

# *New Haven Township*

OLMSTED COUNTY, MINNESOTA – EST. 1858

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9024 COUNTY ROAD 3 NW, OROCOCO, MN 55960

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## Regular Monthly Town Board Meeting Minutes

May 9, 2023

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Chair Dale Thomforde called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM. Also in attendance were Supervisor David Andrist and Supervisor Ann Fahy-Gust to constitute a quorum. Treasurer Robert Figy and Clerk Donna Beyer were also present.

**Set Meeting Agenda and Order** – Thomforde asked to move the review of proposed changes for the Board of Adjustments to follow the TCPA (Township Cooperative Planning Association) report to obtain input from David Meir, TCPA representative, regarding the proposed changes. Fahy-Gust asked to add a fire meeting recap and the Facebook page to the agenda. Thomforde made a motion to approve the agenda and order as amended. Motion seconded by Fahy-Gust and carried 3-0.

**Comments from the Chair** – “I would like to welcome everyone to the meeting. There is a lot on the agenda tonight so let’s just move on.”

**TCPA Report** – Conditional Use Permit for a wedding/event venue – Bert and Rachel Otto  
Dave Meir, TCPA, gave a detailed summary of the property and the plans for the event center. The New Haven Township Planning and Zoning Commission reviewed the application last week and approved the application. Conditions for the permit were reviewed. Following this, Fahy-Gust made a motion to open the public hearing, seconded by Andrist. Motion carried 3-0. Bert Otto, 6425 85<sup>th</sup> St NW, Pine Island, spoke on his own behalf in favor of the proposal, stating plans for a new well and septic system along with plans to mitigate dust and noise concerns. Rollie Postier, 6434 85<sup>th</sup> St NW, Oronoco, lives across the road from the property and stated that he had no objections to the proposal. Thomas Capelle, 8506 County Road 3 NW, Oronoco, neighbor to the west of the property, also stated that he had no objection to the proposal. Thomforde asked three times for anyone speaking for the proposal to speak with no additional persons speaking. He then asked three times for those who wished to speak against the proposal with no one offering any comments. Fahy-Gust made a motion to close the public hearing. The motion was seconded by Andrist and carried 3-0. Discussion occurred regarding use of well water versus bottled water. Per Fahy-Gust, the County will do water testing on a yearly basis so would only need to use bottled water if directed to do so by the Olmsted County Public Health department. Since the applicant feels it will be approximately 2 years before they are ready to have events at the site, they were asked to return next April for an update to the Board on their progress. Fahy-Gust made a motion to approve the conditional use permit with the conditions as specified in the permit with the change as noted above regarding use of bottled water. Andrist seconded the motion and the motion carried 3-0.

**Metes and Bounds Subdivision** – Donald Weis and Moses Mast

Dave Meir, TCPA, gave a summary of the situation. The Mast family currently lives on the property which is owned by Mr. Weis. They are proposing to purchase 35 acres of Mr. Weis’ land to build a new home

necessitating a split of the parcel of land. The split meets all township requirements for a metes and bounds split. TCPA staff recommended approval with the applicant providing a survey of the property. Andrisc made a motion to approve the metes and bounds split which was seconded by Fahy-Gust. The motion carried 3-0.

**Review Proposed Changes for the Board of Adjustments** – Dave Meir was asked how other townships organize their Board of Adjustments. He stated that some Boards serve as their own Board of Adjustments with other townships having a separate Board of Adjustments. Fahy-Gust presented her proposal for changes to the Board of Adjustments to include 5 township members and 2 Town Board members. Quorum would require five people, including at least one Town Board member present to conduct business. Fahy-Gust asked Dave O'Brien, 12702 County Road 3 NW, Pine Island, prior chair of the Board of Adjustments for his thoughts. He stated that he had spoken with previous members of the Board of Adjustments, and all were willing to serve again. Discussion followed with several township members speaking in favor of the proposal. Fahy-Gust made a motion to approve the proposed changes and appoint Dave O'Brien, Craig Koop, Don Heller, Chris Hawkins, and Gary Anderson to the Board of Adjustments with Cole Nielson as the alternate for a one-year term and Dave Andrisc and Ann Fahy-Gust serving as the Town Board representatives to the Board of Adjustments. Andrisc seconded the motion and the motion carried 3-0.

