

Canosia Township

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

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

May 3, 2023

ATTENDING: Chair Penny Dieryck, Supervisor Kevin Connick, Supervisor Jeff Erikson, Clerk Amber Madoll, Treasurer Cheryl Borndal, Road Foreman Gary Oswell, Asst Fire Chief Clyde Mortinsen, and 5 guests. The meeting was held virtually and in person at the Canosia Town Hall.

Chair Dieryck 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 Kevin Connick, seconded by Penny Dieryck to approve the agenda as written. Motion carried unanimously, 3-0.
- B. **MINUTES: Motion** made by Kevin Connick, seconded by Jeff Erikson to approve April 5, 2023 Re-Organization Minutes and April 5th, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes
- C. **TREASURER'S REPORT:**
 - a. Treasurer Borndal stated that the fire department already paid an account that Check # 22196 was written for. She requested that the check not be included with the monthly approvals.
 - b. Treasurer Borndal stated that the ARPA reporting is complete. There is a current balance of \$44,765 to be used.
 - c. **Motion** made by Kevin Connick, seconded by Penny Dieryck to approve the treasurer's report at written. Motion carried unanimously, 3 – 0.
- D. **PAY BILLS: Motion** made by Kevin Connick, seconded by Penny Dieryck to pay bills # 22139–22178 except for check 22196 and EFT2023-4. Motion carried unanimously, 3 – 0.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- A. **Proctor Baseball Club:** Ross re-read the proposal that the Proctor Baseball Club submitted to the town board for consideration previously. He stated that the previous repairs/maintenance were bandaids and that the back field needed significant work. He stated that they are currently only using the field for practices but were hoping to use it in the future for a large baseball tournament that they host, along with older youth games. He stated that they have received some batching grants and that they could set aside 1K to help with maintenance. Supervisor Dieryck stated that she was out there earlier with the board to discuss the future of the field. She stated that the board is interested in repurposing the field with community input. She stated that Andy told her that the club had already made some of the purchases that were within in the proposal, such as the batting cage and portable mounds. She stated that she told him previously that the township would not commit to a 1K maintenance fee because they did not have the staffing to manage the field. She requested that they repair the signage by the field and that the batting cage needed to be moved to a safer location. She asked who would be taking the batting cage down in the winter and the club representatives stated that they would. She stated that the storage area has not been well maintained by the club and that they needed to talk with their volunteers about better maintaining

that space. There was a discussion on lawnmower usage and getting through the gate. Supervisor Dieryck stated that they could work with Laird Erikson and Clyde Mortinsen to get into the space to mow. Supervisor Comnick stated that the intent of the township is to convert the field with a new pavilion, green zone, grills, etc. They are also planning major renovations for the playground. He stated that the entire community owned the recreation area and that the township needed to make sure that it met the needs of all residents. Ross stated that they had obtained new board leadership and intended to train all of their volunteers. They are also looking for solutions to fulfil their game commitments. Ross stated that with neighboring communities they rent the fields and have maintenance collaborations. Supervisor Comnick stated that they could use the base field for practices for this year. They would also need to provide their schedules for both fields for posting. Supervisor Dieryck reminded the representatives that their club is responsible for the portable bathroom fees now through July and for ½ of one spray. She stated that the previous recreation director resigned and that she will be the primary contact moving forward. Supervisor Comnick stated that if the club had aglime delivered to make sure that it is out of the way and over by the volleyball area and to only purchase what is needed for the front field. He requested them to obtain a quote and to send that to Supervisor Dieryck. **Motion** made by Kevin Comnick, seconded by Jeff Erikson to purchase 50% of the aglime for the front field if the quote falls in line with previous years. Motion carried unanimously, 3 – 0.

- B. LBAE Concern:** Rackliffe stated that she would like a rationale for why the township board disagreed with the County Assessor's recommendation for reducing her 2024 taxes. Supervisor Dieryck stated that the average raw land increase according to the county was 5% and buildings 17%. When they reviewed her property, they believed that the original assessment was accurate. Supervisor Comnick stated that they do their best to work with the county and with the residents but that at the annual LBAE meeting, it is their decision as a board whether to alter a resident's taxes, not the county. After the township makes their decision, the resident can appeal to the county if they would like to. Supervisor Dieryck stated that they chose for no change during the LBAE meeting and they cannot make additional changes but Rackliffe can appeal to the county. Rackliffe stated that appealing is time and cost consuming for the resident and a burden. She stated that the assessor went to her house and reviewed it, whereas the town supervisors did not. She stated that she believed that as such, the assessor was more accurate. She also stated that when she reviews the decisions, she sees inconsistencies. Supervisor Dieryck and Supervisor Comnick stated that there is a limit in what they can alter over the entire township during the review. They make the best judgement they can at the time based on that limit and the facts presented to them during the meeting. The board recommended that Rackliffe appeal if she was unhappy with their decision.

