

Canosia Township

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Town Board: Chair Daniel J. Golen, Supervisor Kevin L. Comnick, Supervisor Penny Dieryck, Clerk Amber Madoll, Treasurer Cheryl Borndal

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

June 2, 2021

ATTENDING: Chair Dan Golen, Supervisor Kevin Comnick, Supervisor Penny Dieryck, Clerk Amber Madoll, Treasurer Cheryl Borndal, Road Foreman Gary Oswell, Fire Chief Gene Stevens, Assistant Fire Chief Gene Mortinsen, Rec Director Mike Ellingson, Dan Ursham, and Roger Anderson. The meeting was held in person at the Canosia Town Hall and virtually due to the pandemic. All individuals were present in person at the town hall.

Chair Golen called the meeting to order at 6:59 p.m., and the pledge of allegiance was recited.

AGENDA, MINUTES, TREASURER'S REPORT & BILLS

- A. **AGENDA: Motion** made by Kevin Comnick, seconded by Penny Dieryck to approve the agenda as written. Motion carried unanimously, 3-0.
- B. **MINUTES: Motion** made by Kevin Comnick, seconded by Penny Dieryck to approve the minutes from the May 5, 2021 Regular Board Meeting minutes as written. Motion carried unanimously, 3 – 0.
- C. **TREASURER'S REPORT: Motion** made by Kevin Comnick, seconded by Penny Dieryck, to approve the Treasurer's Report (1/1/21 –5/31/21). Motion carried unanimously, 3 – 0.
 - a. Treasurer Borndal stated that the WLSSD Recycling Grant arrived.
 - b. Clerk Madoll stated that the Johnson's wanted a receipt for their donation to the fire department for \$200 made on May 25, 2021, check #9958. She stated that she has not seen it. Treasurer Borndal stated that she has not received it yet. Chief Stevens stated that the fire department may have deposited it into their accounts and they will look. Comnick stated that once the check is located, there will need to be a motion to formally accept it.
 - c. American Relief Plan: Treasurer Borndal briefly explained the restrictions of the funding and stated that she will need a resolution to accept the funds when they arrive.
 - d. Treasurer Borndal stated that the County Records office sent an offer for monthly access with a fee. The board discussed and declined the offer.
 - e. Chief Stevens asked for a summary of how his department had spent funds for the year to date. Treasurer Borndal stated that she would provide a summary.
- D. **PAY BILLS: Motion** made by Kevin Comnick, seconded by Dan Golen to pay bills # 21275–21305 and EFT2021-5. Motion carried unanimously, 3 – 0.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- A. **PIKE LAKE RUN**: Discussion on how run went. Chief Stevens stated that it went well.

OLD BUSINESS

- A. PLANNING AND ZONING:** Comnick stated that a letter was received from St. Louis County Planning and Land Dev stating that they agreed with the town board’s review of Waste Wood Recycler’s CUP. He stated that the township is has now completed its obligation to the review and will no longer be involved with issues concerning Waste Wood Recyclers moving forward.
- B. FIRE RELIEF:** Chief Stevens stated that they are still working on the audit. The state did send Penny and him a report. He stated that they still need to hold a meeting but that the votes are there to move to PERA. He stated that in order to do so, they might go into the red for a bit. When they have the next meeting they will be asking for 2K a year as they cannot raise it for five years. He will know more when the audit is complete. Treasurer Borndal stated that it is the township’s responsibility to cover the relief fund if it does in the red. He stated that they by-laws will need to be changed and that will need board approval. Comnick stated that they need to make sure that they stay within statute and that nothing will be approved until the statute is reviewed. Chief Stevens stated that the next meeting is 7/13/21. PERA would start on 1/22.
- C. FIRE DEPARTMENT:**
- a. Training Boxes: No update.
 - b. Burn Unit: Chief Stevens stated that the event was cancelled for now due to equipment issues.
 - c. Pike Lake Run: Chief Stevens stated that the run made a \$250 donation to the department. **Motion** made by Kevin Comnick, seconded by Penny Dieryck to accept a donation from the Pike Lake Run for \$250. Motion carried unanimously, 3 – 0.
 - d. False Alarm: Chief Stevens stated that there were two more called out to Stepping Stones. Clerk Madoll stated that the original warning was sent on 5/10/21. She will pull the details for the next meeting.

