

Canosia Township

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

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

October 3, 2018

ATTENDING: Chair Dan Golen, Supervisor Kurt Brooks, Supervisor Kevin Connick, Clerk Susan Krasaway, Treasurer Cheryl Borndal, Road Foreman Gary Oswell, Assistant Fire Chief Clyde Mortinsen, P&Z Director Tim Walburg, Rec Director Mike Ellingson, and five residents.

Chair Golen 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 Connick, seconded by Brooks, to approve the agenda with two additions: Under New Business, 1) discuss changing the date of the November meeting and 2) approve annual bingo request. Motion carried unanimously, 3-0.
- B. **MINUTES:** Motion by Connick, seconded by Brooks, to approve the minutes from the Regular Meeting (9/5/2018) with one minor wording fix. Motion carried unanimously, 3 – 0.
- C. **TREASURER'S REPORT:** Motion by Connick, seconded by Brooks, to approve the Treasurer's Report (1/1/18 –9/30/2018). Motion carried unanimously, 3 – 0.

Information from Treasurer:

- Borndal explained an error St. Louis County made on the last tax forfeit apportionment we received. The county will correct it on the next apportionment.
 - Borndal asked for clarification on which road received the Class 5 gravel from Coons (Christianson Rd.)
 - Borndal explained the two “overpayment refunds” we received this month: one was from Denny's after we returned an item we purchased and the second was from Forum Communication; there is consistent confusion/overlap on the Forum invoices which we will need to pay special attention to moving forward.
 - A planning & zoning permit check submitted to the township was returned for insufficient funds; the payee will submit another check along with the service fee our bank charged us.
 - Backup recycling attendant Jeff Swansen received a PERA refund since he did not meet the minimum annual earnings to be included on PERA after all.
- D. **PAY BILLS:** Motion by Connick, seconded by Brooks, to pay bills #20049-20102 and MA-2018-13. Motion carried unanimously, 3 – 0.

SPECIAL TOPIC: NOXIOUS WEEDS

St. Louis County Ag Inspector Kristin Fogard was present to discuss: 1) The growing Japanese Knotweed problem in the township and, 2) The possibility of getting Mn. Department of Agriculture grant funding to help eradicate knotweed on township (not private) property and increase education/community outreach.

The grant application is due October 15; Fogard agreed to work with Noxious Weed Inspector Gary Oswell and Supervisor Connick on filling out the application. Fogard also distributed pamphlets on knotweeds which emphasize how tough and problematic these weeds can be. (e.g. they can withstand fire and grow right through asphalt. The board later decided to include some brief information in the newsletter about this issue.

PUBLIC INPUT

- A. Proctor School Board candidate Lynn Peterson described her background in education and asked for the community's support in the November election.
- B. Resident Dan Jezierski said he met with St. Louis County Engineer Vic Lund to get clarification on the road signs near his house. Road Foreman Gary Oswell will re-measure one sign in question to ensure we are meeting all rules/regulations.

In response to this discussion, Supervisor Connick read an email the township received from Lund, congratulating Canosia on their recent road-related accomplishments (including the sign policy), maintenance efforts, leadership and long-term planning efforts.

- C. Canosia Historical Society member Millicent O'Connell reminded everyone of the upcoming events commemorating the 1918 fire: Historical Society Open House on Saturday, October 13 at 10 a.m. followed by the Kolojeski barn tour at 1 p.m.
- D. Roger Anderson gave an update on his potential purchase of the AAA property: there was a hearing yesterday and the judge now has 90 days to decide whether AAA has the right to sell the property or if they are obligated to keep it. Connick expressed his frustration with the advisory group trying to halt the sale and reiterated his support of Anderson's plans. Anderson asked for those in the community who support his ideas to be vocal in an effort to rally additional community support.

OLD BUSINESS

A. PLANNING & ZONING

P&Z Director Tim Walburg issued four permits in September (20 total for the year). Pike Lake Dental was granted a variance for renovations. There is a CUP hearing tomorrow night for the potential St. Germain's project.

