

May 28, 2019 Board Minutes

Royalton Township Regular Board Meeting Minutes

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28 May 2019

Approved

7:46 p.m., 28 May 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 Zoning Administrator John Kemen, Septic Inspector Amy Thompson, Road Superintendent Dan Saumer and Deputy Clerk Priscilla Schneider. The pledge of allegiance was recited.

Supervisor Pearson moved, Supervisor Schlaeger seconded, to approve the agenda as presented with the addition of beaver trapping, sound system, assessor agreement, and Shafer letter. The motion carried unanimously.

Supervisor Schlaeger moved, Supervisor Pearson seconded, to approve the minutes of the regular board meeting of 30 April 2019 as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Treasurer Tchida gave her report, noting that the township has a current balance of \$340,813.85 in the treasury. Supervisor Pearson moved, Supervisor Schlaeger seconded, to approve the report as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Supervisor Pearson moved, Supervisor Schlaeger seconded, to approve payment of checks #9200-9228 in the amount of \$6,619.31. The motion carried unanimously with Chair Olson, Supervisor Pearson, and Supervisor Schlaeger voting "Aye"

Public Forum was offered. No one spoke.

Planning Commission recommendations:

By consensus, the board directed the working planning commission to review the changes to the Pine County Subsurface Sewage Treatment Systems ordinance and make recommendations to the board.

Leslie Orvis updated the board on discussion around a solar energy ordinance, noting that three types exist - residential, garden, and farm. Each may require separate treatment in an ordinance. The board authorized the commission to continue working on a solar energy ordinance.

No activity has been done on the policy book or on the major equipment inventory spreadsheet.

Old Business:

Deputy Clerk Schneider reported that the Beacon subscription is working well and is a great aid in updating the permit files. She encouraged board members to activate their subscriptions.

Chair Olson updated the board on the issues at 1366 Sherwood Street. The owner appears to be living on the premises but that is not clear. Zoning Administrator Kemen had talked with the owner on the phone. At that time, she was staying with her daughter in North Branch but she said she may be back on the property. By consensus, the board tabled this issue until next month.

John DeGray reported that nothing has been done on brush/tree removal at the Eagle Lane turnaround. Landowners appear to have removed some trees. Mr. DeGray was reminded that owner Dennis Nilsen wished to have the wood left for his use.

Chair Olson reported that the state of Minnesota is requiring re-entry of certain claim data for damages already approved by the Federal Emergency Management Agency. He will re-enter data so that state payment may be made.

Leslie Orvis reported that cleaning of the town's carpets would be approximately \$490 (\$0.28 per square foot). Chair Olson moved, Supervisor Pearson seconded, to have Eberts Cleaning clean the carpets at an approximate cost of \$490.00. The firm must provide evidence of insurability. The motion carried unanimously with Chair Olson, Supervisor Pearson, and Supervisor Schlaeger voting "Aye".

Chair Olson noted that the final hearing on the special assessment for nuisance abatement at 9435 Apple Road was held earlier this evening and that the paperwork will be filed with the county auditor.

Gary Valvoda and Leslie Orvis reported on their attendance at the countywide zoning meetings in May. Good discussions were had on the first draft with 25 separate points being discussed. Les reported that much opposition was voiced in his session in Askov. Both stressed that townships can either opt-in or opt-out.

New Business:

Clerk Swanson and Septic Inspector Thompson explained the need for compliance letters for properties that had been sold and for which either no compliance inspection is on file or the system was determined to be noncompliant. The board had authorized template language earlier for various circumstances and these drafts follow that template. Supervisor Schlaeger moved, Supervisor Pearson seconded, to issue point of sale inspection needed letters to property owners at 11064 Harvest Road, 5566 Brunswick Road, and 4435 Clint Road. The motion carried unanimously.

Chair Olson moved, Supervisor Schlaeger seconded, to issue an imminent health threat letter to property owners at 1224 Sherwood Street. The motion carried unanimously.

Supervisor Schlaeger moved, Chair Olson seconded, to issue a failing to protect ground water letter to property owners at 7995 Bluebell Road.

Clerk Swanson noted that a noncompliant report on the septic system at 1238 Sherwood Street had been received in 2012 and had apparently not been acted upon. Septic Inspector Thompson recommended that a failing to protect ground water letter be written to the owners of that property. Chair Olson moved, Supervisor Schlaeger seconded, to issue said letter. The motion carried unanimously.

The board next addressed issues arising during the 2019 road inspection: The garage at 7344 Bluebell Road has a permit on file and will be removed from the agenda.

The junk cars at 4843 Brunswick have not been removed or screened as was promised over a year ago; because counsel has been involved with this property in the past, Supervisor Schlaeger moved, Supervisor Pearson seconded, to authorize Chair Olson to proceed with discussions with counsel; the motion carried unanimously.

No permit can be found with the township, with Marshall Lind or with the county for the pole shed at 1378 Sherwood Street; Zoning Administrator Kemen will investigate.

