

Girard Township MINUTES
Tuesday, February 21, 2023 – 6 p.m.
Regular Monthly Meeting

Chairman Pedersen opened the meeting at 6 p.m. with the pledge to the flag.

Present: Chairman Pedersen, Grewe, Estes, Trites, Luhning, Irmen

Visitors: Stabnow

Grewe moved to approve the agenda for the February 21, 2023, monthly meeting. Estes seconded. Visitors were allowed 5 minutes to speak. Motion carried unanimously.

Grewe moved to approve the minutes from the regular monthly meeting held **Tuesday, January 17, 2023**, at the Town Hall. Estes seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

The January Treasurer's report was tabled until March. The treasurer reported that a CD in the amount of \$200,000 was purchased from First National Bank in Henning. Interest is compounded twice annually. The original document will be kept with the bank and a copy retained at the town hall.

Estes moved to approve February bills as presented/audited, totaling \$5563.09, and payroll for Estes, Grewe, Irmen, Jacobson, Luhning (2) Pedersen, and K. Trites). No additional bills were presented for payment. Grewe seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Reports

Roads and Equipment – Will Luhning was unable to attend the meeting, but left a written report, which was presented by the clerk: Roads are in good condition, though icy in spots. All equipment is running well.

Chairman Pedersen received a complaint from a property owner at 42221 Ukkleberg Dr. saying the plow driver took too wide a swath when snowplowing and clipped markers. The homeowner was concerned about damage to sprinkler heads. Supervisors will evaluate in the spring after snow melt.

Clerk's report: The deadline for MATIT Workers Compensation Audit was met. There was a new electronic filing system implemented. MATIT sent out communication regarding a Business Email Compromise (filed with minutes). The township received a late notice for Premium payment. The clerk contacted MATIT as payment was made. MATIT indicated it wasn't related to the email compromise and will research. The clerk and five election judges attended poll pad training to practice new technology for electronic voter registration. The clerk requested moving November and December 2023 Township meeting dates to Nov. 14 and Dec. 14. The dates will be formally approved at the annual meeting. The clerk received notice of the new mileage rate of 65.5 for 2023. Any additions to annual meeting agenda should be sent to the clerk by March 1. The clerk requested the Town Hall carpet be cleaned prior to March 14.

New Business

The treasurer reported the year-end fund accounts: General: \$110,812.60; R&B: \$416,889.83; Special Rev: \$24,176.15; Fire: -\$153,209.09; Ambulance: \$32,499.71; Capital Projects: \$62,868.80; Equipment: \$169,738.03; Totals: \$663,776.03.

Estes moved to approve the Board of Audit Report as presented. Pedersen seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Grewe moved to approve the list of election judges to include: Harriet Christianson, Jane Dixon, Debby Heidenson, Mary Olinger, Sandy Gregg. (As a candidate for election, Kathy Trites is unable to serve.) Estes seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

The clerk proposed researching upgrading the Townhall sign using ARPA funds. To date, approximately \$20-25,000 of the \$80,000 has been spent on the townhall bathroom/office project. (A full accounting of money spent will be presented at the annual meeting.) Supervisors agreed the clerk should proceed.

Old Business

Gravel Changes – Road Engineer Jeff Stabnow presented information about possible changes to the gravel mix for roads. No action was taken at this time.

Fire Meeting update – Al

Pedersen reported two items of note : The Battle Lake Area Fire and Rescue Association is increasing rates to \$35,000 for this year ; and with aging equipment, looking to push years of service out further anticipating increased repair costs or looking to purchase used equipment.

9. Dates to remember

Monday, Feb. 27, 2023 – Henning Fire and Ambulance Annual meeting, Ambulance at 7 p.m., Fire meeting at 7:30 p.m., at the Henning Community Center

Monday, March 6, 2023 – EOT Spring Meeting, 1:30 p.m., at Thumper Pond, Ottertail

Wednesday, March 8, 2023 – Battle Lake Area Firemen's Appreciation Supper, 6 p.m., at the Battle Lake Fire Hall

Tuesday, March 14, 2023 – Girard Township Annual Meeting, 2:30 p.m. (ending by 4:30 p.m.), at Girard Townhall

Tuesday, March 14, 2023 – Girard Township Election, 5 to 8 p.m., at Girard Townhall, followed by Board of Canvass (approximately 8:15 p.m. at the townhall

March 21-22, 2023 – Annual Local Weed Inspectors meeting, time to be determined, location either at Perham City Hall or SWCD office

Friday, April 21, 2023 – Board of Review and Equalization, 9 a.m., at Girard Townhall

Tuesday, Oct. 24, 2023 – EOT Annual Meeting and Buffet Dinner, location?

With no further business to discuss, Estes moved to adjourn the meeting at 8 p.m. Grewe seconded. Motion approved unanimously.

Chairman
Approval date:

Clerk