

New Haven Township

OLMSTED COUNTY, MINNESOTA – EST. 1858

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9024 COUNTY ROAD 3 NW, OROCOCO, MN 55960

New Haven Township Regular Meeting Minutes

April 9, 2024

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

Set Agenda and Order – Thomforde made a motion to approve the agenda and order as written. Motion seconded by Andrist and carried 3-0.

Comments from the Chair – “This is my first meeting as chair, so I hope it goes smoothly.”

Comments from the public – No one offered any comments.

Public hearing for a conditional use permit for Frank Wittlief for a gunsmithing business

– TCPA (Township Cooperative Planning Association) gave a brief overview of the proposed business and the conditions for the business. The application was previously reviewed and approved by the Planning and Zoning Advisory Commission. Thomforde made a motion to open the public hearing which was seconded by Andrist and carried 3-0. Dave McCarthy of Byron (business partner with Wittlief) spoke in favor of the permit. Kevin Kelly, neighbor to the proposed business site, stated that he was not in favor nor opposed to the permit. Fahy-Gust offered 3 opportunities to speak in favor of the permit but none spoke in favor of the plan. Three opportunities were given for anyone to speak against the proposal with no one responding. No one spoke in general regarding the issue despite three offers. Andrist made a motion to close the public hearing which was seconded by Thomforde and carried 3-0. Following discussion, Andrist made a motion to approve the application for a conditional use permit for the gunsmithing business. Motion seconded by Thomforde and carried 3-0.

Public hearing to consider a change of ordinance to include special district language

– TCPA gave an overview of the situation leading to the need to consider including special district language in the Township ordinances. Thomforde made a motion to open the public hearing which was seconded by Andrist and carried 3-0. Tom Cappel, 8506 County Road 3 NW, Oronoco, spoke in favor of the proposed change of ordinance to include special districts. A letter from Bert Otto in favor of the proposed change to include special district language in the Township ordinance was received and read aloud by Beyer. Despite 3 additional opportunities to speak in favor of the change, no one else spoke in favor. Three opportunities were given to speak against the change with no response. Three opportunities were then given to simply speak regarding the change with no one speaking. Andrist made a motion to close the public hearing which was seconded by Thomforde and carried 3-0. During discussion, it was determined that there was no need for two public hearings. Language was changed to:

3. Procedure for establishment: A special district designation shall be established by resolution in accordance with the following procedure:

a. A Special District proposal may be initiated by motion of the Town Board, or the Planning Commission.

b. The commission shall, by motion, recommend in favor of or against establishment of a Special District, with or without modification.

c. The Town Board shall conduct a public hearing in accordance with Minnesota Statutes. The Board shall adopt its findings and act upon the proposal within 60 days of the hearing.

Thomforde made a motion to approve the special district language as amended. Motion seconded by Andrist and carried 3-0.

Consent agenda – Andrist made a motion to approve the regular town board meeting minutes of March 9, the canvassing board meeting minutes of March 12 and the special/reorganization meeting minutes of April 2, as written. Motion seconded by Thomforde and carried 3-0.

Old Business:

Review Annual Meeting minutes – The moderator-approved annual meeting minutes were reviewed with no recommendations for changes.

Review Planning and Zoning Advisory Commission document – This was updated following the April 2 reorganization meeting. It was decided that the town board supervisor would serve as a non-voting liaison to the Commission. Thomforde made a motion to adopt the document as modified. Motion seconded by Andrist and carried 3-0.

Review Board of Adjustment document – This was also updated following the April 2 meeting. Andrist made a motion to approve the document as written. Motion seconded by Thomforde and carried 3-0.

Review tentative meeting dates document – Thomforde made a motion to approve the dates as written. Motion seconded by Andrist and carried 3-0.

New Business:

Chloride Program – Beyer provided a summary of the rates for chloride application from Freeborn County Coop, Quality Propane and Dust Control, Envirotech and Northern Salt. After discussion, Thomforde made a motion to obtain the chloride from Quality Propane with Freeborn County Coop as the backup. Motion seconded by Andrist and carried 3-0. Thomforde also made a motion to charge patrons \$99/300 feet (cost sharing with township) and \$66/100 feet of any additional chloride purchased. Motion seconded by Andrist and carried 3-0. Since the rocking is currently being done and there have been requests to apply chloride earlier, it was decided that the township would try to have chloride applied in early May this year.

Approve payments to cemeteries – Andrist made a motion to approve a \$3000 payment to each of the three cemeteries in the township, as approved by residents at the 2023 annual meeting. Thomforde seconded the motion and the motion carried 3-0.

TCPA Meeting Recap – Fahy-Gust gave a report of their March meeting. Financially, they are stable with \$370,000 in the bank, although this will drop with the training of staff prior to Dave Meir's retirement. The DNR (Department of Natural Resources) has decided that they do not

need to comment on the Floodplain and Shoreland Administration Memorandum of Understanding. The County is working on the memorandum, which will likely not be ready for 3-4 months. TCPA is continuing to work with CMS on billing issues. They have selected option #1, with online permits at a flat fee. Lower value permits will stay at about the same cost, mid-range permits will increase in cost with higher range permits decreasing in cost.