OLD BUSINESS

- A. PLANNING AND ZONING:** Supervisor Comnick stated that there was a VRBO on Pike Lake that was allowing 16 individuals when the limit is 10 set by PLAWCS. He stated that the county sent the owner a letter and that they have updated their listing to ten people.
- B. PLAWCS:** Supervisor Comnick stated that the storm overflow hit lift station 3 and North Pike Lake Road with an estimated 60K in damage. He stated that they would be meeting with WLSSD to discuss the issue. He stated that the damage should qualify for emergency aid. **Motion** made by Kevin Comnick, seconded by Jeff Erikson to approve Resolution 2023-7 that authorized the purchase of three new pumps. Motion carried unanimously, 3 – 0.
- C. FIRE RELIEF:** None.
- D. FIRE DEPARTMENT:**
- a. Asst Chief Mortinsen stated that they toured the Aerie Flat Apartments. They will also be hosting a life burn by the volleyball court on Friday.

- b. **Motion** made by Kevin Connick, seconded by Penny Dieryck to approve Resolutions 2023-8 and 2023-9 which accepted donations on behalf of the Canosia Township Volunteer Fire Department. Motion carried unanimously, 3 – 0.

2023 FIRE DEPT. RESPONSES			
Call Type	MAY #'s	Notes	Total for 2023
EMS	7		34
Medical MUA	0		8
Twp Fire	3		6
MUA Fire	2	Solway and Alborn	8
Service	0		0
TOTAL	12		56

- E. **ROADS:** Supervisor Connick stated that he is working with the county to secure reimbursement for the flood and water damage. He stated that the county’s Midway Road Project will begin the second week of June and go through July.
- F. **RECYCLE SHED:** None.
- G. **RECREATION AREA:** Supervisor Dieryck stated that the board met to discuss the recreation area. They are working on a new plan for the space. Supervisor Erikson stated that he is in support of sending a survey to residents for community input. They asked Clerk Madoll to request from the elementary school that the stop using the tennis courts during recess and without direct adult supervision as the youth are ripping the nets. Supervisor Dieryck stated that she is meeting with the soccer association to gather their plans for August. She stated that the big nets are not needed and can be removed. Treasurer Borndal stated that she should remind them that they pay for a portion of the portable bathrooms and annual spraying. The board discussed the plans for annual spraying. **Motion** made by Kevin Connick, seconded by Jeff Erikson to pay for two treatments of spraying by Duluth Lawn Care. Motion carried unanimously 3 – 0. Laird Erikson recommended an airator be used to help the grass grow. Supervisor Connick agreed and recommended that he rent one and proceed.
- H. **CEMETERY:** None.
- I. **BUILDING MAINT:** It was discussed that some molding needed nails and Treasurer Borndal requested that the black mail box on the side of the building be repaired.
- J. **AIS:** Supervisor Connick stated that the AIS inspectors will begin on fishing opener, if the ice is gone.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. **Newsletter:** Clerk Madoll requested that a new newsletter be compiled. She will put together an electronic survey, as well as, a new email sign up system that can be promoted in the newsletter. Supervisor Connick will write articles on roads and AIS. Supervisor Dieryck will write an article on the rec area. Supervisor Erikson will write an article on PLAWCS. The Fire Department will provide and article and Clerk Madoll will ask the historical society and the school if they would like to add anything.

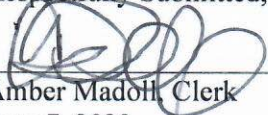
CORRESPONDENCE:

SLCAT Annual Meeting notice, MN Power Notice of hearing for an increase in rates, Town of Fredenberg Newsletter, Solway Township Newsletter, dog license applications, cemetery application, multiple resident letters for LBAE meeting, MAT calendars and Duluth Township Newsletter

ADJOURNMENT

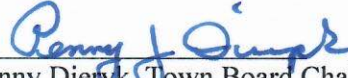
Motion by Jeff Erikson, seconded by Penny Dieryck, to adjourn the meeting at 8:26 p.m. Motion carried unanimously, 3 – 0.

Respectfully Submitted,



Amber Madoff, Clerk
June 7, 2023

APPROVED:



Penny Dieryck, Town Board Chair
June 7, 2023