

Canosia Township

4896 Midway Road
Duluth, Minnesota 55811
Voice/Fax 218-729-9833

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

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES May 6, 2020

Note: Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, this meeting was held via conference call. Dial-in information for the public was posted at the posting sites and on the township website; all meeting materials (minutes, agendas, etc.) were posted on the website as well.

Attending: Chair Kurt Brooks, Supervisor Kevin Comnick, Supervisor Dan Golen, Clerk Susan Krasaway, Treasurer Cheryl Borndal, Road Foreman Gary Oswell, Fire Chief Gene Stevens, Asst. Chief Clyde Mortinsen and Rec Director Mike Ellingson. Chair Brooks 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 Brooks, seconded by Golen, to approve the agenda with two New Business items: upcoming meeting format and maintenance issues. Motion carried unanimously 3-0, via roll call vote (Brooks: aye, Comnick: aye, Golen: aye)
- B. MINUTES: Regular Meeting Motion by Golen, seconded by Brooks, to approve the minutes from the Regular April Meeting (4/1/2020). Motion carried unanimously 3-0, via roll call vote (Brooks: aye, Comnick: aye, Golen: aye). LBAE: Motion by Golen, seconded by Brooks, to approve the minutes from the Board of Appeal & Equalization meeting (4/22/2020). Motion carried unanimously 3-0 via roll call vote (Brooks: aye, Comnick: aye, Golen: aye).
- Reorganization Meeting: Motion by Brooks, seconded by Golen, to approve the Reorganization Meeting Minutes (4/1/2020) with edits to the signature policy language. *Discussion:* Comnick took issue with the clerk offering an opinion on recycling wages during last month's meeting; afterward he contacted the MAT attorney and wanted it added to the Reorg. Minutes that the clerk is not allowed to contribute during certain supervisors' discussions, especially after there has been a motion and a second on the table. Brooks and Golen pointed out that he did not raise this issue during the actual meeting last month so it should not be added to those minutes. They also pointed out that we do not typically follow strict parliamentary rules and usually allow input from others. Motion carried 2 - 1, via roll call vote (Brooks: aye, Comnick: nay, Golen: aye)
- C. TREASURER'S REPORT: Motion by Brooks, seconded by Golen, to approve the Treasurer's Report (1/1/20 -4/30/20) and authorize the treasurer to sign all reports on behalf of the board. Motion carried unanimously 3-0, via roll call vote (Brooks: aye, Comnick: aye, Golen: aye)
- D. PAY BILLS: Motion by Brooks, seconded by Golen, to pay bills Check #20805 -20831 and EFT-2020-5. *Discussion:* there was discrepancy with an FD invoice (the invoice is \$130 less than what we were charged on the credit card); to avoid a late fee the board opted to pay the bill while Chief Stevens researches the problem and has a refund issued if necessary. Motion carried unanimously 3-0, via roll call vote (Brooks: aye, Comnick: aye, Golen: aye)
- E. CERTIFICATES OF DEPOSIT: Motion of Brooks, seconded by Golen, to pull our CD's once they expire in June and deposit the funds back into a money market account. *Discussion:* the new interest rates are not beneficial to us at this time, so the board chose not to renew. Motion carried unanimously 3-0, via roll call vote (Brooks: aye, Comnick: aye, Golen: aye)

OLD BUSINESS

A. PLANNING & ZONING: Pike Lake Golf & Beach Club zoning virtual hearing scheduled for May 14.

B. FIRE RELIEF

All necessary signatures and documents for the relief forms due in 2020 have been submitted. We also received our investment report card for 2019. The bylaw drafting is on hold due to the pandemic.

C. FIRE DEPARTMENT

2020 FIRE DEPT. RESPONSES			
Call Type	APRIL #'s	Notes	Total for 2020
EMS	15		53
Medical MUA	5		7
Twp Fire	1		13
MUA Fire	2		4
Service	0		0
TOTAL	23		77

The FD is hoping to hold an in-person (social distanced) business meeting in May; they will be swearing in a new member, an experienced firefighter who recently moved to the township. Obtaining PPE's has been an ongoing challenge; the chief has ordered as much as possible and got some additional equipment from the county as well. 65 handmade masks were dropped off at the fire hall on the statewide collection day; the FD distributed them to the school and group homes. They also have 100 masks from the fire marshal available for seniors or anyone who may need one.

