

June 25, 2019 Board Minutes

Royalton Township Regular Board Meeting Minutes

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25 June 2019

Approved

7:46 p.m., 25 June 2019, Chair Wayne Olson called the Royalton Township regular board meeting to order with Supervisor Marshall Pearson, Supervisor Jeff Schlaeger, Treasurer Wendy Tchida, and Clerk Duane Swanson present. Also present were Assistant Road Superintendent Alex Anderson and Deputy Clerk Priscilla Schneider. The pledge of allegiance was recited.

Supervisor Schlaeger moved, Supervisor Pearson seconded, to approve the agenda as presented with the addition of road personnel training, keys, and minor subdivision request. The motion carried unanimously.

Supervisor Pearson moved, Supervisor Schlaeger seconded, to approve the minutes of the regular board meeting of 28 May 2019 as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Treasurer Tchida gave her report, noting that the township has a current balance of \$355,176.08 in the treasury. Income during the month included the receipt of \$20,234.02 from the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the State of Minnesota as reimbursement for flooding in July 2018. Supervisor Pearson moved, Supervisor Schlaeger seconded, to approve the report as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Chair Olson moved, Supervisor Pearson seconded, to approve payment of checks #9229-9264 in the amount of \$69,318.64. The motion carried unanimously with Chair Olson, Supervisor Pearson, and Supervisor Schlaeger voting "Aye".

Public Forum was offered. Leslie Orvis noted that Chair Wayne Olson spent hours shepherding the FEMA reimbursement request to conclusion and deserved thanks from the town.

Planning Commission recommendations:

The board considered the recommendation of the Commission to grant preliminary approval to the interim use application of William J. and Patricia J. Cort. Chair Olson noted that the Commission will be finalizing wording at its next working commission meeting, so no action would be taken at this meeting.

There were no recommendations on the SSTS ordinance, a solar energy ordinance, policy book, and township levy/equipment inventory.

Old Business:

Chair Olson noted, and Supervisor Pearson agreed, that the property at 1386 Sherwood Street did not appear to be occupied. Chair Olson moved, Supervisor Pearson seconded, to table this issue until the 2020 road inspection unless evidence to the contrary is received. The motion carried unanimously.

John DeGray reported the brush and trees at the Eagle Lane turnaround had been removed and that this project is complete.

There had been no activity on township carpet cleaning.

Clerk Swanson reported that paperwork had been filed with the County Auditor to assess costs for the cleanup at 9435 Apple Road to the tax rolls. No further activity should be needed, unless the township receives a check covering the costs from the property owners.

Septic compliance letters have resulted in the following actions: Point of sale letter for 11604 Canary Road - John DeGray noted that the situation was being addressed. Point of sale letter for 5566 Brunswick Road - communication from landowner's attorney claiming that a compliance inspection is not needed because a contract for deed was accomplished before the township adopted its septic ordinance. Septic Inspector Amy Thompson agreed that no action was necessary until a new sewer was planned. Chair Olson moved, Supervisor Schlaeger seconded, to drop this issue until a new sewer is planned. No communications had been received on the following properties: 4435 Clint Road (point of sale), 1224 Sherwood Street (imminent health threat), 7995 Bluebell Road (failing to protect ground water), and 1238 Sherwood (failing to protect ground water).

The following zoning issues from the road inspection were considered:

4843 Brunswick Road: counsel had sent letter requesting resolution by 26 June; no resolution to date. Supervisor Pearson moved, Supervisor Schlaeger seconded, to begin legal proceedings to resolve disabled vehicle issue. The motion carried unanimously. Chair Olson will so inform counsel.

1378 Sherwood Street: tabled, Zoning Administrator Kemen to investigate.

1255 Royal Heights Lane: Septic Inspector Thompson has "red-tagged" the property; major issues concern the questionable nature of the septic system, burning of garbage, and moving garbage into the flood plain. Supervisor Schlaeger moved, Supervisor Pearson seconded, to send letter to the property owner as well as the person who holds the contract for deed. Chair Olson will so inform counsel.

5536 Pokegama Lake Road: tabled, Zoning Administrator Kemen to investigate.

10009 Bears Ear Road: The shed has been permitted; it was determined that no driveway/culvert permit was needed. Chair Olson moved, Supervisor Schlaeger seconded, to close the issue.

