

# Canosia Township

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

## REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

June 3, 2020

ATTENDING: Chair Kurt Brooks, Supervisor Kevin Comnick, 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. The meeting was held in-person at the town hall; a dial-in option was also available for anyone (including the public) who wanted to attend virtually. No one chose to do so.

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 Comnick, seconded by Golen, to approve the agenda with one addition: Under New Business discuss format of upcoming meetings: Motion carried unanimously, 3-0.
- B. **MINUTES**: Motion by Brooks, seconded by Golen, to approve the minutes from the Regular Meeting (5/6/2020). Motion carried unanimously, 3 – 0.
- C. **TREASURER'S REPORT & PAY BILLS**: Motion by Comnick, seconded by Golen, to approve the Treasurer's Report (1/1/20 – 5/31/20) and to pay bills (check #20832 – 20870) and EFT-2020-6. Motion carried unanimously, 3 – 0. Note: our certificates of deposit will be deposited back into our accounts next week.

### OLD BUSINESS

#### A. PLANNING & ZONING

Pike Lake Golf & Beach Club: the CUP was granted. The golf course is open and busy. The goal is to have the clubhouse open by July 1. They cannot sell liquor until the kitchen is inspected.

**B. FIRE RELIEF**: Bylaws, quarterly meetings on hold for now

#### C. FIRE DEPARTMENT

2020 FIRE DEPT. RESPONSES			
Call Type	May #'s	Notes	Total for 2020
EMS	8		61
Medical MUA	1	Grand Lake	8
Twp Fire	2	Grass fire	15
MUA Fire	5	Rice Lake and Grand Lake	9
Service	0		0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>16</b>		<b>93</b>

Training: smoke reading class and a work night preparing for the new compressor which was successfully installed.

Compressor Cost: Motion by Brooks, seconded by Golen, revising the total approved cost of the compressor to \$41,686 (a \$4,408 increase due to the addition of a cascade fill feature which was mistakenly missed on the quote). Motion carried unanimously, 3 – 0.

#### Other FD Information:

- The Chief again asked the town board to research how the FD can legally fill pools for township residents, arguing that it is good training, helps our residents and keeps the truck batteries from dying. He has had several pool filling requests this summer.
- The FD might need to buy 1-2 additional AEDs; one is no longer working.
- The Chief applied for a DNR wildland matching grant for replacement gear. He is looking at grants to buy another set of turnout gear for his crew as well, since they cannot wash their stuff fast enough between calls.
- One new person recently joined the FD, bringing them to 20 members, with two more potentially interested
- The FD is sufficiently stocked with PPE thanks to their own purchases and the county supplies.

False alarm issue: Motion by Brooks, seconded by Comnick, to accept the \$500 fire department donation from Stepping Stones. *Discussion:* Stepping Stones president Stephanie Erikson provided the donation, along with masks and hand sanitizer, to make amends for the repeated false alarm calls from one of their facilities. The resident in question is also being removed from the house within 60 days due to this and other issues. Motion carried unanimously, 3 – 0.

The Chief would still like the town board to consider an ordinance that would allow us to charge for false alarm calls, as this is an ongoing issue elsewhere within the township. The board is open to further discussion; Comnick confirmed with MAT that we can enact this type of ordinance.

#### **D. ROADS**

All roads will be graded soon. The Kehtel Road culvert and patching are done. The ditching on Daniels Rd. is complete, but the patching is not. On Lakeway Drive, the township will pay for a problematic driveway culvert, and the resident will pay for the installation. The crack sealing and scrub sealing projects will happen soon. The board will discuss brush cutting/right-of-way mowing next month.

#### **E. RECYCLE SHED**

The dead trees behind the dumpsters have been removed. Recycling is back open with new traffic and safety protocols.

Motion by Comnick, seconded by Brooks, authorizing Clyde Mortinsen and Laird Erikson to install a garage door opener on the recycle garage, to allow easier access to the lawn equipment, etc.; parts will cost roughly \$250. Motion carried unanimously, 3-0. A work bench has been installed in the recycle garage as well.

As required by the WLSSD improvement grant application, Comnick got a second quote to seal coat the parking lot. He did not like doing this because we had already accepted a quote from Asphalt of Duluth for the project. We should know within the month whether the grant application has been accepted.

#### **F. RECREATION AREA**

Little League may start soon; Ellingson will make sure the organizers are aware of all state guidelines for youth sports.

When the basketball court is seal coated this summer, Comnick would like it paid for by the Proctor referendum money. Ellingson fixed several items at the rec area. The supervisors agreed they need to either invest in improving the pickeball court or stop having it altogether.

#### **G. AIS/CD3**

Inspections: going well so far with all protocols, signage, etc.

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Comnick is concerned that people are using the Pike Lake access as a swimming and picnic area. Golen pointed out that, by statute, you cannot stop people from swimming at public water accesses. The landing has also long been used for this purpose by residents who want a free community spot to access the lake.

