

**SALEM TOWNSHIP
TOWN BOARD MEETING
www.salemmn.org
June 7, 2017**

Members Present: **Rick Lutzi
Gail Fritts
Brian Connelly
Sharon Petersen
Drew Moessner**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Drew Moessner with the pledge of allegiance.

A motion was made by Rick Lutzi and seconded by Brian Connelly to approve the agenda of the meeting as written. The motion passed unanimously.

The claims that were presented for payment were reviewed by board members. The following claims were approved as presented:

**Claim No. 9620 to 9634
Payroll Checks 9635 to 9639**

The claims presented and approved for payment tonight total \$38,910.05.

The mail was reviewed by board members.

Secretary's Report

A motion was made by Rick Lutzi and seconded by Brian Connelly to approve the written minutes of the May town board meeting as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report

Gail Fritts reported on the following:

Beginning Balance	\$104,826.66
Total Receipts	\$ 18,305.56
Total Disbursed	\$ 28,473.48
Ending Balance	\$ 94,958.74

Gail Fritts reported on our Certificates of Deposit:

58237-1	1.1%	4/8/2018	\$ 37,768.37
58851	.85%	3/8/2018	\$41,706.49
70062	.7%	10/8/2017	\$28,063.95
70271	.7%	1/7/2018	\$ 4,000.00

Total Certificate of Deposits	\$111,538.81
Total of Funds in Bank	\$206,197.55

Brian Connelly asked for details on the balance on the Willow Run Maintenance Fund after the sweeping was done. Sharon Petersen reported that the balance is \$5,717.56.

After review, a motion was made by Brian Connelly and seconded by Rick Lutzi to approve the treasurer's report as filed. The motion passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS TCPA MEETING

Brian Connelly reported on the last meeting. The finances remain strong. They are currently looking for some clerical help as they have not been able to fill a full-time position. The dog ordinance that has been proposed was discussed. They have asked each town board to discuss this at the next meeting and vote yes or no and bring it back to the next meeting of the township association.

Rick Lutzi will attend the June 14 meeting.

ROADS

The clerk's report was reviewed by the board members. A copy of the clerk's report is attached to the original minutes of the meeting. There was discussion about the soil that was graded into the ditch on 35th and 109th Avenue. The board stated that they will have to have the soil cleaned up and hauled away. Brian Connelly has called our mowing contractors and he will be working next week. Drew Moessner thanked Mike Coats for helping him pull the desk from the creek on 110th Avenue.

The bridge report from Olmsted County was reviewed by board members. Some maintenance issues were highlighted on the report. Drew and Brian will check out what is needed and report on their inspection next month.

WEB SITE FOR TOWNSHIP

Sharon Petersen reported the following:

Sessions	106
Users	59
Page Views	419
Bounce Rate	24.53%
Organic Search	26
Pages Per Session	3.95

ROAD INSPECTIONS

The rock has been applied and the billing from Braaten was reviewed by the board. The bill for the remainder of the rock will be scheduled for payment in July.

There was also discussion about the four wheelers doing donuts on our road and causing damage. We need to encourage our residents to report these incidents.

Bob Braaten was thanked for the good service on the rock and the weight slips for each load that showed when and where it was delivered. It made our work easier.

CHLORIDE

The chloride Application is complete. Sharon Petersen reported that we received \$13,882.50.

NEW BUSINESS

OLMSTED COUNTY TOWNSHIP ASSOCIATION MEETING

Brian Connelly reported on the meeting. The ORI Number was discussed, which is information that was presented at the Legal Course from MATS this spring. Information presented at the meeting was discussed.

SUBDIVISION ORDINANCE

Roger Ihrke has presented a proposed ordinance for review and discussion by the township board and the planning board. The board has referred this to the Planning and Zoning Board. Mike Coats reported that Roger has not yet come up with a proposal for the Land Use Plan. Another issue that may be addressed is the division of land that requires splits based on CER rating that sometimes causes a house to be put on low productivity land, but requires long driveways across productive crop land.

It was also discussed again about considering requirements for items being placed in our right of way. The board is considering requiring permits and mapping for better management of our right of ways. Bob Braaten brought up that if the utility is damaged due to normal road maintenance, the contractor who installed it should be responsible for the damages.

SERVICE CONTRACT—OLMSTED COUNTY HIGHWAY

The supplemental contract that will be in effect July 1, 2017 was reviewed by the board members. After discussion, a motion was made by Rick Lutzi and seconded by Brian Connelly to approve the signing of this contract for the July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018. The motion passed unanimously.

ILLEGAL DUMPING

The board discussed again and are working on ideas to deter this practice. The possible of rewards for turning in people who dump in our township that results in prosecution was discussed again.

PROPOSED DOG ORDINANCE

The proposed ordinance that has been submitted is far away from the idea proposed of a joint agreement with the county for this problem. The ordinance as presented puts all the responsibility back to the town board, including the duty to confiscate a dangerous dog. The board feels this is unacceptable. The county needs to hire an animal control officer or make some other arrangements with the city to work on this problem. As it is now, information about a problem has usually taken about two weeks to get notification to the board member about an issue. If the animal is a problem, it should have been in quarantine immediately. After discussion, we were asked to vote yes or no on this ordinance as proposed.

A motion was made by Rick Lutzi and seconded by Brian Connelly to vote not to adopt this ordinance as it now exists. This ordinance puts all responsibility on the town board with no help from the county. The motion passed unanimously.

ORI NUMBER

Sharon Petersen has contacted MATS about the procedure to procure this ORI number from the State of Minnesota. This initial information about this, came from MATS Legal Course that was held this spring. The board members that are attending the Summer Training and can talk to MATS attorneys about this. The meetings will be posted so more than one supervisor can discuss this issue with the MATS attorney.

SUMMER TRAINING COURSE

Four members are registered to attend now. The meeting will be posted.

ITEMS BROUGHT UP BY BOARD MEMBERS

Sharon Petersen brought forward election judge changes. She noted that some of the changes may cause some additional issues.

Sharon Petersen noted that she has been contacted by Olmsted County for the census boundary and annexation changes. Salem Township really does not usually have changes to report. After discussion, the board decided to continue doing our own updates.

Gail Fritts was questioning about our fire permits. A neighbor started a fire on a windy day and it had to be put out by the Byron Fire Department. Gail was wondering if they got a ticket for this fire. She did not think they had a permit. Jeff Thorpe will be contacted to see what information we can get about this situation.

Rick Lutzi got phone calls about balloons landing on property in the township. This has been an issue in the past.

Drew Moessner brought up the idea that the supervisor should have business cards or a badge that documents that they are a town board official. The board thought it was a good idea and asked Sharon Petersen to check on this.

Brian Connelly has been contacted by Ryan DeCook about stocking the ponds with fish. He is working with the DNR about this. He was notifying the township so they are aware of this.

CITIZEN COMMENT

Brenda DeCook had received a phone call from a neighbor about possible illegal activity on County Road 150.

There was discussion about dirt bikes, and other ATV vehicles in our ditches and what the rules are for these vehicles.

A motion was made by Rick Lutzi and seconded by Brian Connelly to adjourn the meeting at 9:08 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

**Drew Moessner
Chairman**

**Sharon Petersen
Clerk**