

# **Township of Breitung Regular Board Meeting 01-26-23 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, Treasurer Jorgine Gornick

**Public:** Daniel Reing-Police Chief, Rachel Brophy-Timberjay, Tom Gorsma-Public Works, Jessica Hanine-Tower News (arrived 12:15pm), Matt Tuchel

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

## **Acceptance of Agenda**

Motion by Supervisor Dostert to accept the agenda as presented

2<sup>nd</sup> by Supervisor Tekautz

Motion Passed 3-0

## **Approval of Minutes**

Motion by Supervisor Tekautz to approve the minutes of the 12/20/22 Special Board Meeting as presented

2<sup>nd</sup> by Supervisor Dostert

Motion passed 3-0

## **Approval of Treasurers Report**

Motion by Supervisor Tekautz to approve the December 2022 Treasurers Report as presented

2<sup>nd</sup> by Supervisor Dostert

Motion passed 3-0

## **Correspondence**

- IRRR-The Ranger 12/28, 01/11-so noted
- MAT-December Newsletter, Day at the Capitol, Legislative Agenda-so noted
- St Louis County
  - ✓ Public Health and Human Services-Adult use of THC Products-so noted
  - ✓ Planning and Community Development-Public Hearing 03/09/2023 re: Ordinance 61/Subsurface Sewage Treatment System-so noted
- Bud Van Deusen-ATV Trail-so noted
- Township Attorney-rates-so noted

## **Public Input**

None

## **Reports**

- Police-See Attached
- Fire-See Attached
- Road and Bridge-See Attached, thanked Matt Tuchel for assisting with plowing the sidewalks
- McKinley Park-No Report
- Recreation-Joint Power Rec Board asked by Wagoner Ski Trails to create a subcommittee and create a charter so they could be the fiscal agent for the Trails. Discussion to find out if they have their own EIN Number, will talk about again.
- Wastewater Board-Army Corp of Engineers now moving along on the Water Treatment Project. Engineers looking to meet the month of February. Manholes still on track to be done this winter. City of Tower put in a request for the 2.275-million-dollar cost gap in the project. Continue looking at the State's Bonding bill. Looked at the Wastewater Flow vs Water Usage for 2022. Wastewater increased in 2022 due to the wet spring. Water usage remains average. Matt Tuchel will give numbers to Chairman Tomsich to differentiate Tower's numbers and Soudan's numbers.
- Ambulance Commission-Next meeting is February 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023. There is an Ad Hoc Committee headed by Kevin Norby, but he has resigned and Bobby Anderson will be taking his place. The Ad Hoc Committee is coming up with suggestions on how to move forward and provide Ambulance Service at a reasonable cost.

Motion by Supervisor Tekautz to accept reports as presented

2<sup>nd</sup> by Supervisor Dostert

Motion passed 3-0

### **Old Business:**

ATV Trails-Supervisor Tekautz spoke with Wayne Kultala on his property, clerk to locate deed to empty township property to see if there is something the Township may trade if there are no restrictions on the deed of the township property.

Infrastructure Project 2023-Chairman Tomsich has done the initial CDBG Application for \$150,000 and the award amount from CDBG would be \$75,000

Safety Grant Program offered by MNOSHA-Chief Reing and Officer Nyman found a camera and basic plan that will fit the Police Department needs. Clerk will not go after Safety Grant funds due to the fact that camera and plan are low cost, and the time it would take clerk to submit application would be more cost than the grant.

Motion by Supervisor Tekautz to approve Ring Camera and Basic plan as presented

2<sup>nd</sup> by Supervisor Dostert

Motion passed 3-0

Hwy 169 Road Reduction, Signage, Speed Limits-Supervisor presented all documents, application and cost of signage. This recommendation was from Officer Battin

Motion by Supervisor Tekautz to submit application to MNDOT for signage on Hwy 169

2<sup>nd</sup> by Supervisor Dostert

Motion passed 3-0

Equipment Replacement Fund-Please see attachment that will be presented at the Annual Town Meeting. For 2023 there is \$60k set aside for the John Deere mower, suggestion to move to 2024 for a new Tool Cat Machine which would better serve the Public Works Department and trade in the John Deere mower. Currently only use the zero-turn mower for mowing. Maintenance Supervisor Gorsma will look at options. Chairman Tomsich brought up the fact that our bank is offering 9 month CD's at 3.5%, suggested moving funds for 9 months Motion by Supervisor Tekautz to move \$100,000 from the Equipment Fund to a 9-month CD with 2 signatures (Clerk Sundahl and Supervisor Tekautz)

