

Royalton Township Board Meeting
6052 Royalton Road; Braham MN 55006
Email: royalton@genesiswireless.us -- Website: www.royaltontownship.com
November 29, 2016
Approved

Chair Wayne Olson called the Royalton Township Board Meeting to order with Supervisor Marshall Pearson, Supervisor Jeff Schlaeger, Treasurer Wendy Tchida and Clerk Roberta Folkestad present. The pledge of allegiance was recited.

After discussion, motion by Supervisor Schlaeger to add: brushing, town hall rental, tree on Bear Claw, thank you, snow plowing, security on maintenance building, tools, letter, appoint new planning commission member, newspaper ad, septic, and back up operator; and to approve the agenda, second by Supervisor Pearson, motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Supervisor Pearson to approve the October 25, 2016, Board Minutes as printed, second by Supervisor Schlaeger, motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Supervisor Pearson to approve the Treasurer's Report as read by Treasurer Tchida, second by Supervisor Schlaeger, motion carried unanimously.

After reading and discussing checks numbers 8131 through 8171 in the amount of \$24,151.93, motion by Chair Olson to approve and pay all checks, second by Supervisor Pearson, motion carried unanimously.

No one spoke when public forum was offered.

There were no planning commission recommendations.

Old business:

Chair Olson and Zoning Administrator John Kemen visited 3623 State Highway 70 PID

#29.0241.000 and spoke with the property owners on Sunday, November 27, 2016. They have torn down the fence and are working on cleaning up the property and will continue to clean it up. Recommendation from Chair Olson to table further discussion until the December 13, 2016, Board Meeting. After discussion both Supervisor Pearson and Supervisor Schlaeger agreed to table further discussion until the December meeting.

Winter snowplowing policy for Bluebell Road and Hazelnut Road in connection with the Royal River area dedicated to the public ways was discussed. Royal Woods, Royal River Park, Royal River Run, and Royal River Chase are all dedicated to the public ways. They are not Royalton Township Roads. Chair Olson discussed this issue with Pine County Engineer Mark LeBrun. Engineer LeBrun told Chair Olson that in his opinion there are only three choices open to Royalton Township: The township can take over the public ways, the township can plow them at the going rate, or the township can do nothing. The township minutes, dated October 28, 2008, clearly show that Bluebell Road ends at the junction of Royal Woods with Bluebell Road. Engineer LeBrun also stated he has problems with dedicated to the public roads all over Pine County.

One citizen questioned why he had to get a variance for the set back of his pole shed from the road if it was not a Royalton Township Road. The answer was because the Ordinance applies to all public roads in the township.

There was more discussion that if the public ways were to be brought up to township standards would the township take them over? Bringing them up to township standards would be a necessary prerequisite.

There are legal issues involved in the decision how to handle this. There are costs involved. The problem has been ongoing since the 1990s.

There was discussion about could the township change the policy of no snow plowing of private driveways. The board did not think this was a very good idea, due to insurance policies.

There was discussion about school buses turning around. The bus companies have told Chair Olson they will turn around wherever the township stops snowplowing.

Motion by Chair Olson to not snowplow past the junction of Bluebell Road with Royal Woods Road, where the township road ends, second by Supervisor Schlaeger, motion carried unanimously with all voting "aye." Minutes will show the findings of fact entered into the record as an attachment.

Road closure barricades was tabled until the December 13, 2016 board meeting.

A fireproof file cabinet to hold past, present & future minute books was tabled for now.

The planning commission is doing a very good job on becoming informed about dust control on town roads. They are moving forward and will continue to work on it.

Motion by Chair Olson to have Travis Kemen destroy the old computer, second by Supervisor Schlaeger, motion carried unanimously.

New business:

Checking account charges from the bank for sending a paper copy of the monthly statement and the refund of charges every month was discussed. Motion by Chair Olson to not require the clerk and treasurer to record these as disbursements and receipts every month, second by Supervisor Pearson, motion carried unanimously.

There was discussion about a tree that has blown over on Bear Claw Drive. Road Superintendent Dan Saumer will take care of this.

A thank you card was received from Braham Area High School Social Studies Teachers Tammi Johnson and Becky Swanson for the use of the "Vote Here" sign.

The township received a resignation letter from maintenance employee Raymond Purdy as of November 30, 2016, turning in his keys and requesting a receipt for the keys. The clerk will take care of this. Motion by Chair Olson to accept the resignation, second by Supervisor Pearson, motion carried unanimously.

A wingman for snow plowing is now needed. Motion by Supervisor Pearson to run an ad for two weeks asking for applications for a part time wingman, second by Supervisor Schlaeger, motion carried unanimously.

The maintenance building security system should be complete in a couple of weeks.

Brushing was discussed. We have gone over budget by about \$2,000.00. There is more work to be done, especially on Church Road, Linden Lane, River Bed Road to name some. Motion by Supervisor Pearson to approve \$7,000.00 to finish the 2016 brushing and tree removal, second by Supervisor Schlaeger, motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Chair Olson to appoint Priscilla Schneider to the planning commission, second by Supervisor Schlaeger, motion carried unanimously. Thank you and welcome Pricilla.

The clerk and treasurer will notify Superintendent Saumer of town hall rentals.

After discussion, motion by Chair Olson to spend \$1,500.00 for air tools and other tools needed for maintenance, second by Supervisor Schlaeger, motion carried unanimously.

A snow plowing chart for knowing when to plow will be discussed at a later date.

Clover Road measurement discussion was tabled until the December 13, 2016 board meeting.

There was email address discussion, but nothing will be done at this time. It will remain royalton@genesiswireless.us.

Septic Inspector Harv Lindstrom will be retiring at the end of 2016. An ad has been placed in the paper asking for quotes for a septic inspector. It will run for two weeks.

The Clover Road culvert work and ditch clean out are done.

The next Town Board Meeting will be held at 7:30 pm, Tuesday, December 13, 2016.

Being no further township business, motion to adjourn by Supervisor Pearson, second by Supervisor Schlaeger, motion carried unanimously. 8:22 pm, meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted:

Clerk Roberta Folkestad

Chair Wayne Olson

Supervisor Marshall Pearson

Supervisor Jeff Schlaeger