Pike Lake Dock: motion by Golen, seconded by Brooks, to approve Resolution 2020-6: authorizing the installation of the dock at the Pike Lake access. *Discussion*: Township attorney Michael Orman's opinion is that it does not appear that the township would be liable for injuries to persons or properties resulting from the installation of a dock, based on statutory recreational immunity. The DNR would be responsible for installing, maintaining and removing the dock each year. In the DNR's opinion, the dock is a must-have at all their sites to ensure safety and accessibility for all those using the landing. As requested, they also sent pictures of what the dock would look like and Golen confirmed the location would not interfere with the FD's access to the lake. Motion carried 2 – 1, with Comnick voting against it due to his lingering liability and logistical concerns.

## H. TRAILS

As agreed upon, Garret Campbell spread 250 yds of gravel at the trailhead. He also donated three loads of wood chips for the low areas. Comnick again questioned the costs associated with developing the site. Brooks and Golen pointed out they had all agreed they would get the Loop 1 trail in good condition so residents would want to use it; plus all costs thus far have been covered by the Proctor referendum money.

Old Dump Clean Up: Motion by Comnick, seconded by Golen, to have the roughly three dozen old appliances removed from the area surrounding the trailhead. *Discussion*: when the dump was closed decades ago, the appliances were never taken care of. The supervisors all agreed it is the township's responsibility to properly dispose of them. The township will pay Campbell \$400 to use his heavy equipment to gather all the appliances; Brooks will research where we can get rid of them (WLSSD, salvage companies, etc.). Motion carried unanimously, 3 – 0.

Phase 2 connection to CWMA: Brooks met with the DNR's Christian Balzer at the site. Balzer was fine with our plans to designate the connection trail. The DNR has done a lot of recent logging in the area and will be putting their trails back in place later this summer.

## I. CEMETERY

Carlberg fixed the damaged fence. Another fence area was potentially damaged by SLC; Oswell will take a look. Ellingson will update the veterans plaque at the cemetery with several additional names. Families looking to have Memorial Day flags placed on their veteran's gravesite need to contact the American Legion to ensure their names are added to the list.

Comnick suggested placing a large water plastic barrel/dispenser at the cemetery for people to water gravesite flowers. Brooks believes this is unnecessary as visitors can bring their own water like they do at many other small cemeteries. Golen was not against the idea, but was concerned about the appearance and durability of the large jugs.

## J. PLAWCS

Motion by Comnick, seconded by Brooks, to approve Resolution 2020-5 (PLAWCS pump purchase). Motion carried unanimously, 3 – 0.

## K. TOWN HALL WELL

The well drilling has begun, and it appears we will need to drill down 400 ft. to get sufficient water. Hydrofracking will begin next week. Given the new depth and required 50 ft of casing to prevent groundwater contamination, the price has gone up to \$29,000 (from \$21,000); our grant will cover \$10,000. The electrical work is complete. The costs for plumbing (\$2,5000 from Fossum Plumbing) and directional boring are set, so there should be no more price increases.

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**NEW BUSINESS**

**A. DINING IN CANOSIA**

The board received a request to allow local restaurants to open for indoor dining despite executive orders preventing it. The supervisors all agreed they had neither the authority nor desire to override the Governor's orders.

**B. WAGE DISCUSSION**

Motion by Comnick, seconded by Golen, to raise the Road Foreman wage to \$20/hour and the maintenance workers' wage to \$13/hour. *Discussion:* Comnick researched how these rates compared to other local townships. Motion carried unanimously, 3-0.

**C. PIKE LAKE 10K**

Rescheduled for September 27. Chief Stevens will continue to monitor the situation and check in regularly with the organizers.

**D. WASTE WOOD RECYCLERS CUP REVIEW**

Comnick reported getting lots of complaints about Waste Wood operating during hours prevented by the conditions established in the CUP. He contacted the county's Jenny Bourbonais who said Canosia should consider holding a review hearing in October of 2020, as was planned in the initial permit. Brooks pointed out however, that it would have been the P&Z Director and Planning Commission conducting this review, not the town board, and that it should be the county's responsibility to review the permit now that we no longer administer P&Z. Further clarification is needed before deciding on a plan.

**E. MEETING FORMAT**

MAT is advising townships that it is a best practice to still hold virtually meetings. The board decided to keep offering in-person and virtual options to allow board members and the public to choose which option they feel most comfortable.

**F. NATIONAL NIGHT OUT**

Motion by Comnick, seconded by Golen, to cancel this year's National Night Out due to the pandemic. *Discussion:* The supervisors all believe there was too much risk and uncertainty to hold such a large event this summer. Motion carried unanimously, 3-0.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

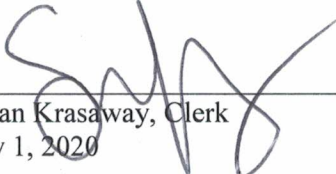
- SLC notice of proposed sale of tax forfeit land (280-0030-00610)
- Thank you letter from the Hermantown All Night Grad Party Committee for our annual donation
- Fredenberg Newsletter, Caribou Lake Association Newsletter


**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Comnick, seconded by Golen, to adjourn the meeting at 9:18 p.m. Motion carried unanimously, 3 – 0.

Respectfully submitted,

APPROVED

  
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Susan Krasaway, Clerk  
July 1, 2020

  
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Kurt Brooks, Chair  
July 1, 2020