Compressor: the compressor should be ready for shipment by May 15; they will need a forklift to bring it inside

Stepping Stones False Alarm Calls: a group home resident made five false alarm calls to the FD this past month; this has been stressful/time consuming for our volunteers and a drain on our PPE supply. Chief Stevens would like an ordinance in place so the town can charge for false alarm calls. Our previous letter to Stepping Stones went unanswered.

Motion by Brooks, seconded by Golen, to address the false alarm issue in three ways: 1) Brooks will call the Stepping Stones president, 2) Connick will contact the MAT attorney for clarification on rules for dealing with group homes, and 3) if necessary, one supervisor will contact Township Attorney Michael Orman. *Discussion:* Connick will email MAT, but felt he was being micromanaged about who could contact Orman, so he voted against the motion. Motion carried, 2 – 1 via roll call vote (Brooks: aye, Connick: nay, Golen: aye)

D. ROADS

Motion by Connick, seconded by Golen, approving the following road work:

- Daniels Rd: Ditching, patching and replace a culvert (\$1,600: Asphalt of Duluth)
- Kehtel Rd & Lindahl: 13 patches/potholes fixed before the Kehtel Rd scrub seal (\$3,075: Asphalt of Duluth)
- Kehtel Rd.: Culvert replacement and patch work (\$2,000: Peterson Excavating + \$900 for cost of culvert)

Motion carried unanimously, 3-0 via roll call vote (Brooks: aye, Connick: aye, Golen: aye).

Dust Control: the board will wait to see if we need it later this summer

Parking Lot Seal Coat: Asphalt of Duluth is scheduled to seal coat the parking lot and fire hall apron in June. They will wait until we hear from WLSSD on improvement grant funding; Borndal will report back next month.

Tree Removal: Comnick asked the Superintendent to have the dead trees behinds our dumpsters moved within two weeks or we will remove them and charge the school district.

E. RECYCLE SHED

Motion by Comnick, seconded by Brooks, to reopen the Recycling Shed on Tuesday, May 19, with appropriate protocols (one car at a time, one entrance), signage, social distancing requirements and safety supplies for the attendant. *Discussion*: the board opted to wait to reopen until the Stay at Home order has been lifted. We will post information on our website and notify WLSSD. Motion carried unanimously, 3-0.

F. RECREATION AREA

Re-Opening Schedule: Motion by Comnick, seconded by Golen, to follow the Stay at Home executive order and re-open the recreation area (excluding the playground equipment) on May 19. *Discussion*: until then, Oswell and Comnick will place barricades across the entrances. The playground will be roped off until further notice. Motion carried unanimously, 3-0 via roll call vote (Brooks: aye, Comnick: aye, Golen: aye).

Fertilizer: Motion by Comnick, seconded by Golen, to fertilize/weed control the rec area one time this year, despite the fact there may not be any sports played. *Discussion*: we typically fertilize twice a year and split the cost with the soccer and little league associations. Motion carried unanimously 3-0, via roll call vote (Brooks: aye, Comnick: aye, Golen: aye).

G. AIS/CD3

Hiring Inspectors: Motion by Comnick, seconded by Golen, to hire the following people as temporary, part-time AIS inspectors for the spring/summer 2020 inspection season: Alyssa Hagemeyer, Richard Kaneski, Matthew Magnuson, Cade Johnson, Cole Johnson, and Kate Thickens. *Discussion*: four are returning inspectors; the remaining two come highly recommended. Alyssa and Cade both have other jobs and will be working very little, but Alyssa will continue to do the scheduling and will fill in as needed. Cole Johnson will not be turning 18 until later in the summer; in the past, we have typically not hired minors. However, there are no DNR rules against it and the board felt comfortable hiring Cole given his qualifications and references, as communicated by Comnick. Motion carried unanimously 3-0, via roll call vote (Brooks: aye, Comnick: aye, Golen: aye).

AIS Plans: Motion by Comnick, seconded by Golen, to move forward with AIS plans and purchases, including all necessary equipment, hand sanitizer and signage for social distancing protocols. *Discussion*: Training will be done online. The clerk will compile the necessary employment paperwork and Kevin will meet with the inspectors to fill out the forms, review protocols and show them around. Inspections will begin May 19. The AIS equipment will be stored in the town hall instead of the recycle shed to minimize risk for the Recycling Attendant. Motion carried unanimously 3-0, via roll call vote (Brooks: aye, Comnick: aye, Golen: aye).