Pursuant to discussions with the planning commission, with Septic Inspector Thompson, and with Zoning Administrator, the board, by consensus, authorized drafting of letters to landowners at 1255 Royal Heights Lane, including the contract for deed holder.

Neither the township, nor Marshall Lind, nor the county has a permit on file for the remodeling at 5536 Pokegama Lake Road. Zoning Administrator Kemen will investigate.

The building at 10009 Bears Ear Road was permitted through Pine County; a copy is on file with the township; this issue will be removed from the agenda. However, further discussion noted that a driveway or culvert permit may be needed. Zoning Administrator Kemen will investigate.

Clerk Swanson explained the situation at 2667 Greeley Road. At the 2017 road inspection numerous unlicensed vehicles were noted; subsequently they were licensed with the licenses attested to by Chair Olson and Zoning Administrator Kemen. At the April meeting the clerk was instructed to draft a letter requesting verification that the licenses were still current. Clerk Swanson distributed this draft for review; Chair Olson moved, Supervisor Schlaeger seconded, to approve the draft and to mail the letter. The motion carried unanimously.

Zoning Administrator Kemen reviewed the issue of movable temporary animal shelters at 764 Greeley Road and noted that the township's ordinance does not cover such shelters. By consensus, the board removed this item from the agenda.

At the April meeting the board instructed the clerk to draft an excessive vehicle letter to the property owners at 9451 Brunswick Road. Clerk Swanson distributed this draft for review; Supervisor Schlaeger moved, Chair Olson seconded, to approve the draft and mail the letter. The motion carried unanimously.

By consensus, the board tabled situation at 1390 Sherwood pending more investigation.

Deputy Clerk Schneider provided the board with copies of the proposed minor subdivision of Norman Klocke and Paul Wilkens on Maple Shores Road. Zoning Administrator Kemen had reviewed the paperwork and declared it in compliance with the zoning ordinance and with the ten acre minimum. Mr. Wilkens addressed the board, noting that the board needed to sign the legal agreement and then to provide the county with a notice of approval. After review of the documents, Supervisor Schlaeger moved, Chair Olson seconded, to approve the minor subdivision request of Norm Klocke and Paul Wilkens, with the proviso that the Wilkens parcels cannot be sold separately even though they will retain separate property identification numbers. The motion carried unanimously.

Clerk Swanson noted that the Minnesota Association of Townships will have workshops in June. No one expressed the need to attend.

Treasurer Tchida noted that the bank signature card needed to be updated. All board members had signed. Chair Olson moved, Supervisor Schlaeger seconded, to remove Roberta Folkestad's name from the signature list and to add Deputy Clerk Priscilla Schneider to the list. The motion carried unanimously.

At the request of Treasurer Tchida, Chair Olson moved, Supervisor Schlaeger seconded to authorize Treasurer Tchida to complete paperwork to stop paper on the following six checks to Architectural Integrators: #8709 dated 3/27/2018 for \$19.50; #8756 dated 4.24.2018 for \$39.00; #8780 dated 5/29/2018 for \$19.50; #8811 dated 6/26/2018 for \$19.50; #8849 dated 7/25/2018 for \$19.50; and #8894 dated 8/28/2018 for \$19.50. Frandsen Bank will charge a one-time fee of \$32.00 to stop payment on all six checks. The motion carried unanimously.

Chair Olson moved, Supervisor Schlaeger seconded, to set a public hearing for 6:00 p.m., Tuesday, 25 June 2019 to receive input from the public on Bill Cort's interim use application to open a retail meat store on his property in Royalton Township. The motion carried unanimously.

Supervisor Schlaeger noted that Mr. Jared Lucht had successfully removed seven beavers from two sites that were damaging town roads. He wondered if additional payment should be made for Mr. Lucht's good work. The board encouraged Mr. Lucht to keep monitoring the situations under the current arrangement.

Chair Olson noted that Travis Kemen is studying the sound system which had been password protected by the installer, who is now not reachable. He will continue to work on the system.

At the April meeting, the clerk had been instructed to draft a letter to Shafer Contracting regarding repair of damages to Frost Drive. Clerk Swanson distributed the draft; Supervisor Schlaeger moved, Chair Olson seconded, to approve the draft and send the letter. The motion carried unanimously.

Clerk Swanson explained the tree and brush cutting issues on Royal Heights Lane and distributed a draft letter informing residents of that the township would be brushing and tree cutting. Board members suggested revisions for final approval at the June meeting.

At 9:04 p.m., Supervisor Schlaeger moved, Supervisor Pearson seconded, to adjourn. The motion carried unanimously.

FYI:

MAT membership cards were distributed to board members.

Lakes States Tree Service will be brushing and tree cutting on behalf on East Central Energy.

The next regular board meeting is 7:30 p.m., Tuesday, 25 June 2019.

Respectfully submitted,

Duane P. Swanson, Clerk

Wayne Olson, Chair/Supervisor

Marshall Pearson, Vice Chair/Supervisor

Jeff Schlaeger, Supervisor