

Rochester Township
Board Meeting Minutes
November 14, 2019

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Chairman Jeff Orth.

Members present - Jeff Orth, Douglas Butler, Brian Mueller, Matthew Kitzmann, Jamie Neisen and Sara Rudquist.

Guests - Mark Cochran, Deputy Tracey Pagel, and 12 citizens

Minutes – Douglas Butler moved to accept the October 10, 2019, minutes as presented. Matthew Kitzmann seconded. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

Deputy's Report - Deputy Tracey Pagel reviewed the call report of 56 calls.

Clerk/Treasurer Vacancy – Sara Rudquist reported on the ongoing search for a viable Clerk/Treasurer candidate. Jamie Neisen and Matthew Kitzmann will begin advertising. Matthew Kitzmann moved and Jamie Neisen seconded that Sara Rudquist's wage be moved to \$25 per hour as of tonight's meeting. All voted in favor and the motion passed. Matthew Kitzmann moved and Brian Mueller seconded that the advertised clerk/treasurer wage be raised to a range of \$25-\$30 per hour. All voted in favor and the motion passed.

Pyfferoen Metes & Bounds – Dave Meyer of TCPA presented the Metes & Bounds. Brian Mueller moved and Douglas Butler seconded to approve the Metes and Bounds as presented with staff recommendations. All voted in favor and the motion passed.

Resolution 2019.11.01 Polling Place Designation 2020 – Douglas Butler moved and Jamie Neisen seconded to approve the resolution. All voted in favor and the motion passed.

Reasonable Suspicion Training – Jamie Neisen moved and Matthew Kitzmann seconded that Doug attend the training. All voted in favor and the motion passed.

Land Use Amendment – Dave Meyer of TCPA presented a request from Mr. Connelly. Brian Mueller moved and Jamie Neisen seconded that the chairman sign the resolution that TCPA will write up showing Rochester Township's support to change the land use plan from urban service area to resource protection. All voted in favor and the motion passed.

Township Engineer Report – Brandon Theobald, Township Engineer, and Mark Cochran presented the report on 45th Ave and 8th Street. ROW is marked. Several citizens expressed concern about how the potential reconstruction could adversely impact their properties. Brian Mueller moved and Matthew Kitzmann seconded to approve the township engineer to write up preliminary designs at a cost of up to \$10,000. Four voted in favor; Jamie Neisen opposed. Motion carried.

Goats – Board discussed the practice of residents renting goats for vegetation control. Consideration was given to forming a permitting process. Further research is needed.

Excessive Lighting – Jeff Orth will look into a complaint of excessive lighting causing light pollution in Weatherhills.

Rep. Nels Pierson – Rep. Pierson gave a greeting and update.

Kyle Herring CUP – Mr. Herring and Board discussed the status of Mr. Herring's business and CUP conditions. Board will continue to follow up.

MATIT Insurance Proposal – Jamie Neisen moved and Matthew Kitzmann seconded to approve the insurance policy as presented with a \$1,000 deductible. All voted in favor and the motion passed.

Rental Insurance Update – Board discussed last month's motion to decline rentals.

Treasurer's Report – Matthew Kitzmann moved and Jamie Neisen seconded to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented with a balance of \$561,198.30. All voted in favor and the motion passed.

Rochester Township Claims – Douglas Butler moved and Jamie Neisen seconded to approve and pay claims #4411-4429 in the amount \$31,294.77. All voted in favor (Jeff Orth abstained) and the motion carried.

JPB Claims – Matthew Kitzmann moved and Douglas Butler seconded to accept and pay the Joint Powers Board claims #4698-4723 and the Rochester Township share in the amount of \$15,600.95, and a payroll share of \$10,807.40. All voted in favor and the motion passed.

Road Maintenance Supervisor Report – Mark Cochran reported that he was pleased with the JPB meeting and the good actions taken by the board and committees. The Personnel Committee met with the employees to review the changes. Mark presented upcoming LTAP training and encouraged the board to attend. The new 1-ton truck was picked up today.

TCPA Report – Jamie Neisen reported on the recent TCPA meeting. They are preparing for salary/contract review for TCPA. Jeff Orth suggested a 3% raise.

Board of Adjustment Report - Did not meet.

Planning and Zoning Commission Report – Jamie Neisen reported on the meeting. Roger Ihrke, TCPA, attended the November meeting, offering some training.

Upcoming Meetings – Include: November 21, 7:30pm, OCTOA Meeting at Ornoco City Hall; November 22-23, MAT annual conference at Mankato Civic Center.

Holiday Celebration – Date of Thursday, January 16. Douglas Butler will report back next month on details.

Meeting Adjourned – Jamie Neisen moved and Brian Mueller seconded to adjourn. All voted in favor. Meeting adjourned at 10:47pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sara Rudquist, Deputy Clerk/Treasurer

Jeff Orth, Chairman

DRAFT