

Township of Breitung Regular Board Meeting 02/23/2021-12:00PM. In Person Meeting at the Town Hall & Via Teleconference

Present In Person:

Board Members: Chairman Tim Tomsich, Supervisor Chuck Tekautz, Supervisor Greg Dostert, Clerk Dianna Sundahl, Treasurer Jorgine Gornick

Public: Tom Gorsma-Maintenance Supervisor, Valeda McDonald, Denise Osterholm- 12:28pm

Phone In:

Stephanie Ukkola-Timberjay Newspaper, Renee Pearson-Deputy Clerk

Call to Order @ 12:00pm by Chairman Tomsich, Roll call taken

Acceptance of Agenda:

Motion by Supervisor Tekautz to accept the agenda as presented

2nd by Supervisor Dostert

Motion Passed 3-0

Approval of Minutes:

Motion by Supervisor Dostert to accept the Special Meeting Minutes from 01/26/2021 as presented

2nd by Supervisor Tekautz

Motion Passed 3-0

Approval of Treasurers Report:

Motion by Supervisor Dostert to accept the Treasurers Report as presented

2nd by Supervisor Tekautz

Motion Passed 3-0

Correspondence: None

Public Input:

Maintenance Supervisor Tom Gorsma asked if providing service to Jetter out frozen water lines with precautions such as mask wearing and social distancing is permitted, board consensus to continue with this service as necessary.

Reports:

- Police-written report
- Fire-written report
- Road and Bridge-because of warm weather, roads tend to get sloppy. A lot of preventative maintenance on equipment for January. Maintenance Supervisor Tom Gorsma asked if it is possible to hire Teddy Kruger for brushing on the Junction Rd due to Elderbrush at a cost of \$150/hour and a \$400 reporting fee. Kruger stated it was approximately a \$2800 cost. Supervisor Dostert mentioned that the Town Board should look at alternating brushing each year with review of Echo Point, Puncher, Mallard Drive, and McKinley Park Acres.
Motion by Supervisor Tekautz to have Ted Kruger brush the Junction Road with a cost of no more than \$3000 total
2nd by Supervisor Dostert
Motion Passed 3-0
- McKinley Park-Sites beginning to book up quickly. Now taking Monthly Reservations

- Recreation
 - Rink Updates-Rink was shut down for a bit due to extreme cold and now shut down for a bit due to warmer weather and ice being soft. Hockey Days this past weekend was a success, many people attended. Score was Tower 17-Soudan 6. Chimpy doing parties every Saturday, but not Sunday's. Jayne doing pizza on Tuesday's and Wednesday is also a big hit.
 - Donation of Hockey Boards-Supervisor Dostert to contact Benny Johnson
- Wastewater Board-Filtration Project update from SEH is now estimated to be an additional 1M in cost for an estimated total of 5.4M. Funding amounts are up to 3.6M. (3.35M from Army Corp of Engineers, 250K from IRRR) SEH will go to Senator Thomas Bakk for 1.75M in bonding should funds become available and will go back to the Army Corp of Engineers for more funding, as the Corp will fund up to 75% of the project. The Wastewater Board will ensure funding is available before project starts. The City of Tower could be looking for bids on their Water Main Project. WWB looking at new rate structure to implement in January of 2022. Minutes of the WWB will be posted to the City of Tower's website, and it was asked if minutes could be sent to the Breitung Clerk so that minutes can be posted to the Breitung Township website as well. The Mesabi Trail Project will be using JPJ Engineering for the Project, and repairs and or replacement to the manholes along the trail will be done ahead of this project at a projected cost of \$400k per MPCA and NOV's on manholes. Work will begin in 2022.

Old Business:

- Township Operations
Will continue to keep offices closed and will continue to monitor and open when safe to do so. Will review on a month to month basis
- Update on Police Department Hours and Operations
 - Resignation of Police Chief Nylund
Motion by Supervisor Tekautz to accept the resignation of Police Chief Dan Nylund with regret, effective March 5th, 2021
2nd by Supervisor Dostert
Motion Passed 3-0
Chairman Tomsich to check to see if Part-Time Police Officers can work without a Chief of Police, work with St Louis County Sheriff's Department for emergency coverage should it be needed, will look at the Contract with the City of Tower, and what does Police Coverage look like moving forward. Consensus to hold a Special Board Meeting 3/3/21 at noon to discuss the above mentioned items. Job posted on Police Board by Chief Nylund when Lieutenant Sanderson left, has not received any applications, there are many vacancies and applications/resumes due by the end of February 2021.
- Inflow and Infiltration Grant Update-CDBG & IRRR
The Breitung Township Inflow and Infiltration Reduction project has been awarded \$245K (145K from IRRR and \$100k from CDBG) with the township having to match the IRRR for \$145,000. This project is to free up more capacity at the ponds and there are 4 areas of concern that have been noted. Maintenance Supervisor Gorsma met with JPJ Engineering, and the top (2) priorities are the Sewer Main repairs, and Manhole Repairs. JPJ Engineering will come back with better cost estimates and bids will go out this spring.

- Plow Truck Replacement
No bids as of yet, but should have one in a few days. Delivery of new truck if approved could be as soon as this coming July. There is a time slot for a company in Wisconsin for a truck to be outfitted with box and sander this coming September that is being held.

New Business:

- Pay bills as presented
Motion made by Supervisor Dostert to pay bills as presented
2nd by Supervisor Tekautz
Motion passed 3-0
- Soudan Store-Cigarette and Other Tobacco Products License
Motion made by Supervisor Tekautz award the Soudan Store a License to sell Cigarettes and Other Tobacco Products per application
2nd by Supervisor Dostert
Motion passed 3-0
- Budget and Levy
Board reviewed the Budget and levy documentation of 30k (4.87%). Supervisor Dostert mentioned the Hockey Rink will need work this year, and will come to Annual Meeting with estimates.
Motion by Supervisor Dostert to bring budget and levy documentation and suggestions to the Board of Audit
2nd by Supervisor Tekautz
Motion passed 3-0
- McKinley Park Bike Trail DNR Grant Application
Total project estimated at a cost of 350k. JPJ Engineers will be in charge of project, DNR Grant Application for 150k.
 - Received many letters of support, important in application process
 - Resolution 2021-04 Supporting Grant Application for the McKinley Park Trail
Motion by Supervisor Tekautz to support resolution 2021-04
2nd by Supervisor Dostert
Motion passed 3-0
 - Required Notification-so noted

Consensus by the Board for Board of Canvass to be held after the Annual Meeting on March 9th, 2020

Board of Audit Meeting: Tuesday, February 23rd, 2021 directly following the Regular Town Board Meeting

Special Board Meeting: Wednesday, March 3rd 2021 at 12:00pm to discuss Police Operations and Plow Truck Replacement

Annual Meeting: Tuesday, March 9th, 2021 at 08:15pm

Board of Canvass: Tuesday, March 9th, 2021 following the Annual Meeting

LBAE Meeting: Tuesday, May 18th, 2021 at 1:00pm-2:00pm (tentative)

Next Regular/Reorganizational Meeting: Tuesday, March 23rd, 2021

Adjourn:

Motion by Supervisor Tekautz to Adjourn the Meeting at 12:57pm

2nd by Supervisor Dostert

Motion Passed 3-0

Respectfully Submitted

Dianna Sundahl

Clerk, Breitung Township