

**Girard Township minutes**  
**Tuesday, May 16, 2023 – 6 p.m.**  
**Regular Monthly Meeting**

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

Present: Pedersen, Grewe, Estes, K. Trites, and Irmen

Visitors: Butch Herzberg, Jeff Stabnow, and Diane and Mark Wietechu and Mark and Barb Irons, residents of Blackjack Drive

Grewe moved to approve the May 16, 2023, agenda with the addition of a dust control application request from residents of Blackjack Drive and discussion of roading maintenance during Luhning's absence to recover from surgery. Estes seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Estes moved to approve the minutes from the regular monthly meeting held **Tuesday, April 18, 2023**, at the Town Hall. Grewe seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Treasurer's report April – Trites presented the financial report which showed a beginning balance in April of \$600,069.84, with receipts totaling \$748.50, and disbursements totaling \$27,780.76, for an ending balance of 573,037.58. Estes moved to approve the treasurer's report as presented. Grewe seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

A claim of \$220.00 was presented by B. Herzberg for two beaver, bringing the total claims for approval to 7971.52, along with payroll for Estes, Grewe, Irmen, Jacobson, Luhning (2), Pedersen, and K. Trites. Grewe seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**Reports/Information**

Roads and Equipment – The sweeping is finished, the snow fences were removed, and the grass reseeded where the fence was installed in response to a resident request. Pedersen removed the fence as Luhning is out recovering from surgery for approximately a month.

Clerk's Comments: The clerk noted payroll will be deposited and mailed to those receiving checks early next week. She also noted that the deputy clerk will handle the payments necessary to PERA and IRS while the clerk is on vacation. She will be returning prior to the next regular meeting of the town board and will have everything ready for the meeting on June 20.

Battle Lake Area Fire and Rescue Squad – AI – Of note: The BL fire chief announced his resignation effective July 1; Girard Township had no runs in April.

**New Business/Additions to Agenda**

Estes moved to approve a building permit for Todd Quick to construct a 30x62 - 1,860-sq. ft. single family dwelling at 43618 260<sup>th</sup> St., Henning, MN, at an estimated cost of \$225,000. Estimated start in May with completion anticipated in October or November. Grewe seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Grewe moved to approve permission from Trevor Dahl for Arvig to construct a communications cable to the address of 22789 FERNCLIFF RD in Clitherall, MN. Construction along the road will consist of a small plow bringing a drop from our existing ped to this resident's house for service. Dahl assured the board in his request letter that Arvig crews would clean up the area. Estes seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Following discussion about conducting an open house for the town hall in conjunction with a retirement event for long-time supervisor Jim Trites, Pedersen moved to have a dinner at a restaurant of Jim's choosing and consider an open house as a separate event at a later date. Grewe seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

After hearing from several residents of Blackjack Drive about how happy they were with the partnership with the township for a liquid dust control application on Blackjack Drive last year, Grewe moved to continue the partnership with the residents in which the township pays 60 percent of the cost, while all the residents cover 40 percent of the cost. (The township bears the larger expense because it decided to do the entire road, not just the section requested by the homeowners.) The homeowners are responsible for collecting their share of the cost. Estes seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

#### **8. Old Business**

After reviewing the estimates from dust control applicator companies, Pedersen moved to contract with Fergus Power Pump to apply Liquid Dust Control for an estimated 5 miles of road covered by the township. Estes seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Clerk Irmen reported that MATIT had sent a new estimate per the board's approval to increase coverage on the town hall following the recent renovations. The previous cost was \$301.10 for coverage of \$88,559. The board approved increasing the coverage to \$120,000 to ensure coverage of the new bathroom and office space. The new cost will be \$408, an increase of \$107.00. Pedersen moved to approve the MATIT CLC Renewal Estimate with the increase. Estes seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Following discussion of how to cover township road work during the month while Luhning recovers from surgery, Pedersen moved to pay Supervisor Brad Grewe \$30/hour to maintain township roads as needed while he continues to serve on the board. Estes seconded, with Grewe abstaining from the vote. Motion carried.

#### **Dates to remember**

**Tuesday, June 20, 2023** – Regular monthly meeting, 6 p.m., Town Hall

**Friday, May 26, 2023** – Road Check meeting, 11 a.m. begin at Girard Town Hall

**Tuesday, Aug. 15, 2023** – Continuation of Annual meeting to set levies, 6 p.m., during regular meeting, at Girard Town Hall

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

With no further business to discuss, Grewe moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 p.m.  
Pedersen seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

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Chairman

Approval date:

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Clerk