

New Haven Township

OLMSTED COUNTY, MINNESOTA – EST. 1858

PHONE: 507.356.8330 EMAIL: NHTOWNSHIP@BEVCOMM.NET

9024 COUNTY ROAD 3 NW, OROCOCO, MN 55960

New Haven Township Regular Meeting Minutes

May 14, 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, Clerk Donna Beyer and Deputy Clerk Bonnie Kosmicki

Set Agenda and Order – Clerk Beyer indicated the meeting minutes from the Board of Appeals and Equalization needed to be added to the agenda. A motion was made to accept the agenda as amended by Andrist, seconded by Thomforde. Motion carried 3-0.

Comments from the Chair – As previously discussed, Chair Ann Fahy Gust indicated she would invite representatives from the City of Pine Island and Pine Island Fire Department to come address questions regarding the Rural Fire Association and PIFD budget. Elizabeth Howard, City Administrator and David Friese representing PIFD were invited to comment. Howard indicated she was aware of concerns that had been brought forward by the township board. Howard provided a detailed overview of how the fire department budget is determined through previous trends and projections. An aspect of the budget that may not be fully understood is that the city pays 100% of the fire department expenses throughout the year. At year's end, the Rural Fire Board is billed for services rendered. Ratios of city and Rural Fire Board expenses are very closely tracked and are open for review. The process for formulating the next year's budget begins in July and the proposed budget is presented to the Rural Fire Board. At the Rural Fire Board meeting, there is discussion of both the previous year's budget and proposed budget for upcoming year. There was a miscommunication at the last meeting as to which budget was under discussion resulting in confusion. There have been measures taken to mitigate this miscommunication from happening again. Payroll was significantly higher last year due to hiring seven new firefighters which incurred one-time training costs. This resulted in what may have been perceived as being overbudget. Payroll costs will always be difficult to predict due to call volume and type of calls. Currently there are 27 firefighters on staff. PIFD partners with the school by participating in the Firefighter Explorer Program. 100 % of the individuals who participated in the program have joined the PIFD.

David Friese also provided comments regarding increasing costs due to an increased call volume of 39% since 2020. 60 % of the calls are medical with the remaining 40% being fires. There was a record call number last year and they are on track to reach record levels again. Friese indicated the PIFD is very appreciative of the Rural Fire Board's support in order to provide best service possible. There are an average of 13 firefighters per fire call, and 8 for medical. Fire fighters are paid \$15.00 per hour. PIFD is very fiscally responsible in the use and maintenance of equipment. Grants are being sought for equipment. Friese wanted to publicly thank the board for their support. Copies of the 2023 and year to date 2024 budgets were provided. Howard provided her contact information and invited anyone to contact her with any questions, if reports are desired, they can be provided upon request.

Chair Fahy-Gust thanked Howard and Friese for their time, presentation and sharing their perspective.

Comments from the public – Treasurer Figy informed the board that he was approached by Larry Berg regarding the availability of the townhall for a tractor drive on Sunday August 18th. They would like the hall to be available between 9:30 am and 10:30 am in order to use the restrooms. The last time the hall was used by them was about 5 years ago and they were not charged for it. This is a charitable event with approximately 140 tractors participating. Chair Fahy-Gust made a motion to waive the rental fee for the Zumbro Valley Classic Iron to use the hall, Supervisor Andrist seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Consent agenda – Thomforde made a motion to approve the Regular Town Board Meeting minutes of April 9th and Board of Appeals and Equalization Meeting minutes of April 10, 2024. Motion seconded by Andrist seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Old Business:

Silting on 100th Street – On April 11 Andrist met with a representative from Olmsted County Soil and Water Department (Skip). There are numerous issues causing silting into the ditch. The tile outlet improperly drains into the ditch, there is no buffer being left on the edge by the farmer, trees and bushes were removed, and a French drain was installed to try to remedy the problem and there is leaching. These factors are causing the bank to sluff and will continue to do so if nothing is done to intervene. The ditch has been cleaned out three times and will continue to need this maintenance if the drainage issue is not permanently resolved. Ellingson Companies has provided a quote of \$2850.00 for 8 hours and \$3400.00 for 10 hours with no additional charge after 10 hours. Labor charges are 275.00/hour and 8” drainage tile would be installed. It was recommended to get an estimate from Hodgeman Drainage Company for an additional quote. Andrist will also approach Jim MacNamara to ascertain what he is willing to pay to resolve this issue. Andrist will report back to the board at the next meeting. A basic tile design will be provided to assist in understanding what is needed to be done.

Spring Road Review – Supervisor Thomforde provided the following summary of issues he observed that need to be addressed:

1. 69th Ave and 91st St, downed tree in ditch needs to be removed,
2. West Center Street, several piles of telephone poles are in the ROW. A letter will be written to May Yang requesting they be removed.
3. 105th St. - Schaffer culvert aprons have been replaced and are filled in
4. 115th St and New Haven Road - culvert needs cleaned and brush removed
5. 117th St and New Haven Road – brush needs to be removed on west side
6. Genoa Main Street – Some damage to the road from the plow. Needs to be patched in. Supervisor Andrist recommends to not using the float on this area of the road in the future. Rochester Services previously repaired the road and will be contacted to do so again.
7. 88th Avenue there are dead several trees blocking the triple culvert near CR 105

Fahy-Gust made a motion that Mike Wood be contacted to do the road work listed under items number 1, 4, and 7. Item #5 is pending Supervisor Andrist’s review to determine if the upcoming planning spraying will rectify the issue or if Mike should go ahead and clear the brush. Thomforde seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

New Business

Resolution for CD Maturing 5/26/2024 – Thomforde made a motion to adopt resolution #2024-10 instructing the treasurer to withdraw funds from a CD with a value of approximately \$50,000 maturing on or about May 26, 2024 and deposit into the existing money market account. Seconded by Andrist. Motion carried 3-0.