2<sup>nd</sup> by Supervisor Dostert

Motion passed 3-0

New Benches for the McKinley Park Trail-Local citizens have asked about purchasing benches in memory of loved ones. Mesabi Bituminous has not purchased yet as part of the Manhole Project. Clerk Sundahl to work with Maintenance Supervisor Gorsma to pick out benches that are sturdy and in line with other benches on the trail. Residents could make a donation to the Township for the purchase of a bench and the Township will purchase. Plaques could be purchased by residents

IRRR 5-year plan-CDBG and IRRR grants have been applied for, JPJ Engineering to contact USDA and will follow up

Request for Utility Easement-Utility easements drafted and sent to owners of 30 Center St and 30 Main St, Soudan

Motion by Supervisor Tekautz to approve and move forward with the (2) utility easements

2<sup>nd</sup> by Supervisor Dostert

Motion passed 3-0

## **New Business**

### **Pay Bills as presented**

Motion by Supervisor Dostert to pay bills as presented

2<sup>nd</sup> by Supervisor Tekautz

Motion passed 3-0

### **Fire Department**

- Request for minor changes to the Chief and Assistant Chief Positions

The Breitung Fire and Rescue is asking for minor changes to both positions as explained by Assistant Chief Matt Tuchel. They are asking to remove NIMS 300 and NIMS 400 as a requirement. The Department will be encouraging but not requiring the course. Assistant Chief Tuchel has this training. The reason for the change is that it is very hard to find, and very expensive. Training is out-of-state and a 3-day course.

Motion by Supervisor Tekautz to approve changes as presented

2<sup>nd</sup> by Supervisor Dostert

Motion passed 3-0

Apply for address at the Skating Rink-There is currently no address for the skating shack

Motion by Supervisor Dostert to have Clerk Sundahl apply for an address at the skating shack (it used to be 10 Church St), and review Fire Number #5263 at the Baseball Field

2<sup>nd</sup> by Supervisor Tekautz

Motion passed 3-0

CTC 5-year Contract

Motion by Supervisor Tekautz to approve the CTC 5-Year Contract as presented

2<sup>nd</sup> by Supervisor Dostert

Motion passed 3-0

Broadband-The State of MN is offering Line Extension Connection, a program to assist in the cost to connect residents and businesses that are unserved in the state. Clerk Sundahl suggested putting the program on our website for residents to apply. St Louis County is also offering grant assistance for broadband. Clerk Sundahl to work with CTC on getting a cost on Fiber Optics going to McKinley Park both for the Office and Guests. The trail will be torn up and it would be a good time to do it depending on the cost.

Motion by Supervisor Dostert for Clerk Sundahl to put the Line Extension on the Township website as well as work with CTC on a cost estimate for internet at McKinley Park. Can apply for funds under Culture and Tourism as well

2<sup>nd</sup> by Supervisor Tekautz

Motion passed 3-0

Resolution 2023-04-Resolution to Apply for and Accept Culture and Tourism Grant

Grant Manager Tomsich discussed that the maximum amount that can be applied for is \$60k. There are many projects that could be funded under this grant: Stuntz Bay Dock, 3 docks at McKinley Park, New Playground Equipment, Tables and PA System for Old Settlers, replacing Canopy that got damaged, as well as possibly High-Speed internet at McKinley Park

Motion by Supervisor Dostert to accept Resolution 2023-04 with correcting the date to 2023

2<sup>nd</sup> by Supervisor Tekautz

Motion Passed 3-0

Resolution 2023-01-Township Election Hours

Motion by Supervisor Tekautz to have the Township Election Hours from 10am to 8pm

2<sup>nd</sup> by Supervisor Dostert

Motion passed 3-0

Resolution 2023-02-Appointing Election Judges

Motion by Supervisor Dostert to accept Resolution 2023-02 as presented

2<sup>nd</sup> by Supervisor Tekautz

Motion passed 3-0

Resolution 2023-03-Absentee Ballot Board

Motion by Supervisor Tekautz to accept Resolution 2023-03 as presented

2<sup>nd</sup> by Supervisor Dostert

Motion passed 3-0

**Next Regular Board Meeting:**

February 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2023 at 12noon

**Adjourn:**

Motion by Supervisor Dostert to Adjourn the Meeting at 1:33pm

2<sup>nd</sup> by Supervisor Tekautz

Motion Passed 3-0

Respectfully Submitted

Dianna Sundahl

Clerk, Breitung Township