

Canosia Township

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

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

January 4, 2023

ATTENDING: Chair Kevin Comnick, Supervisor Penny Dieryck, Supervisor Jeff Erikson, Clerk Amber Madoll, Treasurer Cheryl Borndal, Fire Chief Gene Stevens, Road Foreman Gary Oswell, Rec Director Mike Ellingson, and 3 guests. The meeting was held virtually and in person at the Canosia Town Hall.

Chair Comnick 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 Kevin Comnick to approve the agenda as written. Motion carried unanimously, 3-0.
- B. **TREASURER'S REPORT:**
 - a. Treasurer Borndal and Chief Stevens stated that the new mileage rate is 65.5 cents/mile.
 - b. Treasurer Borndal stated that the credit card invoice did not come for the month so she paid the amount of what she had receipts for. She would like to request that the clerk look into setting up an online account to better track the account. Clerk Madoll will look into it.
 - c. **Motion** made by Kevin Comnick, seconded by Penny Dieryck to approve the treasurer's report as presented. Motion carried unanimously, 3 – 0.
- C. **PAY BILLS: Motion** made by Penny Dieryck, seconded by Jeff Erikson to pay bills# 22007–22052 and EFT2022-14. Motion carried unanimously, 3 – 0.

PUBLIC COMMENT (None)

OLD BUSINESS

- A. **ORDER OF ANNEXATION:** Supervisor Comnick reviewed the details of the partial Order of Annexation agreement with the City of Rice Lake. He stated that both parties updated their resolutions to add detail and further clarify the agreement. **Motion** made by Kevin Comnick, seconded by Penny Dieryck to resend Resolution 2022-20 that addresses the partial Order of Annexation with the City of Rice Lake so that a new resolution could be past that is more accurate. Motion carried unanimously, 3 – 0. **Motion** made by Kevin Comnick, seconded by Jeff Erikson to approve Resolution 2023-2 which addresses the partial Order of Annexation with the City of Rice Lake. Motion carried unanimously, 3 – 0.
- B. **CITY DISCUSSION:** Supervisor Comnick stated that the board had previously considered becoming a city. He had Orman's office provide the requirements and information regarding the process for a township to become a city. Orman stated that Canosia Township is in a very good position to become a city. It either personally possesses or has contracts with entities to provide all of the basic requirements that cities need to provide their residents. Ie. Fire, safety, etc. Supervisor Dieryck stated that if they attempted to become a city, could that trigger another city to try and force an annexation. R. Anderson stated that the difference is that the township would be acting proactively, v. reactively. Supervisor Comnick stated that if the board decided to become a city then they would need to pass a resolution to

incorporate. Supervisor Erikson stated he wanted to make sure that before the board proceeded with any action that the board did its due diligence. Supervisor Dieryck stated that she would want to meet with the City of Rice Lake and discuss with them how they went about becoming a city. Orman and the board are in agreement that a joint meeting might be a good idea. There was also discussion that contacting Michael Couri might be a good suggestion as he has supported multiple townships. Chief Stevens asked what could be done to stop anyone from attempting annexation at this point in time. Supervisor Cornick stated that the resolution of incorporation would show the intent to become a city. He then explained how the process of incorporation works. Orman brought up the potential costs associated with incorporation and the importance of engaging the community in the discussion. Supervisor Cornick discussed bringing planning and zoning back to the township. It is currently managed by the county. He also discussed the posting requirements if a joint meeting is held with the City of Rice Lake to discuss their experience becoming a city. If a special meeting is held, it will be posted, at minimum, five days in advance.

C. PLAWCS: Supervisor Cornick stated that Donovan Frye, Michael Orman, and he met to discuss how the control panels should be allocated considering that Canosia Township paid for them. He stated that Grand Lake sent him a letter from their attorney stating that Canosia Township was in violation of the Joint Powers Agreement because they refused to allow PLAWCS to put the panels into their capital fund. He explained how at the last PLAWCS meeting, the chair of Grand Lake insisted on passing a motion to have PLAWCS's contracted accountant, Duluth Tax and Accounting Services, to look into adding the panels to the PLAWCS capital fund. This motion was pushed through even though a Canosia Township Supervisor was absent due to a death in the family. Had the motion been delayed, in respect of the supervisor, it would not of passed as the resolution passed 3 – 2, with only Grand Lake Supervisors voting in support. He also stated that they did so because they were concerned about the audit. Orman recommended putting the panels in the Canosia Township capital fund, as Grand Lake Township nor PLAWCS contributed to the cost of the panels. Supervisor Cornick also discussed the change in pump purchasing for residents and the increase in resident and commercial rates.

D. FIRE RELIEF: None.

E. FIRE DEPARTMENT:

- a. Chief Stevens reviewed his report. He stated that they went through all the trucks doing maintenance and getting ready for the winter storm. They did more medical training and they finished the year with a record 244 calls.
- b. **Motion** made by Kevin Cornick, seconded by Jeff Erikson to approve Resolution 2023-3 to accept a check for \$45.60 from Prudential on behalf of the Fire Department. Motion carried unanimously, 3 – 0.
- c. **Motion** made by Jeff Erikson, seconded by Penny Dieryck to approve Resolution 2023-4 to accept a check for \$400.00 from the Pike Lake PIE on behalf of the Fire Department. Motion carried unanimously, 3 – 0.

2022 FIRE DEPT. RESPONSES			
Call Type	DECEMBER #'s	Notes	Total for 2022
EMS	8		141
Medical MUA	1	GRAND LAKE	34
Twp Fire	4		27
MUA Fire	3	HERMANTOWN. SOLWAY	40
Service	0		2
TOTAL	16		244

F. ROADS: None.

- G. RECYCLE SHED:** Treasurer Borndal attended the annual training held. She stated that she has some websites for future newsletters. She also stated that she is working on the new grant, which is due at the end of February.
- H. RECREATION AREA:** Supervisor Dieryck stated that the Proctor Baseball group will be attending in February. She asked for them to send their plans ahead of time. She also stated that the grant is now available for requesting funds for the playground.
- I. CEMETERY:** None.
- J. BUILDING MAINT:** Supervisor Comnick stated that L. Erikson would pick up a new mailbox for the side of the building.
- K. ELECTIONS: Motion** made by Kevin Comnick, seconded by Penny Dieryck to pass Resolution 2023-1 that approves Barbara Misgen (Head Judge), Laura Solem, Roeyn Madoll, Penny Dieryck , Judy Kehtel, Nancy Cameron as election judges for the March Election and as the Absentee Ballot Board (Except for junior judges) for 2023. Motion carried unanimously, 3 – 0.
- L. UPCOMING MEETING DATES:** The board is in agreement that the Board of Audit and Budget Meetings will be held on February 1, 2023 beginning at 5:30pm. They were also in agreement that the annual Re-Organization Meeting will be held on April 5, 2023 at 6:30pm.
- M. WINTER NEWSLETTER:** The board was in agreement that the newsletter could go to print.

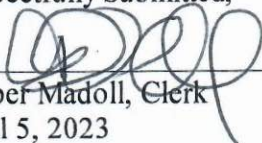
CORRESPONDENCE

None

ADJOURNMENT


Motion by Penny Dieryck, seconded by Jeff Erikson, to adjourn the meeting at 8:45p.m. Motion carried unanimously, 3 – 0.

Respectfully Submitted,



Amber Madoll, Clerk
April 5, 2023

APPROVED:



Town Board Chair
April 5, 2023