

Girard Township

Regular Monthly Meeting -- MINUTES

Tuesday, March 18, 2025 – 6:35 p.m., Town Hall

Website: (www.girardtownship.us)

Chairman Al Pedersen called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m. (The Pledge of Allegiance having been said to open the Organizational Meeting prior to the regular meeting.

Present: Supervisors Al Pedersen, Brad Grewe, Larry Estes, Treasurer Kathy Trites, Road Maintenance Worker Will Luhning, and Clerk Debbie Irmen

Visitors: Road Engineer Jeff Stabnow

Public Comment Period

- Visitors may address a topic for up to five minutes when the topic is brought up for discussion on the agenda.

Grewe moved to approve the minutes of the regular monthly meeting held **Tuesday, February 18, 2025**, at the Town Hall. Estes seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Treasurer Trites presented the February financial report showing a beginning balance of \$1,014,444.01, with receipts totaling \$1,303.98, and disbursements totaling \$11,301.33, for an ending balance of \$1,004,446.66. Balances in the General and Road & Bridge are \$109,895.16 and \$493,058.51, respectively. The treasurer's report was filed for audit.

Grewe moved to approve claims as presented/audited, totaling \$59,108.64; payroll for Estes, Grewe, Irmen, Luhning (2), Pedersen, and K. Trites, Elections Judges Christianson, Dixon, and Gregg (\$294.50), Donations approved at the Annual Meeting (\$1,500.00), and any additional claims that may be presented at this meeting. Pedersen seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Mail—LREC Newsletter: Dan Husted named Interim CEO; Township Legal Seminar-Free (mileage and hours)-several topics of interest; LM Road Services – Ditch Brushing; FYI – Klimek's Tree Service flyer; Gappa Oil Sale flyer

Reports/Information

Roads and Equipment – Luhning reported that the township roads were in good shape, until they got muddy from the latest snow and melt. He reported he replaced a bolt that broke on the plow, but the truck was now running as expected. He reported that he has been working on preparing the shop for the spray foam project. Discussion was brought up regarding selling the compressor. Will was asked to purchase a battery to get it running, and it was noted that it has attachments. He will send Al or me specs. Pedersen brought up the scrap metal laying around the township yard. Grewe moved to have Mark Foss pick up the scrap metal to include the

tank, old wing, (the supervisors want to keep the v-plow) and other piles of metal, and haul it away. Pedersen seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Clerk's Report: Clerk Irmen reached out to MATIT staff for an update regarding the stolen \$800,000 because of a report that the money had been located, and the hackers identified, but she was still waiting for an official update. She expects to know something by the April meeting. She presented for informational purposes two tree/brush clearing quotes, one from Klimek's and another from Carr's; She shared that the BL Area Fire & Rescue Assoc. Annual Meeting is planned for Thursday and that the Weed Meeting is March 26 in Perham. She requested that the Township begin sending out an electronic newsletter as another way to connect with Township residents. She suggested it could be done on a quarterly basis, with notification of topic-specific notices sent as required at any time. Pedersen requested she look into sending postcards as a way to save money on postage. She will look into it and report at the April meeting.

Fire meeting – Pedersen -- FYI – Fire Equipment Quotes-2 from Midwest Fire – chose the Quote 1 option. The Association would cover the initial \$20,000 down payment. Girard's share would be \$70,000 over the expected 16-month build of the truck. Pedersen was directed to vote for the Quote 1 truck with all the desired add-ons.

New Business/Additions to Agenda

Grewe moved to approve the Fire Service Agreements which included Battle Lake (\$38,000); Henning (\$12,416.50); Vining (\$1,500.00). Estes seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Pedersen moved to approve an increase of \$1 for pocket gopher feet pairs, to \$5.00. Grewe seconded. The motion carried with Estes dissenting. Clerk Irmen learned that OTC passes a Resolution to reimburse Township costs for pocket gopher management on an annual basis. In 2024, Girard Township would get back \$849.00. She'll start tracking this better going forward.

Pedersen moved to approve registering for the Rahn's Fleet Card program which is good at both Big Foot and Henning (North Star) Locations. Grewe seconded. Motion approved unanimously.

Pedersen moved to approve the clerk contact Henning EMS director Chelsey Waskosky to give a presentation on the EMS funding crisis at the April 15 meeting and publicize for residents to attend. Grewe seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Estes moved to have Clerk Irmen attend a Township Legal Seminar sponsored by Couri and Ruppe Law Offices. The seminar is free, however there would be the expenses of mileage and hours for her to attend. Pedersen seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Old Business

Spray Tech Solutions – Eric Olsen wants to have the back wall opened up so he can get in to check things out and spray it (He and Al talked about it.) He put Girard on the calendar for April 28. Between the hall and the shop, he said it would take him 3 to 4 days. He will accept ½ of the money at the start of the job, and ½ upon completion. Also, someone will need to inspect the

job once completed. Grewe moved to approve Olsen's requirement of full payment upon job completion. Pedersen seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Al will call to arrange for the door opening and to have the shop roof fiberglass opening covered with metal.

Dates to remember

Thursday, March 20, 2025 – Battle Lake Area Fire & Rescue Association Annual Meeting, 7 p.m., Fire Hall,

Wednesday, March 26, 2025 – Weed Inspectors meeting, 8:30 a.m., at the EOT SWCD, 801 Jenny Ave. SW, Perham

Tuesday, April 15, 2025 – Regular Township Meeting, 6:30 p.m. at Girard Town Hall

Friday, April 25, 2025 – Board of Equalization Meeting, 9:30 p.m. at Girard Town Hall

Friday, April 25, 2025 – Road Check meeting, beginning at approximately 10:30 a.m.

Saturday, April 26, 2025 – Walk for Glendalough

Saturday, June 14, 2025 – Glendalough Trail Center Grand Opening

With no further business to discuss, Grewe moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 p.m. Estes seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Chairman

Clerk

Approval date: