

# **Township of Breitung Regular Board Meeting 10-26-23 at 12:00pm. In Person Meeting at the Breitung Community Center**

## **Present In Person:**

**Board Members:** Chairman Tim Tomsich, Supervisor Chuck Tekautz, Supervisor Matt Tuchel, Clerk Dianna Sunsdahl, Treasurer Jorgine Gornick, Deputy Clerk Renee Pearson

**Public:** Daniel Reing-Police Chief, Stephanie Ukkola-Timberjay, Tom Gorsma-Maintenance Supervisor, John Jamnick JPJ Engineering, Susie Chiabotti, Park Manager (left @ 1:20pm), Terry Carlson-Tower News

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

## **Acceptance of Agenda**

Motion by Supervisor Tuchel to accept the agenda as presented

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

Motion Passed 3-0

## **Approval of Minutes**

Motion by Supervisor Tuchel to approve the minutes of the 09/28/23 Regular Board Meeting Minutes and 10/10/23 Special Board Meeting as presented

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

Motion passed 3-0

## **Approval of Treasurers Report**

Motion by Supervisor Tuchel to approve the September 2023 Treasurers Report as presented

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

Motion passed 3-0

## **Correspondence**

- MAT-\*September & October Newsletter \*Conference \*By Law Changes
- PERA-\*Fall Newsletter\*Legislative Update
- IRRR-\*October 4<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup> Newsletter\*October 17<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting Recap
- St. Louis County-\*Department Reorg\*
- 2023 T-S Little League
- State of MN-\*Board of Peace Officers\*20 Year Highway Investment Plan\*Pollution Control Ideas\*Forestry Funding\*

## **Public Input**

None

## **Reports**

- Police-See Attached
- Fire-See Attached
- Road and Bridge-See Attached

- McKinley Park-Park Manager in to give report. Total Revenue up over 15k. Seasonal, Monthly, Weekly, showers, washer/dryer revenue increased. Daily Rentals and Boat Launch revenue down. Expenses for electricity, fuel and supplies are up, garbage down.
- Recreation-New Bench at the Rink installed
- Wastewater Board-Water Plant went out to bid, received only 1 bid for 9.3M, 3.8M shortfall. Waiting on advice from engineer in regards to going out to bid again.
- Ambulance Commission-Supervisor Tuchel attended meeting October 5<sup>th</sup>, the Commission has no interest in the operations of the department, only Ambulance Replacement. The City of Tower has put 25k into the Ambulance Dept so far this year. 2024 Ambulance vehicle replacement aid Agreement is currently being drafted. New ambulance will be arriving by the end of the year with a 50k shortfall which will be paid for with 2024 funds. Senator Grant Hauschild held an EMS round table here at Breitung Community Center last week with several local and surrounding area EMS in attendance. Discussion around a taxing District but will be an uphill challenge. Supervisor Tuchel would like to ensure that Townships and local government bodies have a say in that process. Per capita vs per parcel seems to be a more likely choice.

Motion by Supervisor Tekautz to accept reports as presented

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

Motion passed 3-0

### **Old Business:**

#### **Sale of Land in Parcel 270-0110-02910**

- Sealed Bids-2 sealed bids received for the 150' X 25' portion of the property in the above stated parcel Terry Driscoll submitted a bid for \$600, Lucas Poderzay submitted a bid for \$1550. Discussion by the Board that the portion of Township property is currently being used by Wellander to access property and there may be some other public use in the future for the township property. No sale agreement necessary due to bids being rejected

Motion by Supervisor Tekautz to reject both sealed bids as the land is needed for public purpose

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

Motion passed 3-0

- Resolution 2023 #26-Sale of Land

Motion by Supervisor Tuchel to reject Resolution 2023 #26 Sale of Land due to bids being rejected

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

Motion passed 3-0

### **Infrastructure Projects**

- Resolution 2023 #29-Make Application and Accept funds from St. Louis County CDBG Funds being requested for the Center St. Project

Motion by Supervisor Tuchel to accept Resolution 2023 #29 as presented

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

Motion passed 3-0

PFA Loan-PFA loan and documents still being worked on, Real Property Declaration Waiver

Request to be submitted that the Township cannot sell its property that work was done on

Motion by Supervisor Tuchel to submit Waiver and map that was completed by JPJ

Engineering

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

Motion passed 3-0

Outdoor Recreation Project-McKinley Park

- McKinley Park-Because original bid for equipment was over \$31k, 2 more bids were requested which came from Gametime Products at \$34k and \$39k.

Motion by Supervisor Tuchel to accept McKinley Park playground equipment bid from Flagship

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

Motion passed 3-0

Police Department Updates

- Hiring of New P/T Applicant-Chief Reing received an application from Isaac Karolczak. Chief Reing has reviewed application, talked with applicant, Supervisor Tuchel reached out to reference, eligible for his license and has passed POST requirements. Background, Psych Evaluation and Physical are next steps in the process.

