

Girard Township minutes
Tuesday, June 20, 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: Dan Christensen, Jeff Stabnow

Grewe moved to approve the Agenda for the June 20, 2023, regular meeting with the addition of F. under new business. Estes seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Estes moved to approve the minutes from the Board of Review and Equalization, held Friday, April 21, 2023, and the minutes of the May 16, 2023, regular meeting. Grewe seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Petersen moved to approve the Road Check minutes from Friday, May 26, 2023. Grewe seconded. Motion carried, with Estes voting against the motion. Further discussion followed the vote regarding obtaining quotes for both gravel and asphalt costs. It was decided to finalize the minutes after receiving quotes (Pedersen will call for asphalt; Grewe will call for gravel) during a Special Meeting scheduled at 6 p.m. Monday, June 26, 2023, at the Town Hall.

The treasurer's report for May will be available at the next regular meeting along with the June financials.

Estes moved to approve the claims, totaling \$1,586.06, along with payroll. Grewe seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

The clerk read a thank you letter from the Henning Recreation program for the donation made by the township approved during the annual meeting in March. The money was used to help offset swimming lesson expenses.

Reports: In the absence of Luhning, Chairman Pedersen reported on a couple of calls: one from a property owner on the south town line road requesting the road be graded; and another from Blackjack Drive that the road was bladed and ready for dust control. Pedersen also noted that he had taken a call from Luhning regarding a fire on the mower. He brought up that the OTC is selling off some older equipment which includes a John Deere mower that he thought the Township should consider purchasing. He anticipates the cost to be about \$8,000 to 9,000. The sale of the equipment has not been announced yet.

Clerk's Report: Irmen noted that she had received and returned an assessment search for Clarissa Haven Dr. for Gary and Muriel Pierce; she passed out MAT membership cards; and suggested a card be sent to Election Judge Mary Olinger, whose husband, Paul, had passed away in early May. He also served as an election judge for the township. The supervisors agreed a card should be sent.

Battle Lake Fire report – Pedersen said the Battle Lake Area Fire and Rescue Association is looking for a new fire chief and plans to conduct a special election. He also indicated the association received a State of Minnesota Dept. of Safety grant for \$9,290.01 for a Gear washer/extractor/dryer. The portion owed by BLAFRA would be \$1,032.22. A liability insurance issue regarding coverage of personal vehicles used during a rescue call was clarified. The League of MN Cities would evaluate each situation to provide the correct coverage.

Randy Torgerson brought in gopher feet. Per a new process, his information was taken, a voucher filled out and a check will be mailed upon verification by a supervisor of the number of feet collected. In the past, the trapper's word was used to determine the payment and a check was issued on the spot.

Dan Christensen of Christensen Construction provided a bid to repair two sink holes in the ditch along Blackjack Drive. The bid included hauling topsoil to the two sites, seeding and mulching the areas. One of the spots, closest to the stop sign, was estimated at \$3300.00; the second location, around the first corner, was estimated at \$3600.00. An additional estimate to do a final grade around the newly constructed septic system at the town hall would include leveling, hauling in topsoil as needed, seeding and mulch at approximately \$2000.00. Action on the estimate was tabled until the Special Meeting finalizing road work, scheduled Monday, June 26.

New Business

Grewe moved to approve a permission request from Lake Region Electric Cooperative for an underground electric distribution line across Castle Trail, in Sec. 26 of Girard Township. Estes seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Asphalt patching quotes – tabled until the scheduled special meeting.

High water on Mason Lake – no action was taken. If a beaver dam is causing the problem and it is located on private property, it is the responsibility of the property owner to address.

Resolution – Grewe move to approve a Resolution Authorizing a Contract with Interested Officer (Pedersen) for future small projects that he may do for the Township. Estes seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Shared Henning Road – A culvert on the So. Town Line Road is sinking. There is a sign over it and the area was filled with gravel. Pedersen acknowledged it was a temporary fix and will need to be addressed in the future.

Township Maintenance Worker Job description – A job description for the township maintenance worker was discussed. The clerk will bring a copy of a document to a future meeting, along with safety protocols as provided by Grewe.

Old Business

Trite's retirement dinner – The clerk ordered a plaque for retired supervisor Jim Trites and suggested a hanging tomato plant for a gift to present at the dinner on Thursday, June 23. The supervisors agreed on the gift.

Dates to remember

Tuesday, June 22, 2023 – Regular monthly meeting, 6 p.m., Town Hall

Tuesday, July 18, 2023 – Regular monthly meeting, 6 p.m. 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 8:50 p.m. Pedersen seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Chairman

Approval date:

Clerk