**Consent Agenda** – Andrisc made a motion to approve the April 11 regular Town Board meeting minutes and the April 27 Special/Road Inspection minutes as written. Motion seconded by Fahy-Gust and carried 3-0.

**Public Comments** – Dave O'Brien commended and thanked the Board for publishing legal notices in the Zumbro Shopper. Gary Anderson, 11747 110<sup>th</sup> Avenue NW stated that there are many trucks going down his road recently hauling fill to Maxson's property. He stated that, despite recent rain, there is an unbelievable amount of dust being created. Per Andrisc, Maxson has stated that he is willing to pay for some dust control on the road. The question was raised whether the contractor would also be willing to help with this.

Andrisc will follow up on this. The speed of the trucks on the road was also mentioned. Fahy-Gust will speak to Pine Island authorities regarding this.

**Discuss hall rental situations with Woodturners Club/Island Rider Saddle Club** – Beyer spoke with a representative of Woodturners Club who had planned to be at the meeting. However, he was unable to attend due to a family situation. He did reach out to others in the group, but no one was able to attend at short notice. He asked to postpone this until the next meeting. Beyer spoke to Jason Lindahl regarding someone from the Island Riders Saddle Club attending the meeting. He was going to contact Board members of the group but no one from the club was in attendance. Figy stated that he had seen a member of the Saddle Club and mentioned their non-payment of town hall rental fees.

**Chloride Update** – Letters have been sent to township residents with dates and times for payment and obtaining stakes scheduled for next week.

**Discuss/approve rocking of roads and other road inspection observations** – Andrisc spoke to Mary Kaul, property owner along 69<sup>th</sup> Avenue and 91<sup>st</sup> Street and has received permission to remove any trees that are hanging over the road. Andrisc stated he has tried to contact Mr. McNamara regarding the problem

on 100<sup>th</sup> Street but has not been able to speak directly with him. Andrist is also seeking quotes for milling out, sweeping potholes and application of hot mix to potholes on Main Street in Genoa. Andrist reported that he had spoken with a resident on 105<sup>th</sup> Street who complained of a smashed culvert that will need to be checked.

**Discuss Wheelock driveway application in Genoa** – Wheelock submitted a driveway application on Pearl Street which included a 70-foot culvert. In assessing the situation, Andrist and Mike Wood, road maintenance contractor, determined that changes needed to be made to improve water flow through the area. This included replacing and altering the angle in which the culvert was placed, and the need for cleaning of the ditch and brush removal on Mechanic Street.

Thomforde made a motion to authorize Mr. Wood to rock the roads as indicated by Mr. Wood as well as roads noted during road inspection that needed additional rocking. Motion seconded by Andrist and carried 3-0.

**Review quotes for furnace replacement** – Quotes were obtained from K & S Heating, Rochester Plumbing and Heating, Reliable Heating and Cooling, and DMC Plumbing and Heating. After reviewing the quotes and some discussion, Fahy-Gust made a motion to have K & S Heating install a mid-range furnace. Motion seconded by Thomforde and carried 3-0.

**Approve Planning and Zoning Advisory Commission Changes** – Changes were suggested at the Reorganization Meeting but not approved. Fahy-Gust made a motion to approve the changes as written to the Planning and Zoning Advisory Commission. Motion seconded by Thomforde and carried 3-0.

**TCPA Meeting Recap** – Fahy-Gust attended the April TCPA Board meeting. She reported that they are looking for a replacement for Dave Meir who plans to retire in the next year or so. The increase in property value was \$1.3 million from January to March with fees taken in by TCPA at \$13,691.00, approximately 1% of the valuation. Currently, TCPA is financially stable. Discussion occurred regarding publication of the public meeting notices in both the Post Bulletin and Zumbro Shopper. Fahy-Gust will follow up with TCPA regarding receiving the information for public hearings sooner for submission by the New Haven Township Clerk to the Zumbro Shopper.

**Fire Rural Association Meeting** – Fahy-Gust attended the recent meeting. The statement for our portion for fire protection has been sent, but not received by the township. Fahy-Gust will follow up on this. The 1990 tanker is going to be sold, the 1983 pumper is being put up for bids in June. The tanker is owned by Pine Island fire department, the pumper by the Fire Association. The association currently has about \$390,000 in reserves for purchasing fire equipment in the future.

