

Township of Breitung Regular Board Meeting 08-25-22 at 12:00PM. In Person Meeting at the Breitung Community Center

Present In Person:

Board Members: Chairman Tim Tomsich, Supervisor Chuck Tekautz, Supervisor Greg Dostert, Clerk Dianna Sundahl, Deputy Clerk Renee Pearson

Absent: Treasurer Jorgine Gornick

Public: Preston Tripp-JPJ, Tom Gorsma-Maintenance Supervisor, Daniel Reing-Police Chief, Matt Tuchel, Rachel Brophy-Timberjay, Molly Brophy, Valeda McDonald, Dan Wiirre-Stuntz Bay Association, Chris Suihkonen-Parks and Trails, Nancy Larson-Stuntz Bay Association (arrived @ 12:05, departed @ 12:50)

Call to Order @ 12:00pm by Chairman Tim Tomsich

Acceptance of Agenda

Motion by Supervisor Dostert to accept the agenda as presented

2nd by Supervisor Tekautz

Motion Passed 3-0

Approval of Minutes

- 07/28/22 Regular Board Meeting
- 07/28/22 Special Board Meeting
- 08/11/22 Special Board Meeting

Motion by Supervisor Dostert to approve the minutes of the 07/28/22 Regular and Special Meeting, and 08/11/22 Special Meeting as presented

2nd by Supervisor Tekautz

Motion passed 3-0

Approval of July 2022 Treasurer's Report

Motion by Supervisor Dostert to approve the July 2022 Treasurer's Report as presented

2nd by Supervisor Tekautz

Motion passed 3-0

Correspondence

- Friends of the Parks-so noted
- St Louis County CDBG-so noted
- Parker Miguel-so noted (probably spam)
- League of MN Cities-Property Tax-so noted
- League of MN Cities-2022 MMA Annual Conference-so noted
- MAT-LRIP Township Representative-so noted
- MAT-District 10 Meeting-so noted

Public Input-None

Reports

- Police-as attached, busy summer, steady calls, received AED's
- Fire-as attached
- Road and Bridge-as attached
- McKinley Park-Remains busy
- Recreation-Supervisor Dostert and Maintenance Supervisor looking at shortening and narrowing the rink, price to do it ourselves is approximately \$20k, will make it easier for new lighting. Waiting on estimates for new lighting
- Wastewater Board-Force Main Project to start after Labor Day 2022. The bills for Tower and Soudan have increased significantly this year mostly due to the amount of rain this year. The cost changed from fixed to a variable, but the City of Tower and Breitung Township are hopeful that the cost will balance off at the end of the year if there is less rainfall. If rain continues, cost will continue to be high.
- Ambulance Commission-Supervisor Tekautz attended a meeting last evening. The Ambulance Director has received 3 quotes on a new ambulance as there is 130k miles on the current ambulance. The quotes are from \$233k-250k. The ambulance commission is looking at doubling the cost to surrounding areas and is looking for support. This could mean an increase in the 2024 levy, and if so, would be brought to the Breitung Township Annual Meeting.

Motion by Supervisor Dostert to support an increase in pay to the City of Tower Ambulance in 2024 to set an example for surrounding communities with no actual pay increase at this time
2nd by Chairman Tomsich

Motion passed 3-0

Motion by Supervisor Tekautz to accept reports as presented
2nd by Supervisor Dostert

Motion passed 3-0

Old Business:

- McKinley Park Trail Update-Preston made changes to plan and scope of work and is now ready for bids. Bids to be called for and opened at the 09/22/22 meeting @ 12noon
- Infrastructure Project 2022-Chairman Tomsich, Supervisor Gorsma and Preston went over plans and have updated. Ready to call for bids.

Motion by Supervisor Tekautz to call for bids and open at the 09/22/22 Board Meeting @ 12noon

2nd by Supervisor Dostert

Motion passed 3-0

- Infrastructure Project 2023-This project to include 1st Ave, Superior Street, Gordon and Church St with updates and repairs to the storm sewer, curb and gutter, resurfacing, and sewer manholes. Will also take a look at Jasper to 1st avenue old sewer line.

