

SALEM TOWN BOARD MEETING

www.salemmn.org

August 5, 2020

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

The meeting was called to order at 7:06 p.m. by Drew Moessner with the pledge of allegiance.

Drew Moessner asked if anyone had any changes to the printed agenda. Nels Pierson was added to the agenda after the treasurer's report. A motion was made by Brian Connelly and seconded by Rick Lutzi to approve the meeting agenda as amended. The motion passed unanimously.

The claims presented for payment tonight are as follows:

Claim No. 10520 to 10528

Payroll Checks 10529 to 10533

The total for claims presented tonight is \$51,415.72

A motion was made by Rick Lutzi and seconded by Brian Connelly to approve the claims as presented tonight for payment. The motion passed unanimously.

The mail was reviewed by board members.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Drew Moessner asked the board members if anyone had any additions or corrections to the printed minutes for July. No changes were made. A motion was made by Brian Connelly and seconded by Rick Lutzi to approve the written minutes as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Gail Fritts reported the following:

Beginning Balance	\$ 66,021.33
Total Receipts	\$207,205.69
Total Disbursed	\$ 72,121.95
Ending Balance	\$201,105.07

Questions were asked about funds received and were answered. A motion was made by Brian Connelly and seconded by Rick Lutzi to approve the treasurers report as given. The motion passed unanimously

NELS PIERSON

Nels Pierson was present and gave a presentation to the board. Questions from the residents were asked and answered.

OLD BUSINESS

TCPA MEETING

No update information has been received.

ROADS

The clerks report was reviewed by board members. The board reviewed the issues that have been brought up by residents this month.

SIGNS

Drew Moessner reported that the signs were installed last week. We have some signs from 110th Avenue that have been discontinued and are now stored in our back room for possible use if other signs like this get damaged.

STORM DAMAGE REPAIRS STATUS

The clerk distributed a report on the storm damage invoices that have been received for the 2019 finish up claim for the State of Minnesota. We have received an estimate from Hildebrandt Services for clearing the brush on 95th Avenue which is the last item on our list. We have tried several things to get an invoice for the culvert and the paperwork does not exist so that item will not be part of our claim.

There were questions on Bucknell last billing for labor. This bill was discussed with board members and Todd Bucknell. He will be checking his records to clarify the billing of labor hours.

The board discussed the report and what is needed yet to submit the final claim for storm damage. After discussion, a motion was made by Brian Connelly and seconded by Rick Lutzi to approve the quote for the repair work on 95th Avenue. The motion passed unanimously. A motion was made by Rick Lutzi and seconded by Brian Connelly to approve having the clerk submit the bill to the state for the follow up claim for the 2019 storm after getting the invoice for 95th Avenue and clarification on Bucknell work on last billing for storm damage. The motion passed unanimously.

WILLOW RUN ROAD STATUS

We have had no communication with the residents on Willow Run on what they want done for repairs, and or additional product replacement on their road. The addition of a third layer of product on this road will require another assessment, so it will take time to get all the paperwork done for this before any work can be completed.

RAY YOUNGER CULVERT

Rick Lutzi reported that he has contacted Ray about this culvert. The driveway is forty-six feet wide and he would like to keep the width as in the past there was a business at this location. He has requested that he be allowed to install a forty-foot culvert with aprons. The board discussed these options. The board will not bill for the aprons if he installs the culvert and aprons. A motion was made by Rick Lutzi and seconded by Brian Connelly to approve allowing Ray Younger to install the culvert and aprons on his driveway. The motion passed unanimously. Rick Lutzi will have the culvert delivered to his site.

ADDITIONAL MOWING BY HILDEBRANDT

The mowing that is being done for the KM telecom project has already been completed, so getting some additional mowing done at the same time has passed.

95TH AVENUE AND 60TH AVE REPAIRS

Rick Lutzi reported on the estimate for the storm damage and some additional brush clearing on 95th Avenue. Rochester Township is doing the work on 60th Avenue. We are getting the bills for rock on this project. We have received two invoices from Leitzen Sand and Gravel and will be getting some additional billing for ¾" rock for the road surface.

SOLAR PANELS ON 63RD AVENUE

TCPA has received an application from Ron Tiede and the Board of Adjustment meeting is scheduled for August 19, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. The staff report will be coming out shortly.