5483 Shady Ln: Walburg talked with the realtor who had listed the property as a vacation rental. She agreed to changed the listing description. A quick check during the meeting showed that the listing was updated on Realtor.com but not on Zillow. Motion by Connick, seconded by Brooks, to have the chair/clerk will follow up with a letter to the property owner and realtor. Motion carried unanimously, 3 - 0.

Various; Motion by Comnick, seconded by Brooks, to table the discussions on fruit/vegetable stands and the commercial business permit discussed last month. Motion carried unanimously, 3 – 0.

Waste Wood Recycling: the township sent a letter to the MPCA regarding air quality questions and has so far received no response. Before next week's P&Z meeting, Walburg will get a progress report from Waste Wood owner Garrett Campbell on the CUP conditions.

Petitions at Public Hearings: the board contacted MAT for clarification on this topic. The response was that our ordinance does not say petitions can be used as evidence at a public hearing. Our ordinance allows testimony in-person, in writing or through an authorized representative; a petition is not any of these. One can be submitted but does not have to be acted on by the board.

5197 Lavaque Rd. Multiple Addresses: Brooks called the 911 enforcement department, but unfortunately they cannot force anyone to get more than one 911 address sign per property parcel number; the hope is that Cich will get the additional signs anyway for safety reasons. We still do not have a map from Cich, although he told Brooks he had one made for us.

Public Hearing Date: Motion by Comnick seconded by Golen, to hold the public hearing to discuss changing to county P&Z on Tuesday, October 30 at 7 p.m.

B. URBAN VS. RURAL TOWNSHIP DISCUSSION

This month the clerk and board researched whether our township has acted in an urban or rural capacity when enacting past ordinances. The research showed that we have acted as an urban town in this regard for decades. The clerk also found past meeting Annual Meeting minutes from 1989 where the township referred to a past resolution giving Canosia urban powers.

Motion by Brooks, seconded by Comnick, reaffirming that Canosia has to the right to continue to act as an Urban Township based on the thorough review of the following evidence:

1. The precedents set by the past several decades of ordinance enactments
2. The information/files from past boards discussing and researching this topic
3. The information in our files from MAT attorneys both past and present
4. The research compiled by township attorney Michael Orman on the population/platted requirements of urban towns

Discussion: The hope is that this research process and motion (now electronically stored/searchable) will provide an accessible answer if this question ever arises again.

Motion to hereby reaffirm our Urban Township Status carried unanimously, 3 – 0.

C. ANTI-BLIGHT

Brooks drafted an article on this topic for the upcoming newsletter, asking for public input on this idea. At this stage there are still several unanswered questions about enforcement, etc. but the board agreed an article would be a good way to gauge community interest on pursuing it.

D. FIRE RELIEF: A recent Relief Association meeting had to be rescheduled

E. FIRE DEPARTMENT

2018 FIRE DEPT. RESPONSES			
Call Type	September #'s	Notes	Total for 2018
EMS	13		108
Medical MUA	0		7
Twp Fire	4		17
MUA Fire	4	Grand Lake & Hermantown	22
Service	0		1
TOTAL	21		155

Asst. Fire Chief Clyde Mortinsen reported that the FD serviced all SCBA packs and trained on the new FLIR cameras. They are also preparing for their Fire Prevention Week activities including the open house on Tuesday, October 9 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

F. ROADS

Road Supervisor Comnick met with SLC's Steve Krasaway and Mark Lockhart to discuss potential maintenance plans for 2020-2022. Lockhart prepared some initial ideas which the board will review in the coming months. Comnick's official September road report is attached to the minutes.

2018-2019 Snowplowing: Motion by Comnick, seconded by Golen, to accept the lump sum "event" snowplowing proposal from Asphalt of Duluth for the winter of 2018-2019 for Holly Ln, Birchway Rd., Pike Lane, Kehtel Rd. (west of Shady Ln).

