

Township of Breitung Regular Board Meeting 09-28-23 at 12:00pm. In Person Meeting at the Breitung Community Center

Present In Person:

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

Public: Daniel Reing-Police Chief (left @ 1:53pm), Stephanie Ukkola-Timberjay, Tom Gorsma-Maintenance Supervisor, John Jamnick JPJ Engineering, Jim Battin, Trudy Hendricks (arrived at 12:04pm, left at 1:30pm), Terry Driscoll (arrived at 1:50pm, left @ 2:30pm)

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

Acceptance of Agenda

Motion by Supervisor Tuchel to accept the agenda as presented

2nd by Supervisor Tekautz

Motion Passed 3-0

Approval of Minutes

Motion by Supervisor Tekautz to approve the minutes of the 08/24/2023 Regular Board Meeting Minutes as presented

2nd by Supervisor Tuchel

Motion passed 3-0

Approval of Treasurers Report

Motion by Supervisor Tekautz to approve the August 2023 Treasurers Report as presented

2nd by Supervisor Tuchel

Motion passed 3-0

Correspondence

- LMC-*Upcoming Events
- MAT-*August 23 Newsletter *LRIP Funding *Legislative & Research Committee
- PERA
- IRRR-*September 6th, 12thth, 20th, 26th Ranger
- St. Louis County-*Public Health Updates, *CDBG, * Aquatic Species
- MN Rural Water

Public Input

Stephanie Ukkola wanted to thank the Public Works Department for all the hard work at the rink, the bench and the baseball field

Reports

- Police-See Attached. Tacos with Cops Saturday October 7th, 2023

- Fire-See Attached
- Road and Bridge-See Attached. Add gravel delivery to residents to the next Board Meeting
- McKinley Park-October 2nd will be the last day. Winter storage fees coming in.
- Recreation-Public Works will start working on baseball field
- Wastewater Board-River Crossing pipe installed, Presentation to MN House done on 09/27/23-looking for 3M in bonding for Water Treatment Plant. Next meeting is 10/10/23.
- Ambulance Commission-Supervisor Tuchel attended AD Hoc Committee and Patty Banks from Ely Hospital is looking to do a study that will possibly include other local areas including Tower. Looking at a “Regional Service”, possibly managed by the hospital. Will look at more ideas next month

Motion by Supervisor Tekautz to accept reports as presented

2nd by Supervisor Tuchel

Motion passed 3-0

Old Business:

Infrastructure Projects

- 2022-Currently awaiting pricing for ditching the Mud Ditch, Spring Rd required a deeper sub-cut so this will be paved in 2024, culvert at the bottom of Church St needs installation
- 2023-1st Avenue and Church St on hold. Looking to do a smaller project, request JPJ gives an updated cost estimate for 250k. CDBG of 75k, IRRR pre app is opening up, and will meet in December, Chairman Tomsich needs to get application in. Change most items from replace to repair. Manhole on 1st Street needs to be done for sure with curb and gutter.

PFA Loan-Wastewater Board-Force Main Project is nearing completion with some punch list items yet to do. PFA requires an external audit for the 1st year. Doesn't make sense to have the City of Tower apply, take too much time. Chairman Tomsich awaiting word from Walker, Giroux & Hanne Accounting Firm in regards to cost, as just the Sewer Account under the Breitung Water and Sewer Commission would need the audit. Have not signed or requested loan, will discuss at next TBWWB meeting 10/10/23

Outdoor Recreation Project-McKinley Park/Soudan Park-See Report

- McKinley Park-Met with Flagship Recreation, pricing still not available for McKinley Park equipment. Playground Equipment taken out at the Campground. Stacy working on pricing. Funding extended until 12/2024. Grant through IRRR for various projects for 18k, St. Louis County has set aside 20k in a grant, and \$7500 will be coming from Stuntz Bay Association. Will have approximately 30k for the McKinley Park Playground.

- Soudan Park-Will reapply for DNR Outdoor Recreation grant. Stephanie looking at beautification of the entrance, landscape, and skating shack. Will set a date for a Public Meeting at the October Regular Board Meeting

Care Crossings Update-According to various sources the sale has fallen through at this time

Police Department Updates

- Impounded Vehicle 2015 KIA Truck-Chief Reing still waiting on paperwork
- Goombaz Updated Security Proposal-Chief Reing will work on Safety Grant, and Board will review once application is completed. Grant deadline is October 15th.
- Use of Deadly Force Policy-Chief Reing will work with Township Attorney on proper wording
- Summer Season Policy & Narcan Policy
Motion by Supervisor Tuchel to accept Summer Season Policy and Narcan Policy as presented
2nd by Supervisor Tekautz
Motion passed 3-0

Housing Institute-Clerk Sundahl has participated 2nd meeting @ Tower City Hall. Just starting to look at housing options and prioritize. Next forum beginning of November

Water Filtration Plant-Discussed during TBWWB report

Thompson Farm Road Relocation-JPJ working on updating a cost estimate for project, Supervisor Tuchel met with State and County Officials. MnDOT to review turn lane and acceleration lane. County fully supports project. This project available for several different grant programs. Clerk Sundahl to work with township attorney on an agreement with Lustek to share the road, and create an easement. Will discuss at Annual Meeting 2024. Need for discussion at the October meeting in regards to State Park Road Account funding.