2021 FIRE DEPT. RESPONSES			
Call Type	MAY #'s	Notes	Total for 2021
EMS	25		56
Medical MUA	2		6
Twp Fire	0		12
MUA Fire	4	Grand Lake, Hermantown, Rice Lake	13
Service	0		0
TOTAL	31		87

- D. ROADS:** Comnick stated the county has started grading the roads. The website has been updated with the expected road repairs for 2021. When dates are determined for the crack repair, they will be posted online. A culvert was damaged by the rec area, probably during grading and needs to be repaired. Two quotes were secured, both around 3K. **Motion** made by Penny Dieryck, seconded by Kevin Comnick to add gravel and grade the culvert by the rec area. Motion carried unanimously, 3 – 0. Funds will come from the roads budget.
- E. RECYCLE SHED:** Board discussed Covid precautions at the site. Dieryck stated that Frank will still be wearing a mask. Comnick stated that the government has opened back up and it is time to get back to normal. Since the shed activities are outdoors, masks should not be required. Board is in agreement. **Motion** made by Dan Golen, seconded by Kevin Comnick to not require customers to wear masks when they drop off recycling materials. Motion carried unanimously, 3 – 0.

- F. RECREATION AREA:** Dieryck stated that she met with Principal Hughes and Ellingson to discuss rec area needs. Ursham brought up the pickleball court and how to could be improved for local residents. Dieryck stated that she received quotes from Sinnott Contracting for \$11,500 and Asphalt of Duluth for \$11,367.45 to repair the pickleball court. She also received two fence quotes from Dairyland Fence Co. to repair fencing. A partial fencing repair for the pickleball court would be \$8,800 for the fence and \$1,880 for the yellow safety capping. \$10,100 would be to replace all other fencing issues on the property. Comnick stated that he would like to see the repairs done as there was referendum money set aside for rec area improvements. Golen stated that he would like for all potential projects, including improved accessibility, to be considered prior to the use of funds. Dieryck stated that the principal stated that they would like to see the pickleball court improved, along with swings. Board discussed the paving stones and their deterioration. Golen stated that fencing was just repaired a couple of years back. **Motion** made by Kevin Comnick, seconded by Penny Dieryck to spend up to \$25K to have work done to improve the rec area pickleball court, fencing, and other rec concerns. Motion carried 2 – 1. Comnick and Dieryck voted in favor. Golen voted against. He would have liked to see all improvements be considered prior to significant funding being spent. Ellingson stated that the Waste Management dumpster in the rec area is donated. Dieryck stated that they are not collecting the trash often enough and would like for the board to consider changing companies. She offered to seek other donated options. She also brought up a tree by a fenceline that needs to be taken down. She offered to have it cut down so that it will not damage fencing. Ellingson stated that he will follow up on the large nets that still need to either be repaired or removed. Clerk Madoll stated that when they are planning improvements, she would like for someone to take a look at the area right around the playground where there are uneven areas where kids could trip and fall. Dieryck, Ellingson and Madoll will visit the playground so that she can show them her concerns. Mortinson asked about the dirt pile next to the garbage can. Ellingson stated that it was there to fill holes. Comnick stated that when the gravel is repaired, the pile should be leveled out. Ellingson stated that fertilizer is \$800 with baseball paying ½ and soccer paying the other half. **Motion** made by Kevin Comnick, seconded by Penny Dieryck authorizing the purchase of fertilizer for the fields. Motion carried unanimously, 3 – 0.
- G. AIS/CD3:** Comnick stated that the inspectors are doing well. He might increase the hours at Pike Lake and reduce the hours at Caribou Lake based on boat traffic. He also stated that some at the Pike Lake Association are unhappy with the AIS presence. However, the complaints are only with that landing location and the presence of AIS is important.
- H. TRAILS:** Dieryck stated that the eagle scout completed his project cleaning up the trail. He collected seven large bags of garbage. She asked who cut the trail grass. Comnick stated that there is no funding set aside for trail maintenance.
- I. NOXIOUS WEEDS:** Oswell stated that dry mustard was added to the list. However, he has not seen any to date.
- J. CEMETERY:** Golen stated that he and Oswell met and discussed the cemetery. Comnick stated what a potential mausoleum timeline might look like and read off some potential quotes. He recommended a 24 niche, which would be about 16K for the mausoleum, 3K for crane rental to move it into place, and the costs for the base and footings. He stated that the board would set the costs for slots based on investment and management. **Motion** made by Penny Dieryck, seconded by Kevin Comnick to move forward with gathering information on the mausoleum with the intention of adding one to the cemetery. Motion carried unanimously, 3 – 0. Golen stated that the Memorial event at the cemetery was a nice event with a good turnout.

