

POKEGAMA TOWNSHIP
APPROVED REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 9TH, 2023

Chairman Dave Deutschlander called the meeting to order at 7:08 pm and the Pledge of Allegiance was said. Supervisors who were present was Dean Swenson, Terry Peterson, Wayne Whited, Jason Zastera. Also, who were present was Treasurer Darla Hall, Administrative Clerk Christy Belsheim, and Zoning Administer Gordy Johnson.

AGENDA

Dave Deutschlander **motioned** Terry Peterson seconded to approve the agenda with two changes. Move the agenda request Pokegama Lake Association to after agenda is approved. Correct the Annual Meeting Date to March 14th, 2023 at 8:15 in the reminders. All in favor motioned carried.

AGENDA REQUEST

John Grism is from the Pokegama Lake Association introduced himself and mentioned he is on the clean water sub-committee. He went on to explain that last year Pokegama Township donated \$1,000 to Pokegama Lake Association and was asking for our support again this year. The donation helps with harvesting invasive species and weed control in the lake. Chairman Dave Deutschlander recommended to John that he should also attend the annual Meeting in March when the final decision will be made.

APPROVE MINUTES

Terry Peterson **motioned** Dean Swenson seconded to approve the January 12th, 2023 Regular Board Meeting Minutes as written. All in favor motion carried.

PAYROLL

Jason Zastera **motioned** Terry Peterson seconded to approve check #13887 through check #13891 and check #13895 through check # 13905 for a total of \$14,413.40. All in favor motion carried.

SEWER

Dean Swenson **motioned** Terry Peterson seconded to approve check #3477 & check #3478 and check #3480 through Check #3483 and ECE EFT \$1,360.64. for a total of \$10,204.29. All in favor motion carried. Dave Deutschlander **motioned** Dean Swenson seconded to approve check # 3479 for \$6,563.70. Dave Deutschlander yes, Dean Swenson yes, Wayne Whited yes, Jason Zastera yes, Terry Peterson abstains due to conflict of interest. Motion carried. Dave Deutschlander **motioned** Wayne Whited seconded to approve check # 3484 through #3486 for a total of \$2,301.73. All in favor motion carried.

TOWNSHIP

Terry Peterson **Motioned** Wayne Whited seconded to approve check #13892 through check #13894 and check #13906 through check #13920 & EFT Viastat \$175.74, EFT Verizon \$74.03 for a total of \$17,838.13 All in favor motion carried. Dave Deutschlander **Motioned** Wayne Whited seconded to approve check #13921 \$672.00 Dave Deutschlander yes, Dean Swenson yes, Wayne Whited yes, Jason Zastera yes, Terry Peterson abstains due to conflict of interest. All in favor motion carried.

TREASURER

- A. Treasurer Darla Hall read off the ending balances in each account with the total ending balance of \$617,025.83.
- B. Treasurer Hall explained she had cashed in the Sewer CD that was due on January 14th and cashed in a Sewer CD that was due on February 14th, 2023 with no early penalty. Hall explained that she and Chairman Dave Deutschlander had also cashed in the Sewer CD's that were at Unity Bank with an interest rate of 1.3% with about four years left. She used some funds from the Money Market Savings The total for all the Cd's and the money market contribution totaled \$505,000. After, checking interest rates and term options. The best option was to take out 2 new 36-month CD's at Frandsen Bank with 3.75% interest one for \$200,000 and one for \$305,000. She explained after paying the penalty from Unity Bank. We should roughly gain \$20,000 in three years by moving the Unity CD's to Frandsen Bank at the higher interest rate. The total for both CD's at 3.75 % over three years should yield approximately \$57,000 interest. She also talked with Frandsen Bank regarding the interest on the money market savings account and they raised the interest from .06% to 1.15%. Dave Deutschlander **motioned** Jason Zastera seconded to accept the treasurers report as given. All in favor motion carried.

