

# Canosia Township

4896 Midway Road  
Duluth, Minnesota 55811  
Voice/Fax 218-729-9833

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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

August 1, 2018

ATTENDING: Chair Daniel J. Golen, Supervisor Kurt Brooks, Supervisor Kevin Connick, Clerk Susan Krasaway, Treasurer Cheryl Borndal, Road Foreman Gary Oswell, Fire Chief Gene Stevens, Assistant Chief Clyde Mortinsen, P&Z Director Tim Walburg, Rec Director Mike Ellingson, and eight 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 one change: (Move Pay Bills up to the start of the meeting) and one addition (Zoning Concern at 5109 Lindahl Rd). Motion carried unanimously, 3-0.
- B. MINUTES: Motion by Brooks, seconded by Connick, to approve the minutes from the Regular Meeting (7/2/2018) with a few spelling corrections. Motion carried unanimously, 3 – 0.
- C. TREASURER'S REPORT: Motion by Connick, seconded by Brooks, to approve the Treasurer's Report (1/1/18 –7/31/18). Motion carried unanimously, 3 – 0.

Information from Treasurer: The remaining 30% of the first-half tax money arrived, as did the AIS reimbursement through June. As requested: let it be noted that the purchase of the roll-up dugout door was part of the pre-approved \$12,000 dugout spending.

- D. PAY BILLS: Motion by Connick, seconded by Brooks, to pay bills #19942 – 19989 and MA-2018-10. Motion carried unanimously, 3 – 0.

## PUBLIC INPUT

- A. Amber Madoll submitted an email asking the township to consider more frequent print communications mailed directly to residents. The board agreed the township needs to communicate more effectively but were unsure about the additional cost of printing/mailing. They did agree to more proactive communication via the website and will research whether it's possible for residents to sign up for email alerts through our website. The clerk will ask website developer Jeff Charnes.
- B. Dan Jezierski asked for two signs (Dead End and Stop Sign Ahead) to be re-installed on Lockwood Ln. The board explained that those signs (along with several other signs throughout the township) were removed as part of our road sign plan and policy developed with the county; at this time the board is not going to deviate from that policy.

C. Jim Gilmore asked for clarification on the zoning ordinance (Section 8.8.1.A) regarding Zoning "Inspection Plans." Brooks explained that the township does not have a formal program in which they inspect every house for compliance; however, they do have the Zoning Director inspect potential violations, etc. as needed or requested. The board agreed with Gilmore that this could be clarified in the ordinance.

Gilmore also asked for clarification on Section 8.8.C: Hearing Procedures, specifically on whether a petition could count as testimony in a public hearing. The board agreed that a petition is a good way to bring attention to an issue, but they were unsure whether it could act as testimonial evidence like a letter from an individual resident. They will ask for clarification from MAT.

Gilmore will submit his additional recommended ordinance changes to the board to review.

### OLD BUSINESS

#### **A. PLANNING & ZONING**

P&Z Director Report: Tim Walburg said he visited the Waste Wood Recycling site three times in late July (as did the county and Supervisor Brooks) and found no issues needing attention. The residents near the site continue to feel the dust control is inadequate, but the county pit inspector did not see it as a concern. The Waste Wood owners are required to have their MPCA air quality documentation submitted to the township by February, along with their detailed reclamation plans and wetland delineations. Chair Golen said in the meantime he will contact the MPCA for clarification and check in with the business owner as well.

Walburg grew frustrated with the discussion and left the meeting abruptly; the board expressed their disappointment and later agreed to send Walburg a letter stressing the need for him to remain in attendance throughout the P&Z discussions.

4884 Midway Rd: the inoperable vehicles have been removed from this property.

5483 Shady Ln: This property is apparently being advertised as a year-round vacation rental; Comnick argued there was a precedent for requiring owners to get a Conditional Use Permit for this type of activity. The board referred this to the P&Z Commission for further consideration.

4846 Midway Rd: Comnick questioned whether a permit is needed for the business run out of this home. P&Z will consider this question as well.

5197 Lavaque Rd (multiple addresses): After discussions with Brooks, property owner Dale Cich promised to send a map of the property for our reference and secure additional 911 address numbers; however, there has been no progress yet. The clerk will follow up with an email to Cich; Brooks will follow up via phone if we receive no response.

5720 N. Pike Lake Rd.: The PLAWCS board took care of the sewer question at this property; however, there may be another issue regarding an accessory building that is occupied. It's unclear whether this is allowed. P&Z will research this as well.

