



# Fish Lake Township

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

## Town Board Meeting Minutes September 11, 2023

### Board Members Present

Chair Bruce Fitzwater, Vice-Chair Jim Thill, Supervisor Donna Ferguson, Treasurer Sharon McAndrew, Clerk Andrea Nekowitsch

### Board Members Absent

None

### Others Present:

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 by Thill and seconded by Ferguson to approve the agenda as presented. Approved unanimously.

### Road Report

Gary Guse presented the road report. In the month of August, most of the time was spent on

The owners of the winery have removed a swing arm mailbox post, and it has since been replaced by the township. The town board will send a letter requesting they return the mailbox post.

Anchor Ave. is almost complete, laid fabric, sub-cut and replaced three centerline culverts.

Maple Lane North sub-cut project is scheduled to start in October. The Road will need to be closed intermittently thought 2-3 days the project and residents will be notified by mail prior to the exact dates.

### Treasurers Report

The Board reviewed the treasurer's report.

#### Bank Balances as of: August 31, 2023

Checking	\$3,497.32	Broadband Debt. Service	\$77,496.32
Savings (Camb. State)	\$907,744.67	Anchor Ave. Debt Service	\$38,759.49

*Motion made by Ferguson and seconded by Thill to accept the Treasurer's Report, approve payment of check #1441 to #14463, for the amount of \$56,639.10, authorize up to \$4000.00 in operating disbursements for the upcoming month, approve the claims list as presented and transfer \$67,000 from checking to savings. Approved unanimously.*

## Minutes

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

## Schedule Appointments

1. Cindy Petty and Bear Roofing & Exteriors– Cindy Petty, the property owner, and Bear Roofing & Exteriors, the applicant, met with the town board to discuss their request for a Variance to Zoning Ordinance Sections 4.03 and 5.15. They sought permission to expand a non-conforming structure closer to the centerline of a County State Aide Highway than required in the Rural Residential I (RRI) District / Shoreland Management District. Following the discussion, the town board approved their request with no conditions. The subject site, encompassing approximately 3.30 acres, is situated at 3400 Stark Road / CSAH 10 in Fish Lake Township, S25, T36, R22 (PID 03.00337.00). *Motion made by Fitzwater and seconded by Ferguson to approve Cindy Petty's variance without any conditions. Approved unanimously.*
2. Property owner Kyle Beste met with the town board to discuss the request for an after-the-fact Variance to Shoreland Management Ordinance Sections 5.21 and 5.52 in order for a recently constructed deck to encroach on the required Ordinary High Water Level setback and to exceed the maximum allowable amount of impervious surface coverage in the Rural Residential I (RRI) District / Shoreland Management District. Following the discussion, the town board approved their request with no conditions. The subject site, covering approximately 0.22 acres, is situated at 44050 Maple Lane in Fish Lake Township, S23, T36, R22 (PID 03.01315.00). *Motion made by Fitzwater and seconded by Thill to approve Kyle Beste's variance without any conditions. Approved unanimously.*

## Clerk Report

Clerk Nekowitsch notified the Board that the Ford F-450 has emissions recall and that Gary Guse has made the appointment.

The third Economic Growth Meeting to be held on Wednesday, September 13, 2023, at Chisago Lake Town Hall.

Amending Ordinance 4 to address driveway improvements within the right of way is currently under review by the Township's attorney. An update will be forthcoming at the October regular monthly meeting.

## Board Member Reports

None

## Old Business

1. Discuss Cooperative Road Paving Procedures (schedule separate meeting?)-Tabled
2. Update on addendum to Ordinance #4 Regulating the Construction and Maintenance of Driveways/Culverts Within the Township. - Tabled

## New Business

None

### Citizen Comment

None.

*Motion made by Thill and seconded by Ferguson to reconvene meeting on Thursday, September 14<sup>th</sup> at 3:15 pm to conduct a Fall Road Tour. Approved unanimously.*

### Thursday, September 14, 2023

#### Fall Road Tour

Chair Fitzwater called the meeting to order at 3:15 pm.

#### Present

Chair Bruce Fitzwater, Vice-Chair Jim Thill, Supervisor Donna Ferguson, Gary Guse Road Superintendent.

Minutes were taken by Supervisor Ferguson and submitted to Clerk Nekowitsch for inclusion with the monthly meeting minutes.

A total of 54 miles were driven to view and inspect the following roads: Anchor, Amery, Antler, No Pine Lake Road, Andee, Black Hawk, 420<sup>th</sup>, Crown Drive, 440<sup>th</sup>, Maple Lane, 437<sup>th</sup>, 430<sup>th</sup>, Decker Ave, Bluebird Lane, 455<sup>th</sup>, 457<sup>th</sup>, Crestview Dr, Deer Dr, 465<sup>th</sup>, Neander Lane, 463<sup>rd</sup>, Goose Lake Lane, Goose Lake Narrows, Bear Road, 470<sup>th</sup>.

*Motion made by Fitzwater and seconded by Thill to increase the hourly rate to \$25 per hour while the staff is brush cutting. Approved unanimously.*

A letter will be sent to the property owner of 2075 North Pine Road regarding the placement of their driveway.

Future chloride application for 455<sup>th</sup> will be considered by the Board.

#### Adjourn

*Motion made by Fitzwater and seconded by Thill to adjourn at 6:50 pm. Approved unanimously.*

Bruce Fitzwater, Chair	Date	Andrea Nekowitsch, Clerk	Date
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