

Canosia Township

4896 Midway Road Duluth MN 55811

P: 218-729-9833 E: canosiatownship@yahoo.com

Town Board: Chair Kevin L. Connick, Supervisor Penny Dieryck, Supervisor Jeff Erikson, Clerk Amber Madoll, Treasurer Cheryl Borndal

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

September 7, 2022

ATTENDING: Chair Kevin Connick, Supervisor Penny Dieryck, Supervisor Jeff Erikson (Virtual), Clerk Amber Madoll, Treasurer Cheryl Borndal, Fire Chief Gene Stevens, Fire Asst Chief Clyde Mortinsen, Road Foreman Gary Oswell, Rec Director Mike Ellingson, and 6 guests. The meeting was held virtually and in person at the Canosia Town Hall.

Chair Connick called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., and the pledge of allegiance was recited.

AGENDA, MINUTES, TREASURER'S REPORT & BILLS

- A. **AGENDA: Motion** made by Penny Dieryck, seconded by Jeff Erickson to approve the agenda as written. Motion carried unanimously, 3-0.
- B. **MINUTES: Motion** made by Kevin Connick, seconded by Penny Dieryck to approve the August 3, 2022 Regular Meeting Minutes as written. Motion carried unanimously, 3 – 0.
- C. **TREASURER'S REPORT:**
 - a. Treasurer Borndal stated that two checks were written after the first batch and that there are enough signers for them.
- D. **PAY BILLS: Motion** made by Penny Dieryck, seconded by Kevin Connick to pay bills # 21729–21881 and EFT2022-8 once all receipts are accounted for. Motion carried unanimously, 3 – 0.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- A. **Townline Road Maintenance:** Mayor Werner from the city of Rice Lake stated that they would like to form an agreement with Canosia Township concerning the road maintenance on Townline Road. While the road is currently owned and maintained by Canosia Township, he stated that there is concern about the timeliness of snow plowing. He stated that his residents (there are six Rice Lake residents on the road and one Canosia Township resident) have requested that Rice Lake plow the road. Though the road is currently plowed by the county through a contract with Canosia Township, the mayor stated that they have also been plowing the road as requested by the residents as they feel that the county is not plowing them fast enough. A resident of Rice Lake, who attended the meeting, stated that he has lived on Townline Road for 12 years and at first plowing wasn't an issue. He stated that now, however, he feels that the snowplowing and general road maintenance is not good and he stated that his neighbors are in agreement. He stated that they completed a petition related to road concerns but did not provide it to Canosia Township. He also stated that he had contacted Canosia Township. However, Clerk Madoll reviewed emails/phone records from the time period noted and could not find communications from the resident. Supervisor Connick stated that he has also not received any communications from the Rice Lake resident. Road Foreman Oswell stated that he travels the roads on a consistent, weekly basis. He stated that summer brushing occurs twice, once through a county contract and a second time through a private contractor. Supervisor Connick stated that there have been few concerns with the current county

- snowplowing contract but that he could talk with the county to make sure that Townline Road is being plowed in a consistent manner as the other township roads. He also stated that the contract with the county is lower than what Rice Lake wanted as payment for road maintenance. If Rice Lake wanted to match the amount of the contract, he would still want the Canosia Town Board to be able to control the grading, application of calcium chloride, etc. As board chair, he stated that he was willing to meet with Mayor Werner, Road Foreman Oswell, and county staff to discuss possible solutions. Mayor Werner agreed that a meeting would be beneficial. Supervisor Comnick will work on making arrangements.
- B. 4966 Lorendale Road: Love and Kiby live next door to the property and are concerned about how the property in question is being cared for. Love stated that there is no garbage service and large piles of garbage are being burned, there is no sewer service, no water, no mail service, and no electricity. She stated that there are three people currently living there. The owner lives on a different property and it is her son, his girlfriend, and another boy who are normally there. She stated that there is a truck loaded with trash that they are now parking on Midway Road across from the golf course and pitbulls which bark consistently. Kiby stated that they have also seen oil and gas leakages from old boats, machinery, etc. on the property. Love stated that they would like to sell their home but are unable to because of the condition of the neighbor's property. Supervisor Comnick stated that land use and zoning for the township is managed by St. Louis County. He stated that the township could draft a letter to the county, WLSSD, and others with the photos in order to bring awareness of the concern. Clerk Madoll will draft a letter to be sent and scan in the pictures to be attached.
- C. Back baseball field: Votzke stated that she is the secretary of the Proctor Softball Club board and is representing them at the meeting. She stated that they have approximately 250 youth involved with the club and that they have needed to expand teams in the last year. She stated that they have worked well with Rec Director Ellingson for the past few years and would like to continue with a partnership. She stated that they would like to propose that Canosia Township improve the dugouts, build a larger shed for equipment and that in exchange they would regrade and add new lines to the field. Supervisor Dieryck stated that the township is already caring for the field and that she is disturbed by the lack of consistent maintenance that the club has failed to provide. She stated that the dug outs are not in bad shape and that she would like to see the club step up and do more, such as repairing/replacing the batting cage. Supervisor Comnick was in agreement and stated that the township owns the recreation area. It has offered the field without requesting club fees, it installed score boards, and it has provided basic care of the field when it was not done by the club. He stated that in addition, club materials and gear have been dumped by the club in the concession stand and a comment by a guest was also made concerning the pitcher's mound being in disrepair. Votzke stated that they did not use the field this year, so they were less concerned about the mound and overall maintenance of the field. Supervisor Dieryck stated that the club could bring a new proposal to the board in October but that currently she does not see a value to the field remaining a baseball field when it could be used for many other community services. Votzke stated that she would return in October with a new proposal.

