



Fish Lake Township
2170 Brunswick Road
Harris, MN 55032
(651) 674-7709
www.fishlaketownship.com

Town Board Meeting Minutes December 9, 2024

Board Members and Staff Present

Chair Bruce Fitzwater, Vice-Chair Jim Thill, Supervisor Donna Ferguson, Treasurer Corey Johnson, Clerk Andrea Nekowitsch, Gary Guse Road Superintendent

Call to Order and Approval of the Agenda

Chairman Fitzwater called the Regular Monthly Fish Lake Town Board meeting to order at 6:00 pm in the Township Office at 2170 Brunswick Road, Harris, MN. The pledge of allegiance was recited by all. Motion made Thill by and seconded by Fitzwater to approve the agenda as presented. Approved unanimously.

Road Report

Gary Guse presented the road report and updated the Board on projects that have been completed and in process from the last month and projects planned for the upcoming month.

Abandon Evelyn Addition (Road): A resident from Evelyn Addition, a short road connecting Cedarcrest Trail and Cedarcrest Lane, inquired about the possibility of abandoning the road. Normally, this process is initiated by a petition to the Board, but it can also be started during an annual meeting. Since the annual meeting is approaching, the clerk will verify the steps required to begin the process.

Extended Warranty 2025 Western Star: The extended warranty options were reviewed, and it was determined that the components that needed to be covered were not included in the extended warranty options and the board decided against purchasing.

2025 Kubota Skid Steer: The board discussed the advantages and approved the purchase of a 2025 Kubota Skid Steer. Owning a skid steer offers several benefits, including the ability to complete tasks in-house that are currently outsourced. These tasks include brushing, which can save approximately \$7,000 annually, and stump grinding, saving about \$3,000 annually. Additionally, the skid steer can handle small shouldering projects, saving roughly \$6,000 annually. It will also facilitate tree and brush cleanup by loading the chipper with the grappler attachment. Furthermore, it will simplify the process of attaching and removing plow equipment from larger trucks. During snowstorms, the skid steer can reload salt without disrupting the loader's operations, ensuring greater efficiency.

Motion made by Fitzwater and seconded by Thill to purchase a 2025 Kubota Skid Steer for \$73,307.04 and attachments for \$3975.00 All in favor. Approved unanimously.

Road Agreement with City of Harris:

The board read and reviewed the finalized Elmcrest road agreement with the City of Harris and signed it. The Clerk will forward the signed copy to the Harris City Clerk for their signatures.

Treasurers Report

The Board reviewed the treasurer’s report.

Bank Balances as of: November 30, 2024

Checking	\$14,112.97	Broadband Debt. Service	\$95,223.78
Savings (Camb. State)	\$304,038.22	Anchor Ave. Debt Service	\$32,729.41

Motion made by Thill and seconded by Fitzwater to accept the Treasurer’s report approve expenses of \$48,117.39 and November payroll for \$11,446.73, and authorize the transfer of \$400,000, from Checking to Savings. Approved unanimously.

Minutes

Motion made by Fitzwater and seconded by Thill to approve the minutes of the previous month’s meeting. Approved unanimously.

Schedule Appointments

None

Clerk Report

The Township has contacted an insurance broker for quotes on the current insurance coverage. The request has been sent to several insurance carriers and has been rejected due to not wanting to cover municipalities. The clerk will contact Minnesota Association of Townships Insurance Trust for a quote.

The Clerk reminded the Board that there will be a review of our current insurance coverage with the township’s agent during the annual meeting.

An insurance review with the current carrier is scheduled for January 2025.

Board Member Reports

None

Old Business

None

New Business

Employee Reviews: January 7, 2025 at 6:00 PM

Citizen Comment

None

Adjourn

Motion made by Thill and seconded by Fitzwater to adjourn at 7:08 p.m. Approved unanimously.

Bruce Fitzwater, Chair	Date	Andrea Nekowitsch, Clerk	Date
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