BUILDING - NoneCLERK

- A. Administrative Clerk Christy Belsheim asked for approval for 2023 Election Judges for the March 14th, 2023 Township Election. Terry Peterson **motioned** Dean Swenson seconded to approve election judges Cordia Swenson, Bette Holdorf, Elaine Garaghty, Pat Waggoner, Laura Kryzer, Tori Sigurdson, Pauline Royce, Anita Sparks, Darla Hall, Tina Broussard, Christy Belsheim, Tom Howard, Connie Lewis, Wendy Nelson All in favor motion carried.
- B. Clerk Belsheim added the Absentee Ballot Board Resolution needs approval. Dave Deutschlander **motioned** Wayne Whited seconded to approve Resolution 2023-1 Appointing the 2023 Absentee Ballot Board Cordia Sewnson, Bette Holdorf, Elaine Garaghty, Pat Waggoner, Laura Kryzer, Tori Sigurdson, Pauline Royce, Anita Sparks, Darla

Hall, Tina Broussard, Christy Belsheim, Tom Howard, Connie Lewis, Wendy Nelson. All in favor motion carried.

ZONING DEPARTMENT - None

ROADS

- A. Jason Zastera **motioned** Wayne Whited seconded to approve the Central Right of Ways contract for ditch mowing. All in favor motion carried.
- B. The Supervisors looked over the road gravel list. Jason Zastera **motioned** Dave Deutschlander seconded to advertise gravel bids for 7,500 – 8,000 cubic yards of Crushed Maintenance Gravel, MN DOT SPECS, CLASS % MODIFIED TO 8-10% PM 200 Sieve to be delivered on designated township roads between June 1st- July 15th, 2023. All in favor motion carried.
- C. We received the disaster relief information regarding the December 13th – 16th, snow storm. After, the work is completed we submit all costs and required information. We should be reimbursed 75% of all costs.
- D. Jason Zastera mentioned if we could do a subordinate service district for paving Island Resort Road. Chairman Dave Deutschlander stated that we need to get the numbers together first before we go ahead with anything, Terry Peterson agreed, because that will be the first question asked from property owners. Jason Zastera also mentioned possible special assess some of the cost back to the property owners. After a brief discussion the decision made was to start researching the project.

FIRE

The Board of Supervisor looked over the 9 year contract numbers from the City of Pine City. They had a brief discussion and will wait for the contract to come before making a decision. Next, the City of Pine City sent us a letter regarding the Brook Park Fire Department possible taking over a portion of Pokegama Township. The City hired Pine County Assessor's office to value each section of the Township. The amount of area Brook Park would be covering is 22% and Pine City would cover 78%. Total amount of reduction from the City of Pine City Fire Contract would be \$25,953.35. The calculation would be for the 2024 contracted year. There was no decision made.

SEWER

Pokegama Lake Resort has contacted both the Zoning Administer and the Administrative Clerk regarding their sewer bills. They would like to get them lowered. The current rate now is \$16.34 per 1000 gallons. They were told we can look into the rates. Zoning Administer suggested to hire an Engineer to look over the rates. The decision made was to have the sewer committee look into the rates.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Administrative Clerk Christy Belsheim explained the email from ECE Fiber Object Project. The email stated they are applying for grants, and Pokegama Township would be directly impacted if approved. They are looking for support from us either financially or by a letter of support. After, a short discussion and trying to decipher how much money they wanted and the deadline being February 22nd. The decision was made to send the letter of support for now. Chairman Dave Deutschlander will contact ECE for clarification on the amount of financial support needed from the Township. The COVID money can be used for the donation.
- B. Clerk Belsheim mentioned the Call Before You Dig Meeting is on April 4th, 2023 if anyone was interested. She will sign whoever wants to go up.

OLD BUSINESS - None

PUBLIC COMMENT None

CORRESPONDENCE- None

REMINDERS

- A. Regular Board Meeting March 9th, 2023 7:00 pm
- B. Planning Commission canceled for February Presidents Day
- C. Fire District, Pine City Township, February 15th, 2023 7:00 pm
- D. Sewer Meeting March 1st, 2023 at 7:00 pm
- E. Township Election March 14th, 2023 Polls Open from 10:00 am-8:00 pm
- F. Annual Meeting March 14th, 2023 8:15 pm
- G. Board of Appeal and Equalization Tuesday April 18th, 2023 9:00 am

ADJOURN

Chairman Dave Deutschlander **motioned** Terry Peterson seconded to adjourn the February 9th, 2023 Regular Board Meeting. All in favor motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:27 pm



Christy Belsheim
Administrative Clerk



Dave Deutschlander
Chairman