Rural Fire Association Meeting Recap – Fahy-Gust reported that there was some confusion at the recent meeting with some feeling that they were dealing with 2023 amounts, others thought they were speaking about the 2024 budget. The actual costs are different from the budget because of 7 new employees needing training. The budget for 2023 was \$191,587 but actual costs were \$200,268.66. The budget for 2024 is \$191,588.

Olmsted County Township Officers Association Meeting Recap – The meeting on March 28 at the Byron Fire Hall was attended by Thomforde, Andrist and Beyer. Andrist mentioned some of the upcoming road construction planned by Olmsted County. Beyer mentioned the Townhall days at the State legislature. Thomforde stated that Rex Edge said that 188 people attended the spring training course in Rochester. Weight restrictions were lifted on April 1.

Set date/time for road inspection meeting – Following discussion, it was decided that each supervisor would check on roads and bring any concerns to the next Board meeting.

Road Report – Michael Wood, road maintenance contractor reported that rocking was complete on 110th Ave, 85th St, 60th Ave, and 75th Ave. They will be doing New Haven Road and 117th St tomorrow. He stated that there were 6 trucks hauling the first day, but the second day started with 5 and ended with 4 trucks. A piece of Main Street in Genoa was caught with the plow in the last snow and pulled loose. It is uncertain what will need to be done to repair this area.

Andrist reraised the issue of the silting along 100th St. He spoke with Hodgman who suggested additional tiling, which would cost \$2200 to \$2750, using 6-inch tile which would cost \$406.00. After discussion, it was decided to contact Skip Langer, Olmsted County Soil and Water, and obtain his input on the best way to handle the problem.

Treasurer’s Report – Figy gave a detailed report of the financial transactions for the month of March. Account balances at the end of March were:

Frandsen Bank:	Checking Account	\$ 10,325.62
	Money Market Account	\$ 99,751.08
	Less Outstanding Checks (X4)	\$ 360.00
	Total Deposits	\$ 109,716.70
Frandsen Investment Services (through LPL Investments)		
	Merchants Bank of Indiana, 5.3% 5/26/24	\$ 50,000.00
	JP Morgan Chase, 5.02% (semi-annual) 1/6/25	\$ 100,000.00
	Wells Fargo of South Dakota, 5.2% 2/26/25	\$ 50,000.00
	Flagstar Bank, 4.7% 7/25/25	\$ 100,000.00

Total Investments \$ 300,000.00

Total Deposits \$ 409,716.70

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

Review/Pay bills – Beyer presented Schedule 1 (Statement of Receipts, Disbursements and Balances) which concurred with the Treasurer’s report and showed the fire fund with a -\$10,000.00 balance. Thomforde made a motion to transfer \$13,000 from the general fund into the fire fund. This was seconded by Fahy-Gust and passed unanimously on a roll call vote.

Bills were presented for payment totaling \$9,358.21 which included \$3,014.00 for property tax on the cropland rental property and \$4,480.00 for road maintenance. Andrist made a motion to pay all bills. Motion seconded by Thomforde and carried 3-0.

Mail/Miscellaneous – A temporary construction permit was obtained by BP Pipeline for some work on 105th St.

Adjournment – With no other business before the Board, Andrist made a motion to adjourn. Motion seconded by Thomforde. Meeting adjourned at 8:47 PM.

Approved by the Board

Signed:

Signed:

/Signed copy on file/

Date:

Date:

Ann Fahy-Gust, Chair

Donna Beyer

For the New Haven Town Board

Township Clerk

TOWNSHIP MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT

Ending Balance of February, 2024 statement

3925.18

Income Checking Account

3/11 Online Banking Transfer From MMDA	7230.00
3/11 Interest	.15
3/29 Paper Statement Refund	5.00
3/27 Randall Mensing (Land Rent)	5929.50

Total Deposits

78275.45

Debits

463) Dave O'Brien (BOA Mtg)	100.00
4632 Craig Koop (BOA Mtg)	100.00
4634 Cris Hawkins (PAC Mtg)	100.00
4635 Jacob Wolfe (PAC Mtg)	50.00
4636 Michael Bruce (PAC Mtg)	50.00
4637 Karl Tort (PAC Mtg)	50.00
4640 Leon Planty (PAC Mtg)	50.00
4641 Hemann Grover & Co. LTD (Payroll)	142.00
4643 Mary Andriat (Election Judge Training)	20.00
4644 Donna Hochberger (Election Judge)	170.00
4645 Grimsrud Publishing Inc. (Legal Notices)	137.81
4646 Column Software PBC (Legal Notice)	48.30
4647 Michael Wood (Road Maint) 4635.00	
4648 Pine Island Fire District (Dues) 64429.00	
4649 Donna Beyer (Mileage) 30.82	
20658 (Wages) 460.90	
20659 Wages 457.13	PEK 163.54
20660 Wages 272.43	Culligan 99.05
Go Daddy 155.88	Paper Statement Fee 5.00
Rev Comm 78.15	

Total Debits

71,875.01

New Ending Balance of March, 2024 statement

10,325.62

