

Girard Township Minutes – August 20, 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, Irmen

VISITORS: Luhning, Herzberg, Pat Miller, Sharon Casey, Jeff Stabnow, Girard engineering consultant

Additions to the agenda: Beaver payment-Herzberg; Pat Miller-Weed infestation; Sharon Casey-yard flooding mitigation. Trites moved to approve the agenda with the above additions; Estes seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Trites motioned to pay Butch Herzberg for two beavers, totaling \$220 which was added to the monthly list of claims for approval; Estes seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Clarrisa Haven resident Pat Miller presented a concern regarding a lot overgrown with thistles, which are classified as a noxious weed. Estes will research the owner as protocol involves sending a letter. Trites motioned to have the clerk send a letter to the property owner outlining laws governing noxious weeds and mitigation options. Pedersen seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

South Point resident Sharon Casey presented a request to mitigate a water runoff issue which would involve the township right-of-way. The board determined there wasn't a concern with the project and required no action. They thanked Casey for providing the information ahead of initiating the project.

Trites moved, and Estes seconded, to approve the minutes of the regular monthly meeting, held July 16, 2022. Motion carried unanimously.

Trites moved, and Estes seconded to approve the minutes of the Liberty Lane Special meeting, held July 16, 2022. Motion carried unanimously.

Trites moved to approve the treasurer's report as presented, with a balance of 616,946.93. Estes seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Pedersen moved to approve bills as presented/audited, totaling \$19,983.17, which includes the beaver payment, and to approve payroll. Trites seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Reports

- Roads/Equipment – Luhning reported roads were in good condition and he would be mowing the following week.
- Clerk's Report -- Irmen reported that Arvig's final construction costs to bring internet to the townhall will be approximately \$6,000, with a monthly cost of \$200 plus taxes, with 1G/1G and Wi-Fi, and a 24-month contract. Arvig is only responsible for construction to the demarcation point; Girard is responsible for inside wiring or network equipment. Action on the matter will be determined under old business. Irmen reported the Primary election went well, with 133 votes cast in Girard Township. Having an experienced team was a great asset, and she thanked Trites for installing the window AC unit. The new timeclock system is going well with Will and processing his payroll. Letters to Liberty Lane property owners were sent and the first hearing is scheduled at 8 a.m. Saturday, August 27, at the townhall. Irmen and the treasurer continue to work through the financials.
- District meeting – Trites, Pedersen, and Irmen attended the district meeting in Alexandria Monday, August 15.

New Business:

- A request by Brogard Plumbing to run a septic line under Killdeer Trail was considered. After brief discussion, Trites moved to approve the project, with a second by Estes. Motion carried unanimously.
- A request by JB Construction of Garfield for an approach on Chippewa Trail was considered. Estes moved for its approval, with a second by Trites. Motion carried unanimously.
- At 9 a.m., Trites moved to recess the meeting to conduct the Continuation of the Annual Meeting. Estes seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

At 9:35 a.m., the regular meeting of the Girard Town Board resumed with old business.

Old Business:

- Townhall building project – Pedersen reported work was expected to begin in a week or two from the date of this meeting.
- No action was taken regarding marking of culverts.
- Internet service – Following discussion, Trites moved to approve the contract with Arvig to bring fiber to the demarcation point at a cost of \$6,000, with a monthly internet rate of approximately \$200 for 1g/1g and Wi-Fi with a 24-month contract. Estes seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

- Radius Paving Project – Engineering Consultant Jeff Stabnow presented a bid from Performance Paving in Perham to shape and recompact approaches to prevent washout on seven Girard Township roads at a cost of \$28,856.25, at the following locations: Brandborg Creek Road/Liberty Dr. (section 24); 447th Ave./Liberty Dr. (sec. 26); Mason Lake Dr./Liberty Dr. (sec. 23); 440th Ave./Liberty Dr. (sec. 23); Castle Dr./440th Ave. (sec. 26); Blackjack Dr./230th St. (sec. 35); and 435th Ave./230th St. (sec. 34).

After discussion of the project scope, Trites moved to approve the project using ARPA funds to cover costs. Pedersen seconded. Motioned carried, with Estes opposing.

- Discussion was held regarding installing LED lighting in the shop. Further discussion and possible action were tabled until the next regular meeting in September. The clerk will add it to the agenda.

The next regular monthly meeting is Saturday, September 17, 2022, at 7:30 a.m. at Girard Town Hall, followed by the second hearing of the Liberty Lane Improvement Project, at 9 a.m. at the townhall.

Trites moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:15 a.m., with a second by Estes. Motion carried unanimously.

Chairman

Approval: 09/17/2022

Clerk