



Fish Lake Township

2170 Brunswick Road
Harris, MN 55032
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www.fishlaketownship.com

Town Board Meeting Minutes June 14, 2021

Board Members Present: Chair Bruce Fitzwater, Vice-Chair Corey Johnson, Supervisor Jim Thill, Treasurer Sharon McAndrew, Clerk Andrea Nekowitsch

Board Members Absent: None

Others Present: Gary Guse, Road Maintenance,

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 Town Hall at 2170 Brunswick Road, Harris, MN. The pledge of allegiance was recited by all. Motion made by Thill and seconded by Johnson to approve the agenda as presented. All ayes; motion passed.

Road Report: Gary Guse presented the road report. In the month of May, most of the time was spent on grading, sign replacement, culvert replacement and general road maintenance.

Illegal Driveway/Accesses: The Board decided that a final notice letter will be sent to Maynard Pastorius and Charles Boeck to allow them to complete the driveway permit process before August 9, 2021, for the accesses installed without permits before the Township removes the accesses and assesses their property taxes.

E911 Sign Pricing. Gary recommended that the cost to property owners for E911 address signs increase. Motion made by Johnson and seconded by Thill to increase the cost of an E911 address sign, post and installation from \$75 to \$100. All ayes; motion passed.

New Plow Blade: Gary presented the Board a quote for a new plow blade for the 2007 Dump Truck from Falls Machine. Motion made by Fitzwater and seconded by Thill to purchase a Falls Model PR-1243-E1-MS Rev Snow Plow Blade for \$12,595. All ayes; motion passed.

Salt Spreader Control: Gary recommended to the Board purchasing a Force America 5100EX Spreader Control to spread material with more precision. The current salt spreader does not allow for control of the amount of material and the cost of material is significant. The retrofit kit includes computerized controls, temperature sensor and labor to install. Motion made by Johnson and seconded by Thill to purchase a Force America Sander Control 5100EX from Crysteel for \$4008 (including trade-in of old snowplow blade). All ayes; motion passed.

Packer/Roller: Gary recommended to the Board replacing the current Handy Hitch packer with a new Walk n' Roll WR75. The cost of a new Walk n' Roll is \$26,050 and Ziegler Cat will pay \$12,000 as trade-in for the current Handy Hitch. Motion made by Fitzwater and seconded by Johnson to purchase a Walk n' Roll WR75 from Ziegler Cat for \$14,050 (including trade of Handy Hitch Packer) to be paid in January 2021. All ayes; motion passed.

Cedarbridge Court Cul-de-sac reconstruction: Motion made by Fitzwater and seconded by Thill to contract with DW Company to reconstruct the cul-de-sac on Cedarbridge Court for \$11,856. All ayes; motion passed.

Treasurers Report: The Board reviewed the treasurer's report.

Bank Balances as of: May 31, 2021			
Checking	\$4,670.26	Broadband Debt. Service	\$13,955.16
Savings (Camb. State)	\$272,157.40	Anchor Ave. Debt Service	\$29,522.91

Motion made by Thill and seconded by Johnson to accept the Treasurer's Report, approve payment of check #13732 to #13746, for the amount of \$49097.40, authorize up to \$7500.00 in operating disbursements for the upcoming month, approve the claims list as presented and transfer \$47,000 from Savings to Checking. All ayes; motion passed

Minutes: *Motion made by Johnson and seconded by Thill to approve the minutes of the previous month's meeting. All ayes; motion passed.*

Appointments:

Mary Callahan, 44085 Cedarcrest Trail (lake lot). Variance to impervious surface and setback requirements due to expansion and addition of landing and steps that will be closer to the setback than allowed. The upgraded landing and deck and access will allow for safer passage. Motion made by Thill and seconded by Fitzwater to approve Mary Callahan's variance as requested with no conditions. *All ayes; motion passed.*

Clerk Report:

1. The Chisago County Historical Society has offered to house and digitally scan all of the Township's historical records on hand.
2. The Minnesota Association of Townships has reached out to townships in Minnesota to ask for their help in contacting legislators due to a recent ruling by the Minnesota Tax Court ruled that local governments in 13 Northern Minnesota Counties must repay Enbridge Energy for over-taxation caused by the State Department of Revenue's errors in valuing Enbridge's property. Townships did not have any role in valuing these properties and did not make any mistake or error, but towns and other local governments are being held responsible for the State's error. The Fish Lake Town Board agreed that they would individually contact their legislator to ask that the State of MN pay for their mistake and not burden these 13 northern Minnesota towns with that cost.

Board Member Reports:

None.

Old Business:

The LRIP Grant Awards were listed, and Fish Lake was not chosen as a recipient. Approximately 175 townships applied for the grant and 13 townships were granted awards in the amount of \$9,709,000

New Business:

None.

Citizen Comment:

Motion made by Fitzwater and seconded by Thill to adjourn at 8:15 p.m. All ayes; motion passed.

Bruce Fitzwater, Chair

Date

Andrea Nekowitsch, Clerk

Date