

## **Township of Breitung Regular Board Meeting 03-23-23 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, Matt Tuchel, Stephanie Ukkola-Timberjay, Trudy Hendricks  
(arrived 12:05pm), Tom Gorsma-Public Works, Valeda McDonald, Tony Sikora, Mindy Tuchel  
(12:25)

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

### **Acceptance of Agenda**

Motion by Supervisor Dostert to accept the agenda with the addition of Swearing in of New Officers after Bills Paid

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

Motion Passed 3-0

### **Approval of Minutes**

Motion by Supervisor Tekautz to approve the minutes of the 02/23/23 Regular Board Meeting Minutes, 02/23/23 Board of Audit Minutes and 03/14/23 Board of Canvass Minutes as presented

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

Motion passed 3-0

### **Approval of Treasurers Report**

Motion by Supervisor Dostert to approve the February 2023 Treasurers Report as presented

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

Motion passed 3-0

### **Correspondence**

- Statewide Volunteer Firefighter Plan-so noted
- Arrowhead Area Agency on Aging-so noted
- League of MN Cities-so noted
- MAT-February 2023 Newsletter, March 2023 Newsletter, Spring Short Courses-suggest Matt attend Short Course
- IRRR-03/17, 03/10, 03/09-so noted
- Lake Country Power-Grant Application-Consensus to try apply again
- Thank You-Embarrass Regional Fair Association-so noted
- St Louis County-so noted

### **Public Input**

Stephanie Ukkola wanted to thank the Board for all the work being done for the Township. She is thankful for the many projects as well as maintaining fiscal responsibility.

## **Reports**

- Police-See Attached, slower month than usual, able to catch up on paperwork, looking in to some grant applications for the Department
- Fire-No Report this month
- Road and Bridge-See Attached, increase in skaters this year
- 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-no update. New construction of the rink held up well, Youth Hockey Days went well.
- Wastewater Board-SEH moving forward on the Water Treatment Project. Project remains short 2.275M, did not make it on the States Bonding Bill, but is on the Special Bonding Bill-can still start project. Matt Tuchel testified before the State Senate for the Project. Stabilization Pond Expansion Project made it past the first round for the FY24 General Community Project.
- Ambulance Commission-Ad-Hoc Committee meets tonight 03/23/23 @ 5:30pm.

Motion by Supervisor Dostert to accept reports as presented

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

Motion passed 3-0

## **Old Business:**

ATV Trails-Discussion of next steps would be to have a survey done of Wayne Kultala's portion of the property that the township would like.

Motion by Supervisor Tekautz to move forward with surveying the property

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

Motion passed 3-0

IRRR 5-year plan-Continue to wait and hear when next IRRR meeting is scheduled.

Broadband-CTC came out and met with Matt Tuchel, box right down the road from McKinley Park, CTC will be sending over a bid to run service to the building. A separate quote for the whole Park to be done by an outside company, and should receive that soon.

Project 16-268 Gravel Pit Property-Chairman Tomsich still awaiting word from the County Resolution 2023-07-Applying for IRRR grant funds for overrun of Project, presented to the Board, approved last month

Outdoor Recreation Grant-DNR-Chairman Tomsich working on questions that the DNR had in regards to accessibility will return to JPJ for submission. Supervisor Dostert asking about lighting from the rink down the trail, half way to the Ballfield. Chairman Tomsich to check with Jennifer at JPJ for addition to the grant application.

## **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

Swearing in of New Officers Timothy Tomsich, Matthew Tuchel and Jorgine Gornick were all sworn in by Clerk Sundahl to their elected positions. Matthew Tuchel took over for Greg Dostert. Supervisor Dostert was thanked for all the work he has done for the township.

Youth Using Lawn Care Equipment-Tom Gorsma presented documentation that youth beginning at the age of 16 employees can use and operated lawn care equipment with proper training according to our insurance agent and under MN Statutes presented in the packet Motion by Supervisor Tuchel for youth beginning at age 16 to be allowed to use lawn care equipment with Maintenance Supervisor Gorsma providing proper training along with documentation of that training

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

Motion passed 3-0

Police Department

- 2023 Cops Hiring Program-Chief Reing explained there are Federal Grants available to fund another FT Officer. The grant would cover 75% for 3 years salary. The Board asked Chief Reing to check if a department could apply again after initial 3 years to run concurrent. The State of MN is also looking at this. Retention and Recruitment of Officers is currently down. No action taken.
- Updated Taser Contract with Axon-Chief Reing presented an updated 5-yr taser contract which is \$461.95 per year higher than previous contract, but explained that there are more taser cartridges included as well as training. Supervisor Tuchel asked Chief Reing if there is increased buying power if bought with other departments.

Motion by Supervisor Tuchel to approve new contract with Axon as presented

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

Motion passed 3-0

Congressional Spending/Hwy 169-Information on project from Soudan to Ely. 1.1M never used in 169 past project, new project 3.3M. No action taken, past deadline for letter of support.

Blight-Chief Reing states spring is around the corner, a bit early to see blight properties. 1 citation issued to home on Jasper St with 30 days to pay.

Motion by Supervisor Tuchel to send letter to the Home Owner along with a copy of the ticket

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

Motion passed 3-0

Anonymous Donation for Tower Ambulance Replacement Fund-A \$500 anonymous cash donation was given to the township for the Tower Ambulance Replacement Fund. Consensus by the Board to have Clerk Sundahl present a Resolution next month to accept donation and in turn send a check to the City of Tower.

Waiver of Fees-ECFE would like to use the Outdoor Pavilion May 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023 for their Spring Picnic and is asking for a waiver of fees

Motion by Supervisor Tuchel to waive fees for ECFE rental of the Pavilion

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

Motion passed 3-0

**Reorganizational Meeting:** Immediately following the Regular Board Meeting, Thursday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2023

**Next Regular Board Meeting:** TBD at Reorganizational Meeting

**Adjourn:**

Motion by Supervisor Tuchel to Adjourn the Meeting at 12:59pm

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

Motion Passed 3-0

Respectfully Submitted

Dianna Sunsdahl  
Clerk, Breitung Township