OLD BUSINESS

- A. **PLANNING AND ZONING:** 5960 WPLR: Supervisor Comnick stated that there was a VRBO request for this property. The request was for the 4 bedroom home to host up to 16 guests at one time. He stated that he has concerns about the impact on the PLAWCS system and the neighborhood. Chief Stevens stated that he was concerned about fire risk. Supervisor Comnick stated that there will be a PLAWCS board meeting on 9.27.22 to discuss the issue and he has invited the county commissioners to attend.
- B. **FIRE RELIEF:** Chief Stevens stated that the audit is complete and that everything is going straight into PERA now. Treasurer Borndal asked what she should do when she sends in the township contribution. Chief Stevens stated that it will go to PERA and he will get her the address. He also stated that there will be no more Fire Relief meetings after October 2022 and no more audits.
- C. **FIRE DEPARTMENT:**

- a. Chief Stevens reported on his report. He also stated that they hosted a M.A.R.T. team helicopter, a life link landing zone training, and a training on fire ground tactics.
- b. Chief Stevens stated that the department is going to partner with Grand Lake, Solway, Proctor and Hermantown to do a recruitment campaign for new volunteer firefighters.
- c. Chief Stevens stated that on October 11, 2022 they will host their annual prevention night at Pike Lake Elementary. Clerk Madoll will get it added to the sign in front of the school. The theme is "Fire Won't Wait. Plan Your Escape." There will be a poster contest and the winner(s) will be able to ride on a fire truck.
- d. Chief Stevens stated that they are working with a contractor to plan on how to open up the trail head a bit and clean it up, as well as, on the installation on training boxes.
- e. Supervisor Dieryck stated that the Red Cross is still offering free smoke alarms and that they help with installation.

2022 FIRE DEPT. RESPONSES			
Call Type	SEPTEMBER #'s	Notes	Total for 2022
EMS	17		102
Medical MUA	0		22
Twp Fire	0		17
MUA Fire	4		31
Service	0		3
TOTAL	21		175

- D. ROADS:** Supervisor Comnick stated that the Midway Road construction from NPLR to Hwy 53 has been delayed until 2026 but the construction from NPLR to Industrial Road will occur in 2023.
- E. RECYCLE SHED:** Supervisor Dieryk stated that Bolos would like new signage. Supervisor Comnick stated that he thinks the signs can be taken down and that traffic flow can go back to the way it used to be, where individuals drove up without a formalized line. He stated that the staff should only be counting cars and not assisting residents with unloading recycling.
- F. RECREATION AREA:** Rec. Director Ellingson stated that the fields were fertilized. Supervisor Dieryck asked for clarification what fund the electrical and soccer field leveling would be coming from. Supervisor Comnick stated that the recreation reserve funds would be used. He stated that concerning the grant for the playground, ARPA funds could be used as matching funds for state grants, but not federal. Supervisor Dieryck will clarify and make sure the grant is only a state grant.
- G. CEMETERY:** None
- H. PLAWCS: Motion** made by Penny Dieryck, seconded by Jeff Erikson to approve Resolution 2022-10 to authorize PLAWCS to purchase and install five air valves to the system. Motion carried unanimously, 3 – 0.
- I. AIS:** Supervisor Comnick stated that the program is wrapping up for the year. He stated that the program went well, though it was a bit more challenging hiring inspectors. They are holding a wrap up meeting on 9.10.22. He stated that next year they will work out of the garage.
- J. ARPA FUNDING:** Supervisor Comnick stated that the culvert replacements/repairs were being paid by ARPA funds.

CORRESPONDENCE

MN Public Utilities Commission Notice of Environmental Assessment; Results from MN Department of Health townhall water testing; Notice from the SLC Land and Minerals Dept stating that there is a SLC Timber Sale

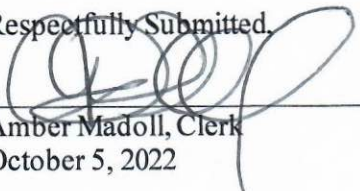
Canosia Township
September 7, 2022
Regular Meeting Minutes

Contract to the Mutual Use trail; Newsletter Town of Fredenberg, MN Fall Maintenance Expo newsletter,
Pipeline Assoc newsletter

ADJOURNMENT

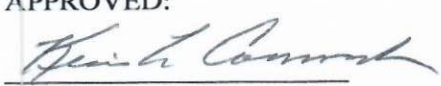
Motion by Kevin Connick, seconded by Penny Dieryck, to adjourn the meeting at 8:36p.m. Motion carried
unanimously, 3 – 0.

Respectfully Submitted,



Amber Madoll, Clerk
October 5, 2022

APPROVED:



Town Board Chair
October 5, 2022