Motion by Supervisor Dostert to apply for funding for the 2023 Infrastructure project
2nd by Supervisor Tekautz

Motion passed 3-0

- Stuntz Bay Road Project-No updates
- St. Louis County ARPA Funds-Received a letter from the County stating funding was approved, but have not seen any paperwork
- Blight-3 2nd Notice letters done and given to Supervisor Tekautz and Chief Reing to serve notice to residents.

New Business:

- Pay Bills as Presented

Motion by Supervisor Dostert to pay bills as presented

2nd by Supervisor Tekautz

Motion passed 3-0

- Stuntz Bay Dock-President of the Stuntz Bay Association Dan Wiirre was in attendance as well as Nancy Larson who is assisting the Stuntz Bay Association in applying for funding. Stuntz Bay Association is looking to purchase a new dock since the old one floated away this year due to high water on Lake Vermilion. The DNR has let them use a dock for 1 year which will have to be returned. The cost estimates they have received are between \$15k-18k. Because they are a non-profit and do not have a FEIN number, they are unable to apply for grants. The Association is asking for a letter of support from Breitung Township, as well as asking if the Township would be willing to be a sponsor for a grant application through IRRR Culture and Tourism. Breitung has to have their 2022 Culture and Tourism grant closed out by February of 2023, which Chairman Tomsich said it should be closed in the next few months. Breitung Township is looking to apply again for upgrades to the McKinley Park docks as well, so discussion was to collaborate with the Association and apply for the grant on behalf of both the Township and the Association. The Association will give the Township a Letter of Support.

Motion by Supervisor Dostert to apply for funding through the IRRR-Culture and Tourism grant program in February of 2023 and include the Stuntz Bay dock.

2nd by Supervisor Tekautz

Motion passed 3-0

- ATV Trail-Thompson Trail-Chris Suihkonen from Parks and Trails presented two maps with 3 options to the proposed ATV trail that goes through Breitung Township. The State of MN is looking to complete this project by the Fall of 2023 but realistically the Fall of 2024. Everyone is looking for a cooperative effort between the DNR/Parks and Trails/Breitung Township/Private Owners and the Prospectors. Funding for this project may be an issue. Chris just wanted to get this project on the radar to start the discussions. Discussion that option 2 and 3 are out, Supervisor Dostert to contact Lustek in regards to the northern portion of the property on the map. More discussion to follow.

- New Youth Employee

Motion by Supervisor Tekautz to approve new youth employee per Gorsma's recommendation

2nd by Supervisor Dostert

Motion passed 3-0

- Letter/Questionnaire from Greenwood Township-Consensus by the Board to have Greenwood Township and their consultant work with the City of Tower Ambulance to have questionnaire completed.
- Big Truck Night-Consensus by the Board to hold Big Truck Night @ the Breitung Recreation Area on Tuesday, September 27th, 2022. Clerk Sundahl to let everyone know.
- Mandatory Class-Chief Reing presented a class that again would lessen the burden of cost sharing with other departments.

Motion by Supervisor Tekautz to approve Chief Reing in attending class as presented

2nd by Supervisor Dostert

Motion passed 3-0

- Resolution 2022-26-Accepting Donations

Motion by Supervisor Dostert to approve Resolution 2022-26 as presented

2nd by Supervisor Tekautz

Motion passed 3-0

- Short Term Rentals-Letter from St Louis County-so noted by the Board

Next Regular Board Meeting: Thursday, September 22nd, 2022 at 12:00pm

Adjourn:

Motion by Supervisor Tekautz to Adjourn the Meeting at 1:05pm

2nd by Supervisor Dostert

Motion Passed 3-0

Respectfully Submitted

Dianna Sundahl

Clerk, Breitung Township