

# *New Haven Township*

OLMSTED COUNTY, MINNESOTA — ESTABLISHED 1858  
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9024 COUNTY ROAD 3 NW, ORONOCO, MN 55960

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## **Regular Monthly Town Board Meeting Minutes December 12, 2017**

- 1. Call to Order:** The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and a regular-monthly meeting of the New Haven Town Board was called to order at about 6:30 PM by Chair Denny Beyer. Quorum requirements were met with Supervisor Mary Andrist and Supervisor Brian Hervey also present. Also in attendance were Treasurer Bob Figy, Planning and Zoning Administrator Ann Fahy-Gust, Road-Maintenance Contractor Mike Wood, and Clerk Dale Thomforde.
- 2. Set Meeting Agenda and Order:** Andrist moved to approve the agenda as printed, seconded by Hervey. The motion carried 3-0.
- 3. Comments from the Chair:** Beyer commented that we are almost done with the year and he is glad that all the road business is finally over with the County.
- 4. Public Comment Time:** No one from the public came forward to speak on items that were not otherwise included in this agenda.
- 5. Consent Agenda:**

Andrist moved to approve the November 14, 2017, regular Town Board meeting minutes as printed, seconded by Hervey. The motion carried 3-0.

### *Old Business*

#### **6. MnDOT request to lower speed limit on New Haven Road:**

Clerk Thomforde reported that the request has been sent to MnDOT to conduct an engineering/traffic study to determine if a 25 MPH speed limit is reasonable and safe for New Haven Road NW. In the meantime, advisory speed signs (25 MPH) have been installed on each of the corner signs for the three corners on this section of road. Thomforde said he is hoping this will help keep the speeds down to a reasonable level.

### *New Business*

#### **7. March 2018 Election Calendar:**

Clerk Thomforde presented a 2-page March 2018 Election Calendar summary. A notice of the candidacy filing period (January 2 - 16) has been published and posted. The Clerk's office will be open for filing on January 16 from 1-5 PM. Any ballot questions must be submitted to the County Election Auditor by December 29. We have no ballot questions this year. At the January regular Town Board meeting, resolutions will be adopted to appoint the election judges and the absentee ballot board.

**8. November 16-18 MAT Annual Conference recap:**

Andrist reported that the township will be reimbursed \$100 from OCTOA for each person attending the Minnesota Association of Townships (MAT) conference. The theme of the conference this year was sustainable water. The session on ditches was mostly on field ditches, and the session on septic systems was on large community systems, which we currently are not involved with providing.

Thomforde reported they talked about the salt from streets and water softeners polluting rivers and lakes, mostly in areas around the Twin Cities. Thomforde made contact with a sign company which we may use for quotes when replacing road signs. He also attended a CTAS training session by the State Auditor’s Office on budgeting. The dinner event had motivational speaker Dave Mona, describing some interesting stories from his career at WCCO and as a public relations consultant. The top item on the legislative agenda for MAT this year will be addressing annexation, which they feel is unfair to townships.

**9. November 21 Olmsted Co Township Officers Association (OCTOA) meeting recap:**

Beyer reported the meeting was held in our town hall. They discussed dangerous dogs, again. No real progress has been made on an agreement of responsibilities between the townships and the County.

Andrist reported we received a lot a comments about what a great town hall we have. Olmsted County reported that they are joining other counties suing opioid makers.

Thomforde added that applications were submitted at the meeting to receive reimbursement for attending the MAT Annual Conference.

**10. Treasurer’s Report:** Treasurer Figy presented a written treasurer’s report detailing all bank accounts receipts and debits for November 2017. The November month-ending bank account balances were:

General Fund / Road and Bridge Account	\$6,964.84
Money Market Deposit Account (MMDA)	\$91,710.49
Cash Reserves in 1/2/3-year Laddered CDs	\$408,969.13
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$507,644.46</b>

Figy informed the Board that since the end of November, receipts have been received from Olmsted County of \$53,380.57 for the 2nd half property taxes and \$17,767.90 for reimbursement to the township for work Mike Wood has performed on the old CR 113.

Hervey moved to approve the November Treasurer’s report, seconded by Andrist. The motion carried 3-0.

**11. Review and Pay Bills:**

Clerk Thomforde reviewed the current Schedule 1 report from CTAS (City and Township Accounting System) showing the balances in each of the different township fund accounts.

All claims received through December 11<sup>th</sup> were presented for payment consideration to the Board of Supervisors. Claims totaling \$13,378.47, plus payroll, were submitted for approval.

Included in the total was \$5,239 to Michael Wood for work replacing culverts on 125th Street. The final payroll number for November, including PERA, was \$1,275.34.

Beyer made a motion to pay all bills, seconded by Andrist. The motion carried 3-0.

## **12. Road Maintenance Report – Mike Wood:**

Mike Wood reported the culverts were installed on 125th Street. Andrist commented that they look nice. Mr. Wood moved the extra dirt to where the west turnaround will be installed next year and widened out the road. He also did some road grading this month.

There are trees that he plans to take down on 85th Street and at the intersection of 85th Street and 110th Avenue. He would also like to clear out some trees on the corner of 85th Street near Denny's.

If the weather cooperates he plans to work on the cleaning out the ditch near Pressnall's.

Andrist reported that Goodhue County has been experimenting with recycled shingles mixed with road rock. The claim is it doesn't need to be bladed as often and helps control the dust.

## **13. Planning & Zoning Report – Ann Fahy-Gust**

Planning & Zoning Administrator Ann Fahy-Gust reported:

- No building permits were issued last month.
- There is a variance public hearing on December 14. The variance is for an agricultural building on a lot-of-record which is less than agricultural size.
- There are E911 problems with the new addressing on former CR 113. She will check with the County to get this resolved.
- She will also check into updating MapQuest so that it doesn't show New Haven Road as preferred route to the new school instead of the new Co Rd 5.
- She has a signed agreement so Mr. Wood can remove some trees along 60th Avenue.
- There is one outstanding building permit that hasn't been paid, so she will be issuing a cease-and-desist order. The builder claims he is waiting for a construction loan.

## **14. Miscellaneous Mail Etc. – Clerk:**

The payment for the fire service special assessment was received with the recent tax payment from the County. A check for the special assessment and penalty is being sent to the Rural Fire Association.

The township map updates were sent into the State, as they requested.

Two spare sets of replacement flags were ordered for the town hall.

The Minnesota State Auditor recently released the 2016 Minnesota Town Finances Report. Excerpts for townships in Olmsted County were presented to the Board and also placed on the Township website. Analysis shows that New Haven Township once again has the lowest tax levy mill rate and lowest taxes per capita in Olmsted County. New Haven Township also has

one of the highest total cash reserves and cash reserves per capita for any township in Olmsted County, and no debt.

The Township received a proposed tax statement for 2018, which is slightly lower than last year due to the lower assessed value for ag land.

The MATIT workers comp survey is due at the end of January. The Clerk will file.

**15. Adjournment:** With no further business before the Board, Chair Beyer adjourned the meeting at about 7:15 PM.

Approved by the Board,  
Date:

Attest,  
Date:

Denny Beyer – Chair  
For the New Haven Town Board

Dale J. Thomforde  
New Haven Township Clerk