Ordinance Update: the board will schedule a special meeting this month to discuss potential ordinance updates; this will include the P&Z commission's recommendations as well as Connick's request that appeals to certain zoning decisions come before the town board. Brooks asked Connick to find another township with a similar model in place to ensure we would have the correct processes in place. Brooks and Connick each had information from MAT on zoning commission authority and processes; these will be discussed at the special meeting as well.

**B. ANTI-BLIGHT**

5323 Shady Ln: At Connick's request, the supervisors each drove by this property to see if there were any blight issues; Brooks and Golen both said they couldn't see anything from the road. Connick will provide pictures.

5109 Lindahl Rd: A resident called to say there are several inoperable vehicles stored on the lawn at this property. The board will ask the P&Z Director to investigate.

**C. FIRE RELIEF**

Typically, the Relief Association Treasurer presents his annual information to the board in August; however, he was not in attendance at the meeting.

**D. FIRE DEPARTMENT**

2018 FIRE DEPT. RESPONSES			
Call Type	June & July #'s	Notes	Total for 2018
EMS	19		81
Medical MUA	2		6
Twp. Fire	3		10
MUA Fire	1	To Rice Lake	15
Service	1		1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>26</b>		<b>113</b>

The FD maintained the trucks and washed the exterior of the town hall, fire hall and recycle shed; they also took a driving class. The chief says they are planning on purchasing new gear for two FD members who just returned from deployment. They will likely use their donation money from Mrs. Anderson to purchase two thermal imaging cameras for \$5,000 each; the cameras will come in handy for fire rescues and searches.

Pike Lake Water Usage: When asked, the chief explained they only use water from Pike Lake if necessary during a live fire or dangerous situation that would require it. They were already aware that a special permit is needed to transport AIS-infested water for anything other than emergencies.

**E. ROADS**

Road Report:

- The county scrub seals are complete, as is the ditching and culvert work on Shady Ln.
- Connick will follow up with the homeowner on Shady Ln. who still occasionally has a hose stretching across the road.
- When asked, Connick stated that Lockwood Ln. will be striped this fall.

- Some Kehtel Rd. homeowners have placed their own official-looking dead-end sign in an effort to prevent unnecessary traffic. Comnick will ask them to remove it as it violates both the law and our road sign policy and it could be a liability issue for us; MAT has advised us that if the homeowners do not remove it, we have the right to do so ourselves.

Christianson Rd: Motion by Brooks, seconded by Golen, to approve approximately \$2,000 worth of calcium chloride on the entire half of mile of Christianson Rd; Jake's Grading will apply the chloride. *Discussion*: this will be done after delivering the necessary gravel that was discussed during the Road Tour. Christianson has been significantly dustier ever since crushed concrete was added last summer. Motion carried unanimously, 3 – 0.

## F. RECYCLING

Recycling Attendant Back-Up: Motion by Brooks, seconded by Comnick, to accept the resignation of Jeff Swansen as the recycling attendant back-up. *Discussion*: Swansen found another job with consistent hours. Recycling Attendant Frank Bolos may have a friend who can take Swansen's place. The board agreed Brooks should contact Frank about this possibility. If Frank's friend isn't an option, we will need to post the position on our website, etc. Motion carried unanimously, 3 – 0.

The changeover to the additional recycling streams is still a work in progress.

## G. RECREATION AREA

The dugout is complete. There are several companies we will need to publicly thank for their contributions: most notably, Harbor City Masonry, Arrowhead Concrete, Asphalt of Duluth and Sign Decisions.

The scoreboards should be installed soon. As part of the preparation process, the electrical poles at the rec area have been replaced and/or straightened. We will need to contact Vance Okstad to confirm which unions or companies helped with this effort so we can send thank you notes.

Tennis Wall: Motion by Comnick, seconded by Brooks, authorizing Rec Director Mike Ellingson to purchase the necessary materials (est. \$300) and install a plywood wall at the tennis courts for players to hit tennis balls against on their own. *Discussion*: this was a request from a young resident. Ellingson said he would not have to dig into the concrete to install poles for this project. Supervisor Golen expressed concerns about the design/construction (e.g. ability to withstand wind, etc). Motion carried 2-1 with Golen voting against it.

Tennis Court Cracks: Golen returned a call from Sinnott's Dan Wyman but could not get a hold of him.