H. TRAILS

Gravel: Motion by Comnick, seconded by Golen, authorizing Brooks to buy another 250 yds of gravel from Garrett Campbell to add to the Industrial Rd. Loop 1 trailhead. *Discussion*: the supervisors agreed the gravel is necessary if we want this to be a safe place for our hikers/bikers. There is still more debris that we will need to remove as well. Brooks asked the other two supervisors to visit the site so they can all make a list of all potential expenses/projects. Motion carried unanimously 3-0, via roll call vote (Brooks: aye, Comnick: aye, Golen: aye).

I. CEMETERY

Oswell will take pictures of the fence damaged by snow pushed against it from the neighboring property. Brooks will discuss the issue with Landon Carlberg.

J. TOWN HALL WELL

The project will start sometime soon. Brooks has reached out to a local plumber for pricing, and Benson Electric has completed the electrical work already.

NEW BUSINESS

A. PIKE LAKE DOCK

The DNR's Kevin Johnson explained via email that the DNR would install, regularly maintain, and take the dock in/out, just like they do at all other Public Water Access sites; as for liability, the Recreation Immunity statutes apply and have held up in court: as long as the dock is maintained adequately, the people recreating assume the risk. Brooks explained his research indicating that the dock was part of the DNR landing improvement plan dating back to 2014 and the dock had been pursued frequently by the board since then. However, Comnick had lingering concerns about safety, storage, liability, and appearance.

Motion by Brooks, seconded by Comnick, to ask the DNR for clarification about dimensions, appearance and storage and contact Orman about liability. Motion carried unanimously 3-0, via roll call vote (Brooks: aye, Comnick: aye, Golen: aye).

B. PIKE LAKE 10K RACE

The board and FD do not want the race to take place this summer given the pandemic, but we have not heard definitive plans or updates from the organizers. Township approval is a courtesy and is not something that will impact their ability to hold the race. We could refuse to offer on-site medical support and traffic control; but our FD would be likely called in anyway if there was an emergency. The St. Louis County permit will not be cancelled as it is issued by public works and they are only concerned about the race interfering with road construction. Comnick will tell organizer Clint Agar that we are not in favor of holding the race and he will contact SLC representative Keith Musolf as well if necessary.

C. WAGE DISCUSSION

Road Foreman Meeting Rate: Motion by Comnick, seconded by Golen, to pay the Road Foreman a \$40 meeting rate for attending the regular monthly town board meeting and all other required meetings. Motion carried unanimously 3-0, via roll call vote (Brooks: aye, Comnick: aye, Golen: aye).

FD Meeting Rate Clarification: Motion by Brooks, seconded by Comnick, to pay the Fire Chief and Assistant Chief \$40 for attending the regular monthly town board meeting and *all other required meetings*. Motion carried unanimously 3-0, via roll call vote (Brooks: aye, Comnick: aye, Golen: aye).

Other wages: Comnick will research what other townships are paying their lawn maintenance staff and road foremen and report back next month.

D. UPCOMING MEETING FORMAT: There will be in-person & virtual options for the June meeting

E. MAINTENANCE: Clyde will take a look at a broken glass pane outside

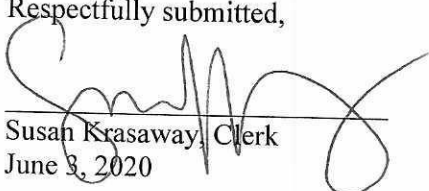
CORRESPONDENCE

- Notice from SLC that the Pike Lake Golf & Beach Club hearing will be held May 14
- Newsletters from Duluth, Fredenberg & Lakewood Townships
- Funding request from YMCA

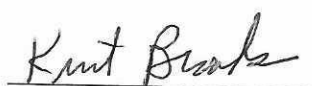
ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Comnick, seconded by Golen, to adjourn the meeting at 11:12 p.m. Motion carried unanimously, via roll call vote (Brooks: aye, Comnick: aye, Golen: aye)

Respectfully submitted,


Susan Krasaway, Clerk
June 3, 2020

APPROVED:


Kurt Brooks, Chair
June 3, 2020