**Facebook** – Fahy-Gust has started work on setting up the Township Facebook page. She will be the administrator of the Facebook page. It will provide a link to the township website along with notices of meetings.

**Approve Resolution for ARPA Funds** – Monies received from ARPA in 2021 were spent on road rock in 2022. Thomforde made a motion to approve Resolution 2023-08 to spend 2022 ARPA funds in the Lost Revenue Replacement Category for road rock in 2023. Motion seconded by Andrist and carried 3-0.

**Road Maintenance Report** – Wood stated that he had been working on the project in Genoa and that he thought rocking would likely start on May 15. He also suggested that some rock be added to 80<sup>th</sup> Ave.

**Treasurer’s Report** – Figy gave a detailed report on the banking transactions for the month. Balances at the end of April were:

**Frandsen Bank:**

Checking Account	\$ 3,924.07
Money Market Account	\$ 165,691.66
CD 9 MO 3.85% 1/15/24	\$ 100,000.00
Less outstanding check # 4539	\$ 90.00

**LPL Investments:**

Bank of the Ozarks (Little Rock) 4.6% 12/23/23	\$ 100,000.00
Beal Bank (Las Vegas) 4.55% 12/27/23	\$ 100,000.00
<b>Total Deposits</b>	<b>\$ 469,525.73</b>

Fahy-Gust made a motion to approve the Treasurer’s report. Motion seconded by Andrist and carried 3-0.

**Review/Pay bills** – Beyer presented Schedule 1 which concurs with the treasurer’s report. Bills of \$3,279.43 were presented for payment. This included the property tax payment for the year. Fahy-Gust made a motion to pay all bills, motion seconded by Andrist and carried 3-0.

**Mail/Miscellaneous** – A notice was received from Minnesota Association of Townships Insurance Trust that EXL would be contacting townships for property evaluations. This was likely done in New Haven Township in March. A notice was also received from the State of Minnesota Office of Administrative Hearings that the annexation of land (Elmer Stock land) from New Haven Township into the City of Pine Island had been approved. Fahy-Gust suggested that the township obtain a map of the annexation since the document speaks of many exclusions. Beyer will investigate obtaining a map of the area showing the annexation. Thomforde stated that he will be attending a workshop on “Managing Difficult Conversations.”

With no further business before the Board, Fahy-Gust made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded by Andrist and carried 3-0. The meeting was adjourned at 9:19 PM.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Attest: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

(Signed copy on file)

Dale Thomforde, Chair  
For the New Haven Town Board

Donna Beyer  
New Haven Township Clerk

TOWNSHIP MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT

Ending Balance of March, 2023 statement

9072.67

Income      Checking Account

4-12 Online Banking Transfer in From MMDA	9,500.00
4-28 interest	.07
4-28 Paper Statement Refund	5.00

Total Deposits

9505.07

Debits

4530 Ag Panthers Co-op (LP Gas)	373.30
4531 Forum Communications Co. (Legal Notices)	74.06
4532 Michael Wood R	7900.00
4533 Hemann Grover and Co. (Payroll)	135.00
4534 David A. Andrist (Mileage - Short Course)	154.91
4535 K+S Heating (Insp Fee)	270.00
4536 Donna Beyer - (Mileage)	81.22
4537 MN ASSOC OF TOWNSHIP	225.00
4538 Dale J. Thomforde (Mileage - Supplies)	105.67
20615 Wages	616.39
20616 Wages	877.24
20617 Wages	1177.46
20618 Wages	917.17
20619 Wages	791.83
Bevcomm	77.79
IAS Tax Pymt	606.66
PERA	105.00
Calligen	47.75
PEC - Electric	162.02
Paper Statement Fee	5.00

Total Debits

14,653.67

New Ending Balance of April, 2023 statement

3924.07

TOWNSHIP MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT

Ending Balance of March, 2023 statement

174,631.37

Income

M M D A

4-7 Excess From CD	490.90
4-28 Interest	69.39

Total Deposits

560.29

Debits

4-12 Online Banking Transfer out To checking Acct	9,500.00

Total Debits

9,500.00

New Ending Balance of April, 2023 statement

165,691.66