Motion by Supervisor Tekautz to apply for and accept LRIP funding

2nd by Supervisor Tuchel

Motion passed 3-0

Capital Improvements Plan-(5-year plan) 4 items added by Supervisor Tuchel and Tom Gorsma to original plan created by JPJ Engineering, Board asked JPJ to update cost estimates to all. After cost estimate Board will need to prioritize list. Consensus by the Board to ask for assistance with the State Park Entrance Road at a later date. May be eligible for Get the Lead Out Program.

Motion by Supervisor Tuchel to complete CDBG Pre-App due 10/10/23

2nd by Supervisor Tekautz

Motion passed 3-0

Utility Easement-30 Center St

Motion by Supervisor Tuchel to accept the utility easement with the change from Church St to Center St, as Center St is the correct property address.

2nd by Supervisor Tekautz

Motion passed 3-0

Tool Cat-Public Works Supervisor Gorsma is asking for a replacement to the current John Deere equipment as it will be a better over-all piece of equipment for the work the department is doing. Quote included in packet. John Deere set for replacement last year. The cost for the same piece of equipment has increased by 18k since last year. John Deere worth approximate 10k if went out to bid.

Motion by Supervisor Tuchel to purchase the Bobcat UW56 per quote provided with the stipulation that the John Deere is sold upon taking possession of the new equipment

2nd by Supervisor Tekautz

Motion passed 3-0

New Business

Pay Bills as presented

Motion by Supervisor Tekautz to pay bills as presented

2nd by Supervisor Tuchel

Motion passed 3-0

Approve Partial Payment-Board to double check on reimbursement for material by list provided by Mesabi Bituminous.

- Project 20-741 McKinley Part Trail-\$164,947.79 to Mesabi Bit

- Project 22-003 2022 Infrastructure Improvements-\$195,617.28 to Mesabi Bit

Motion by Supervisor Tuchel to pay 20-741 and 22-003 as presented by Mesabi Bit when 2nd payment comes from IRRR

2nd by Supervisor Tekautz

Motion passed 3-0

- Project 21-847 Force Main-\$135,153.15 to 2EZ, Inc

- Project 21-847 Force Main Change Order-\$83,378.00 to 2EZ, Inc (decrease in project)

Motion by Supervisor Tekautz to make payment when PFA Loan comes through

2nd by Chairman Tomsich

Motion passed 2-0

Supervisor Tuchel abstained due to possible conflict of interest

Motion by Chairman Tomsich to accept change order as presented

2nd by Supervisor Tekautz

Motion passed 2-0

Supervisor Tuchel abstained due to possible conflict of interest

Township Property 270-0110-02910-Terry Driscoll submitted drawing asking the township to purchase a portion of the described property in the packet. On 10/26/23 Luke Poderzay asked Chairman Tomsich about purchasing the same portion of township property. Discussion by the Board that the portion of the township parcel is estimated to be at a value of less than 25k.

Portion of the property that both owners wish to purchase is approximately 150' by 25'

Motion by Supervisor Tuchel to put that portion of property out to bid with sealed bids due by the next Regular Board Meeting on October 26th at 12 noon and costs of survey, subdivision and recording would be at purchasers' expense

2nd by Supervisor Tekautz

Motion passed 3-0

Wright Property @ 8 Church St-Homeowners dad called Chairman Tomsich to state that during the last heavy rain, water came into the garage at the property. Discussion by board and public works that during recent construction in front of the property that the Hwy side was lowered, road is crowned, possible rink side curbing in the future but that water would not have breached if blacktop had been completed before heavy rain. Supervisor Tuchel to talk with homeowner.

Old Settlers Financial Statement-Township asked for financial statement since the Township is sponsoring the group. Financial Statement so noted.

Resolutions

- 2023-21-IRRR Community Infrastructure Program
- 2023-22 Accepting Donations

Motion by Supervisor Tuchel to approve both resolutions as presented

2nd by Supervisor Tekautz

Motion passed 3-0

Poll Pad Device-Consensus by the Board to let County Elections know of interest in device for help with the registration and check-in process

Next Regular Board Meeting-September 26th, 12N @ Breitung Community Center

Next Special Board Meeting-October 10th, 10am @ Public Works Bldg, 41 1st Ave

Adjourn

Motion by Supervisor Tuchel to adjourn the meeting @ 2:40pm

2nd by Supervisor Tekautz

Motion passed 3-0

Respectfully Submitted

Dianna Sundahl
Clerk, Breitung Township