

Girard Township Minutes – July 16, 2022 – 7:30 a.m., Girard Townhall

The meeting was brought to order by Chairman Pedersen with the pledge to the flag.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Pedersen, J. Trites, Estes, K. Trites, Luhning, Herzberg, Irmen

VISITORS: Jeff Stabnow, engineering consultant

Estes moved, and Trites seconded to approve the minutes of the regular monthly meeting, held June 18, 2022. Motion carried unanimously.

The board approved paying Butch Herzberg for two beaver (\$220) and the payment was added to the bills for approval.

Trites moved to approve the treasurer's report as presented. Estes seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Trites moved to approve bills as presented/audited, which included the beaver payment, totaling \$3,982.33 and payroll. Estes seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Reports

- Roads/Equipment – Luhning reported roads were in good condition and the liquid dust control had been applied to Blackjack Drive.
- Clerk's Report: First payroll by direct deposit was successful and the second payroll will be deposited directly into accounts, with the exception of two payees who opted out. Vendor payments will also be sent through the bank's automatic payment system. The clerk received her notary stamp and can now notarize documents as needed. Installation of internet costs increased from approximately \$3700 to more than \$11,000. As such, even though installation was approved, the clerk didn't move forward until the board could decide what to do because of the additional expense. The second half of the ARPA money, in the amount of \$40,106.58 was received in early July and deposited into the general fund. Election judges will have all attended training as required by the Aug. 9 primary election. The clerk and treasurer will also attend head judge training and assist in testing election tabulating machines. Information about a potential grant program was also presented for review. Mileage has increased to 62.5 for the second half of 2022 because of high gas prices. She presented information regarding a new hours tracking application that would allow Will to clock in from his phone and make calculating his payroll easier. The supervisors agreed by general consensus that the clerk and Will move forward in exploring the new system.

New Business:

- The list of election judges was presented to include: Harriet Christianson, Jane Dixon, Carol Jacobson, Mary and Paul Olinger, Cathie Prescott-Adamietz, Debby Heidenson, David and Sandra Gregg, Donald Olson, Jeanne Patterson and Donna Smith, with Irmen and Trites also serving as head judges. Trites moved and Estes seconded to approve the judges. Motion carried unanimously.
- Trites moved and Pedersen seconded to approve the fixed propane contract with Pro-Ag Farmers Cooperative for 1,750 gal. at \$1.59 per gal. effective from October 2022 through April 2023. Motion carried unanimously.
- Luhnig requested vacation dates for Sept. 19 through Sept. 24. Trites moved and Pedersen seconded to approve the time off. Motion carried unanimously.

Old Business:

- No new applications were received at the time of the meeting. However, the clerk was asked to research an approach on Chippewa that is being constructed without recall of receiving an application or payment. It appears to be a second approach, the first one being built in 2019.
- No action was taken on tar approaches to prevent washout on select roads. Stabnow reported that quotes were requested from Performance Paving in Perham. Following discussion about marking culverts, it was decided to add the topic to the August agenda.
- With the second payment of ARPA funds in the amount of \$40,106.58, the total received is \$80,213.16. The money can be used for anything but debt reductions or funding pension plans.
- A special meeting to discuss the Liberty Lane improvement project follows the regular meeting at 9:30 a.m. Discussion about adding fill to a section of the road will be addressed at that meeting.

The next regular monthly meeting is Saturday, August 20, 2022, at 7:30 a.m. at Girard Town Hall, followed by the Continuation of the Annual Meeting at 9 a.m.

Trites moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:20 a.m., with a second by Estes. Motion carried unanimously.

Chairman

Approval: 08/20/2022

Clerk