Foreman Gary Oswell, Fire Chief Gene Stevens, Assistant Chief Clyde Mortinsen, Rec Director Mike Ellingson, and two residents.

Chair Comnick called the meeting to order at 7 p.m., and the pledge of allegiance was recited.

### **AGENDA, MINUTES, TREASURER'S REPORT & BILLS**

- A. **AGENDA**: Motion by Golen, seconded by Brooks, to approve the agenda as written. Motion carried unanimously, 3-0.
- B. **MINUTES**: Motion by Brooks, seconded by Golen, to approve the minutes from the Regular Meeting (11/6/2019). Motion carried unanimously, 3 – 0.
- C. **TREASURER'S REPORT**: Motion by Brooks, seconded by Golen, to approve the Treasurer's Report (1/1/19–10/31/19). Motion carried unanimously, 3 – 0.

The treasurer is now providing the board with monthly statements tracking our various funds/grants (e.g., Parks & Rec referendum funds and donation, transient well grant, noxious weeds, community recognition, AIS, etc.) Next month the treasurer will also compile a list of rec area/trail expenses to date and the board will vote on which of these they would like to submit for reimbursement to Proctor ISD.

Outstanding checks: Motion by Brooks, seconded by Comnick, to void checks #18732 and #18417.

Discussion: these checks for Holiday and Denny's Lawn & Garden date back to 2016 and 2017. Motion carried unanimously, 3 – 0. There are three additional outstanding checks from 2019 that the recipients will try to find.

- D. **PAY BILLS**: Motion by Comnick, seconded by Brooks, to pay bills #20641- 20668– and EFT-2019-12. Motion carried unanimously, 3 – 0.

*{There were no public comments}*

### **OLD BUSINESS**

#### **A. PLANNING & ZONING**

St. Louis County 911 sent a letter to Dale Cich detailing their plan for 911 addresses and signs for the Lavaque Rd. property as discussed last month. It will now be up to owner or residents to follow through on installation.

#### **B. FIRE RELIEF**

The relief association submitted their 2018 reporting forms to the State Auditor. Golen stated, on the record, that it is irresponsible to wait until three days before the deadline to do so. Chief Stevens said they are at the mercy of their CPA and are hesitant to switch since other accountants are double the price. However, Relief Treasurer Scott Mercier has been given a list of other CPAs to research: they are all aware that they lose out on months of interest when there state aid payment is delayed to this extent. They also want to complete the 2019 reporting forms as soon as possible in 2020 so there is a clear picture of whether the anticipated surplus funds will be sufficient to raise the benefit.

**C. FIRE DEPARTMENT**

2019 FIRE DEPT. RESPONSES			
Call Type	November #'s	Notes	Total for 2019
EMS	11		128
Medical MUA	0		8
Twp Fire	2		12
MUA Fire	2		16
Service	0		4
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>15</b>		<b>168</b>

Training: quarterly SCBA and air cylinder checks, small equipment testing. Activities: calendar fundraiser preparation, relief meeting.

Connick suggested the FD consider getting a snowmobile and stretcher for emergencies in the woods or out on the ice. Brooks said the SLC Rescue Squad has snowmobiles, but the FD noted their response time can be delayed since their responders and equipment are located throughout the county. The FD will research potential costs.

FD Recognition Dinner: Motion by Connick, seconded by Brooks, authorizing the FD to host their annual appreciation dinner on December 14 in the town hall meeting room. Motion carried unanimously, 3 – 0.

**D. ROADS**

The roads are all passable after the Thanksgiving weekend blizzard and everyone felt the plowing (both by the county and Asphalt of Duluth) went well; we did not receive any resident complaints via email or phone. Connick and Oswell also spent several hours shoveling around the town hall to clear it out; Connick believes it would be helpful to have a working snowblower and a plan for who should operate it when these big storms hit.

**E. RECYCLE SHED**

The recycling center was closed on the Saturday of the blizzard but reopened on Tuesday. We will be closed on Christmas Eve and New Year’s Eve as well.

**F. AIS/CD3**: grant application submitted requesting \$25,000. Connick will attend an AIS meeting in January.

**G. TRAILS**

In regards to designating a portion of the CWMA as an official bike route: DNR Area Wildlife Manager Chris Balzer clarified via email that although hiking and biking are allowed already in the CWMA, they do not want to designate it as such unless we are willing enter into a lease with them; the DNR believes this would help mitigate maintenance and user conflict issues. However, the township has no interest in the lease option.

Connector Trail: Brooks will follow up with Balzer to discuss options.

Phase 2 Trail: still on hold while we determine usage of existing trails. Brooks asked to keep it on the agenda for the time being.

**H. NEWSLETTER**: will send out in mid-February

**I. PLAWCS**

Pump Purchase: Motion by Connick, seconded by Brooks, to approve Resolution #2019-17: authorizing the purchase of PLAWCS pumps. Motion carried unanimously, 3 – 0.

Garage Rent, Office Space, File Storage: the board debated whether PLAWCS needs to continue to rent the Paulson’s office space and discussed additional options for storing the PLAWCS file cabinets. The treasurer will

research when the rent was last increased for storing the PLAWCS maintenance equipment in our garage. The discussion will continue at the next PLAWCS meeting.

**J. TOWN HALL WELL:** the board reviewed and signed the grant agreement

**K. NOXIOUS WEEDS:** \$2,500 grant application submitted

**L. MEETING/TRAINING RECAPS**

The clerk will attend a training session this month to learn more about the upcoming Presidential Nominating Primary which will take place on March 3, one week before our Township election.

**M. BUILDING MAINTENANCE:** roof repair will be kept on the agenda

**N. INSURANCE LIST**

The clerk will add the DS200, the scoreboards and 2019 Yamaha to our insurance list. The treasurer will research whether we could save money by having a higher deductible.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**A. GARAGE INVENTORY LIST**

Connick compiled a list of items currently stored in the garage. Many of the items can likely be thrown away, and the board will consider getting a dumpster in the spring to do so. All agreed that we will need to get approval from the FD, board, and historical society before discarding anything. The clerk will ask the historical society about the cross, desk and safe to see what they would like to keep.

**B. CANDIDATE FILING PERIOD:** December 31 – January 14 at 5 p.m.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

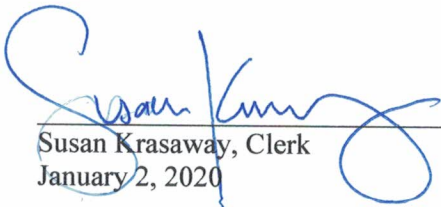
- The Levanders on Vaux Rd. said their mail service has been sporadic and unreliable in recent months. Connick said he was having similar issues, especially after the blizzard; he has talked with the postal service: Apparently, they are having trouble maintaining rural drivers. They are urging patience as they figure it out.
- A thank you note from Millicent O'Connell expressing her appreciation for the 90<sup>th</sup> birthday gathering last month.
- Notice of another public hearing for the short-term rental zoning ordinance amendments
- MAT request for input on their education program
- SLCAT minutes
- Fredenberg Township newsletter
- MN Power annual request for access to the cemetery meter; no response needed


**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Connick, seconded by Brooks, to adjourn the meeting at 8:19 p.m. Motion carried unanimously, 3 – 0.

Respectfully submitted,

APPROVED:

  
Susan Krasaway, Clerk  
January 2, 2020

  
Kevin L. Connick, Chair  
January 2, 2020