Motion by Supervisor Tekautz to move forward with the process of potentially hiring the applicant

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

Motion passed 3-0

Township Road Improvement Project-Discussion that updated Construction Costs came in at \$633,200 but total costs with prework comes in at \$646,000. Need different maps from JPJ for submission for funding. Discussion with JPJ to keep new road all on Township Property instead of the original plan of sharing road with Lustek, keeps cost down. Consensus by the Board that this approach is better, JPJ to update plans.

- Resolution 2023 #27-Make Application and Accept funds from the State of MN LRIP

Motion by Supervisor Tuchel to accept Resolution 2023 #27 as presented

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

Motion passed 3-0

- Resolution 2023 #28-Make Application and Accept funds from the SPRA-Discussion around scoring of the project, if the township asks for 75% of total project costs, score would be higher than asking for 100%.

Motion by Supervisor Tuchel to approve Resolution 2023 #28 with the correction of removing "in the amount of \$633,200" and asking for 75% of total project costs

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

Motion passed 3-0

Gravel Pit-Supervisor Tekautz would like to review the gravel pit with John from JPJ to review and get an estimate of how many more years the Township may have enough gravel to make Class 5. There are benefits in some projects with using the township gravel as it reduces the cost of the overall project. Other discussion in regards to township employees delivering gravel is a poor use of resources. Consensus to add gravel sales to the next month agenda.

Motion by Supervisor Tekautz to halt delivery of gravel by township employees

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

Motion passed 3-0

Poll Pad Device-St Louis County recommended the use of 2 Poll Pad devices for the registration process during elections vs just 1 device.

Motion by Supervisor Tuchel to approve the purchase of 2 Poll Pad devices

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

Motion passed 3-0

Set date for Union Negotiations with LU 49-Clerk Sunsdahl to follow up with Business Rep. to ensure date(s) available

Motion by Supervisor Tuchel to set next Negotiation date for Thursday November 9<sup>th</sup> @ 1pm with an alternate date of Thursday the 16<sup>th</sup> @ 1pm

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

Motion passed 3-0

### **New Business:**

#### **Pay Bills as Presented**

Motion by Supervisor Tuchel to Pay Bills as Presented

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

Motion Passed 3-0

Letter from Vermilion Park Inn-Discussion by Supervisors and JPJ Engineering to make the Center Street Project a priority due to issues described in the letter. Will be funding under Storm Water. Consensus by the Board to have Clerk Sunsdahl work with Maintenance Supervisor Gorsma to draft a response.

#### **Resignation of Fire Department member David Swanson**

Motion by Supervisor Tuchel to accept the resignation of member David Swanson

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

Motion passed 3-0

#### **Approve Partial Payment**

- Project 20-741 McKinley Park Trail-\$154,732.73 to Mesabi Bituminous

Discussion by the Board to review possible completion and tying together of the Breitung, Mesabi and Tower Trails. Consensus by the Board to have Chairman Tomsich partner with the City of Tower.

Motion by Supervisor Tuchel to approve Partial Payment #2 to Mesabi Bituminous

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

Motion passed 3-0

Public Fund Certificate-Renewal Advice, discussion not to renew, invest at a later date  
Motion by Supervisor Tuchel to allow the Certificate to mature 10/31/23 and not renew  
2<sup>nd</sup> by Supervisor Tekautz

Motion passed 3-0

Treasurer Gornick will work with Frandsen Bank

Land Use Permit-14 Jasper St

Motion by Supervisor Tuchel to approve Land Use Permit subject to approval of the Breitung  
Water and Sewer Commission

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

Motion passed 3-0

Police Contract with the City of Tower-Chairman Tomsich presented updated costs for 2024

Motion by Supervisor Tekautz to work with the City of Tower on a contract for the 2024  
season based on statistical findings by Chairman Tomsich

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

Motion passed 3-0

Resolutions

- Resolution 2023 #23-Accepting Donations

Motion by Supervisor Tekautz to approve Resolution 2023 #23 as presented

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

Motion passed 3-0

- Resolution 2023 #25-Make Application and Accept funds from IRRR-Stuntz Bay Road

Motion by Supervisor Tuchel to approve Resolution 2023 #25 with the correction of asking for  
\$50,000 instead of \$51,000

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

Motion passed 3-0

Next Regular Board Meeting-November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023 @ 12N @ Breitung Community Center

Adjourn

Motion by Supervisor Tekautz to adjourn the meeting @ 1:55pm

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

Motion passed 3-0

Respectfully Submitted

Dianna Sunsdahl

Clerk, Breitung Township