Discussion: The board had asked for both hourly pricing and lump sum snow event pricing in the RFQ. After much discussion, the board asked Comnick to talk with Asphalt of Duluth's Gary Frye to gauge which option is a better deal for the township. As part of this motion, the board authorizes Comnick to switch to the hourly pricing model if it is deemed clearly more beneficial to the township after his discussions with Frye.

Note: although we sent the RFQ to two other contractors, we did not receive any other responses by the stated deadline. Motion carried unanimously, 3 – 0.

G. RECYCLE SHED: The food waste recycling stream has still not started.

H. RECREATION AREA

Rec Director Mike Ellingson reported the new dugout is screened in; the tennis wall is painted and will be installed this spring. The rink will be painted this coming summer.

Rec Area Supervisor Dan Golen reported that Sinnott is looking for a separate contractor to fix the tennis court cracks. Golen will check in with them again in the spring.

The board would like to hold an open house in the spring to thank everyone who has contributed to the recent rec area improvements.

I. AIS/CD3

Comnick submitted an AIS report, but since it contains personnel information it will not be attached to the meeting minutes. All other points in the report are mentioned below:

CD3: The board discussed whether to assume ownership of the CD3 station now that the two-year pilot program is almost over. CD3 estimates the annual maintenance and software costs to be roughly \$1,000-\$1,200/year. Michael Scharenbroich from St. Louis County has indicated to Comnick that the county grant money could be used to cover these annual costs, but has not confirmed that in writing yet. CD3 reports that there were 1,909 “actions taken by the public” on the station in 2018. It is now off and covered for winter.

AIS Inspections: Comnick met with the inspectors for a year-end wrap up meeting. All three reported the program was a success this summer. They suggested hiring 5 to 6 inspectors next year (rather than 4) to get better coverage. One of the inspectors has indicated he would like to return next summer; the others plan to move on in their careers. Brooks clarified that no hiring decisions/promises should be made at this early stage since these are temporary, seasonal positions.

J. LUNDEEN MEMORIAL UPDATE: The family installed the bench at the landing.

K. TRAILS

Brooks confirmed with the county they received our trail applications and they plan to proceed quickly with processing them. Once we hear back, we will decide how to proceed from there. Trail Committee Member Meghan Blair is researching grant options.

L. CEMETERY

Cemetery Administrator Gary Oswell will stake the cemetery when we are definitely done mowing for the season. Oswell is also waiting to hear back from Louis Dubla’s wife, as well as a few other potential reservations. The posted deadline to pick up flowers, etc. is October 1; Laird Erikson will pick up any remaining two weeks after that.

M. NEWSLETTER

Article approval: Motion by Brooks, seconded by Comnick, to approve the newsletter articles with additions discussed during the meeting (e.g. anti-blight article, Japanese knotweed info, election info, etc). Motion carried unanimously, 3 – 0.

N. PLAWCS

The supervisors will ask John Kelly if he has a signed original of the 1999 PLAWCS ordinance. There is no change on the I/I ordinance.

Certify Delinquent Fees to Taxes: Motion by Comnick, seconded by Brooks, to approve Resolution #2018-8: Authorizing the certification of unpaid PLAWCS user fees to property taxes. *Discussion*: the board reviewed the preliminary list of delinquent users. Eagle Accounting will finalize the list in

November and we will submit the resolution and list to the county by the November 30 deadline. Motion carried unanimously, 3 – 0.

Pump Purchase: Motion by Connick, seconded by Brooks, to approve Resolution #2018-9: Authorizing the purchase of two PLAWCS lift pump replacements from Quality Flow Systems at a cost up to \$14,500. Motion carried unanimously, 3 – 0.

O. RSPT: All townships are now exempt from MS4 requirements

P. FINE SHARING

Orman's office reports we are now waiting on final approval from law enforcement.

