

ECKLES TOWNSHIP
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
MINUTES – April 16, 2024

Call to Order: Meeting was called to order by Chairman, Don Hazeman at 7:00 pm and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Supervisors Don Hazeman, Mel Milender, Cory Wilson, Darren Bumgardner, Beth Hendricks, treasurer, Deb Larson and clerk, Colleen Oestreich were present.

Others present: Dale Wilson, John R. Schocker, Mary Lou Milender, Brandon Fredrickson, Merlin Vold, Mark Fuller, Dennis Berglund, Anya Farder, Crystal Baker, Troy Baker, Gary Coan

Consent Agenda – 3/13/24 Minutes from regular board meeting and reorganization meeting. Claims 6646-6653= \$10,479.12 Payroll 6654- 6662 = \$2,395.06 Motion by Sup. Milender, second by Sup. Wilson to approve. M/C

Agenda – Items added/rearranged to the agenda: Donations, Treasurer’s pay. Motion to approve the agenda made by Sup. Wilson, second by Sup. Hendricks. M/C

Eckles Community Center -Sup. Hazeman attended their last meeting. Provided an overview of activity and updates. Relayed the following requests/information:

- Updated security system – request to post sign in the entrance bulletin board.
- Want to install a 72”x40” white board at estimated cost of \$198. Motion by Sup. Hendricks, second by Sup. Wilson to pay half up to \$100. M/C
- Website – request two POC be listed. Discussed process to edit website. Minimal text can be changed by clerk. Uploading files, adding links etc. would need assistance from Paul Bunyan Communications at an expense of \$75/hour.

Township owns the site therefore changes need to be authorized by board. Board approved listing two POC within the Community Center page.

- Exterior locks have been changed. Discussed access – clerk will request 4 keys to be distributed to Don Wilson, Bob Murray, Cory Wilson and Colleen Oestreich.

Rural Fire – will meet on 4/25/24. Working on a new contract and new by-laws.

BATO – meeting held on 3/26/24. County Engineer, Bruce Hasbargen provided a summary of upcoming projects. Discussed the MAT by-laws vote.

Cemetery Policy – Sup. Milender presented. Motion by Sup. Milender, second by Sup. Bumgardner to approve. M/C

Elections – Cost of materials to build wooden privacy screens increased significantly therefore cardboard/plastic screens are the best option. Liberty Township approved spending up to \$75 on new screens. In partnership, Sup. Milender, second by Sup. Bumgardner to approve up to \$150 for screens. M/C

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There is an opportunity to apply for reimbursement of expenses for the Primary Presidential Election through the MN Secretary of State. Motion by Sup. Milender, second by Sup. Hendricks to apply. M/C

Roads – Discussed condition and problem areas at length with input from visitors. Dale Wilson is continuing to work on best practices to improve future paving projects.

- **Jackpine** – road supervisors will review & discuss solutions at next meeting
- **LRIP Application** - \$4M in applications and \$103M were distributed. Eckles project was not selected for funding.
- **Sousa** – residents want to move forward with project. Timing with a larger local project would help keep costs down. Motion by Sup. Milender, second by Sup. Wilson to put the project out for bids with a later completion date of October. M/C
- **Wild Rose** – Motion by Sup. Milender, second by Sup. Wilson to have Freeberg/Grund develop a design to review at May 14, 2024 in preparation for an advertisement for dirt work. Advertisement has to be published a minimum of 3 weeks. M/C
- **Right of Way Balsam** – has been surveyed. Need to ask Dick to send to County Board for approval.
- **Cartway** – has washouts & needs warranty inspection
- **Kirstens Corner** – developer, Matt Murray has coordinated with Post Office, new boxes will on the east side of road. Also, didn't need additional easement from what was proposed.
- **Scribner** – Sam Klish in working to move PO Boxes off Scribner. Need to invite to June work session.
- **Chloride Quotes** – Board received two quotes; Envirotech @ \$1.82/gal; Steve Johnson @ \$1.49/gal. Motion by Sup. Wilson, second by Sup. Bumgardner to award contract to Steve Johnson. M/C Sup. Wilson will develop a list of roads that will receive chloride in 2024.
- **Gravel Quotes** – discussed draft ad and sources for testing. Will publish in Pioneer and Buyline with deadline of submission of May 14th.

Airport Proposed Zoning – Sup. Hazeman presented the proposed resolution supporting the effort. Motion by Sup. Milender, second by Sup. Bumgardner to approve resolution 210 as presented. M/C

Shooting Sports – Sup. Wilson provided an overview of activity.

2024/2025 Meeting Calendar – August meeting date changed to August 20th due to primary election conflict. Will be published in the Pioneer.

Treasurer Pay – BATO is compiling survey results. Item tabled to June meeting

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Donations – Board reviewed 2023 awards & discussed options. Motion by Sup. Wilson, second by Sup. Bumgardner to award North Country 1st Responders \$300; Sr Center \$300; Going Fishing \$200; and Beltrami 4-H \$200. M/C

Upcoming Meetings/Events

- Eckles Board of Appeal/Equalization – April 30, 2024 @ 9 am
- Road Clean-up, May 8, 2024
- Eckles Community Center Board Meeting – May 9, 2024
- Camping World – MN Dept of Public Safety Form submitted
- FOIA – 4610 Scribner – no zoning currently & certificates of occupancy
- Special Assessment response – 5889 Sullivan Dr. NW completed

Road Contractor – John Schocker requested purchasing cutting edges from County as he has in the past.

Adjourn – Motion by Sup. Wilson, second by Sup. Bumgardner to adjourn at 9:25 pm.
M/C

Colleen Oestreich, Clerk

Don Hazeman, Chairman