Garage Proposal: Comnick presented his idea for constructing a garage at the rec area near the volleyball court. The garage would store township maintenance equipment as well as PLAWCS/PeopleService equipment. It would also potentially act as the PLAWCS office. The estimated \$30,000 garage could be partially funded over time through PLAWCS rental fees. An added benefit: the main storage garage at the town hall could be freed up for use by the fire department for equipment storage, exercise equipment, etc. The board will revisit this proposal next month.

## **H. AIS**

The inspections continue to go well; Comnick plans to meet with the inspectors after Labor Day to recap the season and identify areas of improvement. Comnick will also forward an email he received from CD3 regarding usage totals, etc.

## **I. TRAILS**

Brooks summarized the trail committee meeting held earlier in the evening: the plan is to help clear/smooth the school forest trail this summer. We will also be submitting applications to the county for some potential projects on Industrial Rd. which would cross tax forfeit land. We will be researching grant opportunities as well.

## **J. CEMETERY**

Brooks repaired and refurbished the cemetery pillars on Midway Rd.; he did this as a volunteer. Mike Ellingson will paint all four pillars and then the new signage will be installed.

Cemetery Administrator Gary Oswell asked the clerk to update the record to reflect the burial of Luanne McDonald (17-5-3).

## **K. PLAWCS**

In discussions regarding the I/I ordinance process, the board debated whether Canosia is in fact an Urban or Rural Township as defined by the State of MN; more research needed. The clerk will continue the search for the original 1999-1 sewer ordinance. This will be added to the agenda for next month.

**L. FINE-SHARING:** SLC has told Orman's office this is not a quick process; still awaiting info.

**M. LUCA:** Completed and submitted. Will be removed from agenda.

## **N. NOXIOUS WEEDS**

Japanese Knotweeds continue to be our main issue on Shady Ln and Spruce Ln. There is a training in August.

*{Nothing to report: Pig Issue, PFC, JAZB, Jane Anderson Donation, Meeting Recaps, Building Maintenance, Goals & Priorities, RSPT, Website}*

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **A. LUNDEEN MEMORIAL**

Motion by Comnick, seconded by Brooks, to allow the Lundeen family to install a memorial bench on Carmen's Way at their own cost. Discussion: the planned location near the picnic table should not be an issue for snowplowing. Motion carried unanimously, 3 – 0.

### **B. DATA PRACTICES ACT**

Motion by Comnick, seconded by Brooks, confirming the board's desire to NOT respond to a nationwide request for information on detailed township employee data, salaries, etc. since it is not a requirement to do so. Discussion: the clerk contacted MAT to find out our obligations for responding. Steve Fenske advised us that we are not required by law since we are a non-metro town and therefore not subject to the Data Practices Act. Motion carried unanimously, 3 – 0.

**C. PRIMARY ELECTION REMINDER**

Polls open August 14 from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. Motion by Brooks, seconded by Golen to appoint Susan Krasaway as an election judge. Discussion: the clerk requested this appointment on the off-chance she is needed to serve in a judge capacity rather than just an election administrator. Motion carried unanimously, 3 – 0.

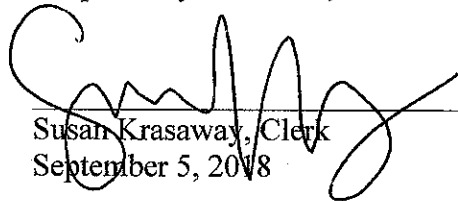
**CORRESPONDENCE**

- Waste Wood Recycling Complaint letters from Jim Gilmore, Sheila Bucheit and Nick Zupetz. The letters touched on noise issues, dust control, questions about operating hours and a broken windshield complaint.
- WLSSD Notice of September 10 public hearings on the budget/fees
- Lakewood, Fredenberg and Duluth Township newsletters, Rice Lake City Newspaper, Midway National Night Out notice
- MAT District 10 meeting notice
- Caribou Lake Association newsletter

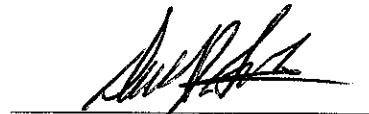
**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Connick, seconded by Brooks, to adjourn the meeting at 9:47 p.m. Motion carried unanimously, 3 – 0.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Susan Krasaway, Clerk  
September 5, 2018

APPROVED:

  
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Daniel J. Golen, Chair  
September 5, 2018