2667 Greeley Road: e-mail response from owner has been received. Chair Olson directed that this issue be tabled for one month.

9451 Brunswick Road: no response from letter regarding excessive vehicles. Chair Olson directed that this issue be tabled for one month.

1390 Sherwood Street: issue tabled from the May meeting; Chair Olson directed that this issue be tabled for one month.

Deputy Clerk Schneider reported that the Maple Shores subdivision had been approved by Pine County.

Supervisor Schlaeger reported that Hazelnut Road, Hummingbird Road, Country Drive, and Homer Road had been graveled and any culverts scheduled for replacement on them had been replaced. John DeGray noted that the ditches on Cabin Drive had been cleaned. He also noted that graveling, replacement of culverts, and ditching on Mystic Dove Drive had been completed at a cost of \$3812.50. After discussion, Supervisor Schlaeger moved, Chair Olson seconded, to send a bill to Pokegama Township for their share of maintenance of Mystic Dove in the amount of \$1900, to include a copy of the bill, and to note that this bill included one-half of the culvert charges. The motion carried unanimously.

New Business:

Nessel Township had requested cost of graveling 540th Street. Chair Olson directed that a letter be sent noting that Royalton road funds had been appropriated for 2019; this discussion will have to take place in 2020.

Clerk Swanson noted that a corrected assessment agreement with Linda Wiener and Daryl Moeller had been received. Chair Olson moved, Supervisor Pearson seconded, to approve and sign the agreement and to return a copy to Assessor Wiener. The motion carried unanimously.

Treasurer Tchida reported that she had been advised that a statement should be added to the township checks that checks not cashed within 90 days will be voided. Supervisor Schlaeger moved, Chair Olson seconded, to approve this recommendation. The motion carried unanimously.

Supervisor Schlaeger moved, Chair Olson seconded, to approve and sign the minutes of the public hearing of 28 May 2019. The motion carried unanimously.

Chair Olson moved, Supervisor Schlaeger seconded, to approve two days of training in Wabasha County or in Douglas County for Road Superintendent Dan Saumer and Assistant Road Superintendent Alex Anderson. This training includes both classroom instruction and behind-the-wheel experience. Mr. Anderson needs board approval before requesting leave from his job. The tuition cost is \$250 per person. Mileage, per diem, and night lodging costs would be included in reimbursement. The motion carried unanimously.

Supervisor Pearson and Treasurer Tchida will procure a maintenance shed key and security code for Assistant Road Superintendent Anderson.

The Planning Commission recommended to the board that Patty Johnson's request for a minor subdivision of her property in section 12 be approved with conditions. Zoning Administrator Kemen had approved the road frontage and setback issues. A survey, with handwritten annotations about acreages of the two parcels, was provided to the board. The acreage changes resulted from the removal of a proposed easement. Ms. Johnson noted that a corrected survey would be received. After discussion, Supervisor Schlaeger moved, Supervisor Pearson seconded, to approve the split contingent on the successful results of soil borings now in progress on Parcel A and the parcel named "Remainder" would be deemed unbuildable until acceptable soil borings/PERC tests were completed. Such tests are not planned in the immediate future as the parcel is scheduled for agricultural use only. The motion carried unanimously.

The board discussed tree and brush cutting along Royal Heights Lane. Supervisor Schlaeger moved, Chair Olson seconded, to send letters to the property owners along the road similar to those sent previously to owners along Bears Ear Road, with permission slips also similar to those used along Bears Ear. The letter would include a statement that, if the permission form is not returned within 30 days, the township would deem permission had been granted. The motion carried unanimously.

At 8:40 p.m., Supervisor Schlaeger moved, Supervisor Pearson seconded, to adjourn. The motion carried unanimously.

FYI:

Per the State Demographer, as of 1 April 2018, Royalton had 1131 people in 408 households.

The next regular board meeting is 7:30 p.m., Tuesday, 30 July 2019.

Respectfully submitted,

Duane P. Swanson, Clerk

Wayne Olson, Chair/Supervisor

Marshall Pearson, Vice Chair/Supervisor

Jeff Schlaeger, Supervisor