NEW BUSINESS**BYRON FIRE HALL**

We have received the appraisal from Springer Appraisal Associates. The appraisal was for \$975,000.00. The board will follow up with the City of Byron to set up another meeting for additional discussions on whether the City is interested in a buyout of the township interest in the fire hall.

There was board discussion about what the future contracts may look like if we continue as it is now verses the City of Byron owning the whole building.

DESIGNATE ATTORNEY

The board discussed the options that we have used in the past as an attorney for present issues. After discussion it was decided the board decided to use Peter Tiede as our designated attorney.

CARLA NELSON

Carla Nelson was recognized and gave a presentation and comments on current issues. She asked if the township had received the CARES funds. There was discussion about how the money can be used.

SOLAR FARMS

The board discussed the language that Kalmar had investigated on solar farms should be considered by our Planning and Zoning Commission. Rick Lutzi will contact Roger Ihrke at TCPA and get a copy of their proposed language. They will have to hold a public hearing on this subject.

SAND PIT BONDS

Daniel DeCook has given us his bonds for the sand pits which will expire June 30, 2021.

SAND PITS APPROVED BUT NOT OPEN

Eric DeCook was present at our meeting. The one-time extension for the sand pit he holds a conditional use permit for will expire on August 15, 2020 unless he has done enough to say the pit operation has started. We have received his bond for the pit operation. He was asked about his grading plan and if he has a grading permit for this operation. He had plans from the Koehler permit and was told he needed to contact TCPA about what he needs to fulfill this requirement.

The Leitzen pit has received a one-year extension and that one will expire on November 21, 2020. We have received a letter form him about work that has been completed on the waterway on that property. The board does not know if he has a grading plan and grading permit for this operation. Drew Moessner will contact him about this.

KM TELECOM

The board discussed whether there was any interest in having KM Telecom hook up fiber to the town hall while they are working in our area. At this time, the board decided that it was not needed.

RIGHT OF WAY ISSUES

The board has questions about utilities that have been installed in our right of way that are not located in appropriate locations and they are damaged by other contractors when working in our right of way. The board would like to consider a resolution that states when contractors install in our right of way in inappropriate locations and depths, the contractor that damages their installation should not be liable for the damage. We need to contact our attorney about whether we can do this legally.

E MAILS AND PHONE NUMBERS FOR RESIDENTS

No action on this issue this month

ELECTION JUDGE TRAINING

Sharon Petersen reported that all the election judges she has scheduled for the primary have completed training. The set up for this election will be different than others as the voting will take place in the other meeting room with registration in our regular meeting room. We will not be using the booths as they do not accommodate social distancing. Also, we will have curbside voting available for people to use.

PIT INSPECTION SCHEDULE

The board members completed the pit inspection for the Fuller Pit today. There will be a report on that inspection coming from TCPA. The board will be working to set up scheduled pit inspections for other pits before year end.

PLANNING AND ZONING VIOLATIONS

The board went over violations at the Ross property. No further information about this violation has been received since a letter was sent out.

No further information has been received about the 105th Avenue violations that have been noted from the DNR.

The Builders Sand site was discussed. Brenda DeCook stated that there was not a business at that site. The person is storing his truck, personal vehicles at the mine site and is also living in the camper on that site. There is no septic system on this site. The board will follow up on this with TCPA.

63RD AVENUE ROAD PROJECTS

Brian Connelly called Dave Carr about this project. They discussed some of the information that was sent to him on attorney fees. Dave Carr asked for copies of the invoices for attorney fees. Questions about other parts of the project and the maintenance fund were asked and answered. After discussion, Dave Carr gave permission for the town board to contact our attorney and draw up the petition for this project. The petition must contain signatures of at least 50% of the residents. He was told that giving that authorization was starting the charges for this project. Brian Connelly will contact Troy Gilchrist.

ITEMS BROUGHT UP BY BOARD MEMBERS

Gail Fritts informed the board that they are waiting for another safe deposit box the same size to allow the bank to make one additional key for our safety deposit box. This may happen in March.

Questions were asked about weed mowing. The board felt an additional mowing could happen at any time.

CITIZEN COMMENT

No comments were made.

A motion was made by Rick Lutzi and seconded by Brian Connelly to adjourn the meeting at 9:30 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Drew Moessner
Chairman

Sharon Petersen
Clerk