- K. PLAWCS: Motion** made by Kevin Connick, seconded by Dan Golen to approve Resolution 2021-4 Authorizing the Commercial and Residential Sewer Access Charge by PLAWCS for New User Connections to the Sewer System in the Town of Canosia, Minnesota. Motion carried unanimously, 3 – 0.
- L. AIRPORT ZONING:** Connick stated that the last meeting was cancelled.
- M. BUILDING MAINTENANCE:** Treasurer Borndal stated that the bathrooms continue to have flushing issues. The fire department has been very helpful in resolving them when they occur. Connick stated that the installers need to come back and fix the issue so that it does not keep occurring.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. PROCTOR SCHOOL DISTRICT:** Connick stated that he talked with the school superintendent who is interested in updating the sign in front of Pike Lake Elementary to a digital sign. The superintendent would like to know if the township would like to contribute to the new sign as to support the district, have a new way in which to communicate information with the township, etc. He stated that when the tennis court was completed the school district donated 25% toward the project. He stated that money could come out of the referendum funds. The board discussed the opportunity. **Motion** made by Kevin Connick, seconded by penny Dieryck to contribute 10K towards the installation of a new digital sign at Pike Lake Elementary with the township having access to posting notices, etc. on the signage. Motion carried 2 – 1. Connick and Dieryck voted in favor. Golen voted against. He stated that the contribution would have preferred that the contribution be a bit lower, though he was in agreement of making a contribution.
- B. 4895 EPLR- PIKE LAKE GOLF CLUB: Motion** made by Kevin Connick, seconded by Penny Dieryck to approve Resolution 2021-5 Resolution of support for Mr. Anderson’s St. Louis County Variance After The Fact Request regarding relief of the 75’ setback for a sand containment retaining wall for outdoor volleyball courts on parcels 280-0030-00010, 00120. Motion carried unanimously, 3 – 0. Anderson stated that there is a LUP for a kiosk. It will not be connected to the system.

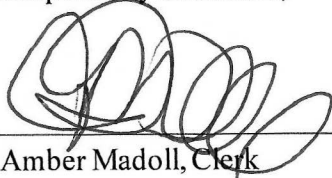
CORRESPONDENCE

- Duluth Township Newsletter
- Fredenberg Newsletter
- Township Insider
- County Annual Report

ADJOURNMENT

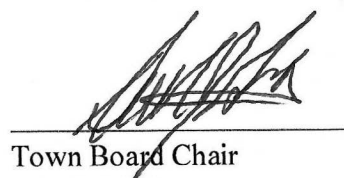
Motion by Kevin Connick, seconded by Dan Golen, to adjourn the meeting at 8:43 p.m. Motion carried unanimously, 3 – 0.

Respectfully Submitted,



Amber Madoll, Clerk
July 7, 2021

APPROVED:



Town Board Chair
July 7, 2021