Q. NOXIOUS WEEDS: Discussed earlier in meeting

R. AIRPORT ZONING

Connick will be meeting this month with the airport executive director and others about upcoming legislation and the airport zoning ordinance.

S. BUILDING MAINTENANCE

Motion by Brooks, seconded by Connick, authorizing Treasurer Borndal to purchase two free-standing toilet paper holders for the ladies' room. *Discussion:* after repeated failed attempts to fix the holder attached to the wall, the treasurer suggested this new option ;-) Motion carried unanimously, 3 – 0.

{Nothing to report: website, PFC, Goals & Priorities, Meeting/Training Recaps}

NEW BUSINESS

A. REQUEST TO HAVE WRITTEN REPORTS

Connick had suggested that all departments submit written reports prior to each meeting. After sensing a lack of support for this idea, he opted not to discuss it further.

B. SUPERONE LIQUOR LICENSE APPROVAL

Motion by Connick, seconded by Brooks, to approve the 2018-2019 Liquor License for the Pike Lake SuperOne Liquor store. *Discussion:* the clerk confirmed that Miners Inc. has submitted the necessary paperwork with the sheriff's signature, the insurance forms and the \$500 check for the township. Motion carried unanimously, 3 – 0.

C. TOWN HALL/FIRE HALL COLIFOM UPDATE

Supervisor Golen had the well/pipes flushed with chlorine this month after we received notice that our coliform levels were high. However, a re-test confirmed that we will have a problem.

Motion by Brooks, seconded by Comnick to have Golen follow up on the coliform problem and re-chlorinate if need be. *Discussion:* the well is inside the fire hall. The board believes we may eventually need a new drilled well. Comnick will touch base with the school district to ask about their well depth and cost. The board will regroup on this topic next month. Motion carried unanimously, 3 – 0.

D. APPOINT ELECTION JUDGES FOR NOV. 2018

Motion by Comnick, seconded by Brooks, to appoint the following judges for the November 6, 2018, General Election: Barbara Misgen (Head Judge), Barbara Erikson, Jeanne Trush, Jeri Georges, Judy Kehtel, Laura Solem, Linda Bashaw, Nancy Cameron and Susan Krasaway. Motion carried unanimously, 3 – 0.

E. BINGO APPROVAL

Motion by Comnick, seconded by Brooks, authorizing the Knights of Columbus to hold their annual November bingo event at St. Raphael’s church. Motion carried unanimously, 3-0.

F. MEETING DATE CHANGE

Motion by Comnick, seconded by Brooks, to change the town board’s November meeting to Thursday, November 8 instead of Wednesday, November 7. *Discussion:* Comnick requested the date change due to a scheduling conflict. The clerk will be out of town on the 8th, but the deputy clerk will cover the meeting. The clerk will post the date change. Motion carried unanimously, 3 – 0.

G. OTHER

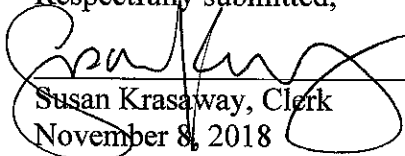
- Comnick reported that the Celebration of Life for Louis Dubla went well and his family was very appreciative.
- Upcoming Meetings: DAT on Oct. 18, MAT Annual Conference at the DECC Nov. 15-17.

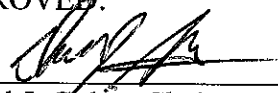
CORRESPONDENCE

- MDH water quality report: the town hall/fire hall water nitrate levels are normal
- Solway, Duluth, and Fredenberg Township newsletters
- Thank you note from the Pike Lake Association for the Canosia’s collaboration on the July 4 pancake breakfast
- Campaign letter from St. Louis County Auditor candidate Brandon Larson
- Brochure for Northland Securities Public Finance

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Comnick, seconded by Brooks, to adjourn the meeting at 9:33 p.m. Motion carried unanimously, 3 – 0.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Krasaway, Clerk
November 8, 2018

APPROVED:

Daniel J. Golen, Chair
November 8, 2018