Accept Clerk Resignation - Clerk Beyer submitted her resignation as town clerk effective immediately due moving from the township and changes in her personal life situation. Clerk Beyer was thanked for her work and effort in accomplishing her duties. Her resignation was unanimously accepted.

Appoint New Clerk – Bonnie Kosmicki was previously appointed as deputy clerk. She is willing to accept the appointment as the new clerk. Andrist made a motion to appoint Bonnie as the township clerk, seconded by Thomforde. As a point of clarification, an appointed clerk serves until the next election which will be next March and then serves for a year until the regular clerk election in 2026. Motion passed 3-0.

Townhall access for Woodturner’s Club – Woodturner’s will no longer be able to pick up the key from Donna. Going forward, Bonnie will be available to open the hall for the club as her schedule allows and contact supervisors if she is not able.

Contact person for Culligan/Adam’s Pest Control – Bonnie will be available to allow access to the building as schedule allows and contact a supervisor if she is not able to.

Chloride Recap – There was one truck and no nurse truck. The expectation had been to have two trucks and one nurse truck; this caused the process to go slower. The chloride was applied over two days. There were approximately 10,200 gallons applied which was an average of 1/3 gallon per foot. Approx \$12,000 was collected from patrons. The cost is estimated to be approximately \$13,600 but a final cost has not been submitted yet. The township covers an estimated 30+% of the cost for the first 300 feet. Clerk Beyer did a very good job serving the residents to ensure they were able to purchase chloride. It was noted that some of the new stakes did not have streamers and they were difficult to see. All stakes need to have streamers before they are used next year.

TCPA Meeting Recap – Andrist gave a summary of the meeting. The main discussion was regarding flood control. Each township will be visited by TCPA to explain the changes being proposed by the county. A new chair and vice-chair were re-elected, John Johnson and Rick Lutzi. They wanted a secretary and John Meyer was nominated as such. There was some discussion about amending by-laws.

Road Report - There is a tree in the ditch on 60th Ave near 95th St. This will be added to the list for Mike.

Treasurer’s Report – Figy provided a detailed report of financial transactions for the month of April.

Frandsen Bank:	Checking Account:	\$13,736.47
	Money Market Account:	\$93,835.08
	Less Outstanding Checks (2)	\$ 140.00
	Total Deposits:	\$107,431.55

Merchants Bank of Indiana – 5.5% 5/26/24	\$ 50,000.00
JP Morgan Chase, 5.02% (semi-annual) 1/6/2025)	\$100,000.00
Wells Fargo of South Dakota 5.2% 2/26/2025	\$ 50,000.00
Flagstar Bank, 4.7% (semi-annual) 7/25/2025)	\$100,000.00
Total Investments	\$300,000.00
 Total Deposits	 \$407,431.55

Andrist made a motion to approve the Treasure’s report, Thomforde seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Review/Pay Bills – Beyer presented Schedule 1 which concurs with Treasurer’s report. Funds were transferred from General fund to Fire fund last month as authorized. The cemeteries and fire fund claims will be delayed until next month. Bills were presented for payment totaling \$94,086.94. Thomforde made a motion to pay all bills, Andrist seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Mail/Miscellaneous- Received a letter from Ag Partners regarding summer fill. We do have a balance left from last year.

Adjournment – With no other business before the Board, Fahy made a motion to adjourn. Motion seconded by Andrist. Meeting adjourned at 8:14 PM.

Approved by the Board

Signed:

Signed:

(Signed copy on file)

Date:

Date:

Ann Fahy-Gust, Chair

Bonnie Kosmicki

For the New Haven Town Board

Township Clerk

TOWNSHIP MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT

Ending Balance of March 2024 statement 10,325.62

Income Checking Account

4/10 Online Banking Transfer in From MMDA Acct.	6000.00
4/11 Temp Permit - Wood Turners	275.00
4/23 Hall Rent - Misc - Chloride	504.00
4-23 Chloride	2178.00
4-25 Chloride	528.00
4-25 Chloride	2046.00
4-29 Chloride	495.00
4-29 Chloride	2541.00
4-29 Chloride - Hall Rent	2138.00
Interest	.75

Paper Statement Refund

Total Deposits

16,718.76^{5.00}

Debits

4633 Cole Nielson (Box Mtg)	100.00
4638 Barbara Allen (Pac Mtg)	50.00
4642 Ginger Carson (Election Judge)	160.00
4650 Grimstad Publishing Inc. (Legal Notices - Statements)	177.20
4651 David Andrist (Legal Notices - Annual Mtg)	169.04
4652 LeVonne Kosmicki (Short Course - Mileage)	108.50
4653 Michael Wood LLC (Road Maint)	4480.00
4654 Hemann - Grover & Co. LTD (Payroll)	142.00
4655 Column Software PBC - (Post Bulletin)	66.01
4656 Dale Thomforde (Mileage - Food)	100.89
465 MN ASSN. of Townships (Short Course Regist)	75.00
4658 Olmsted Co. PRK (Property Taxes)	3014.00
4659 Donna Beyer (Mileage)	80.40
20661 Wages	512.54
20665 Wages	797.19
20662 Wages	1328.20
20663 Wages	175.46
20664 Wages	
Bevcomm 78.03	
IRS Tax Pmt 553.90	
Culligan 639.5	
PEG 159.31	
Paper Statement Fee 5.00	

Total Debits

13,299.91

New Ending Balance of April, 2024 statement

13,736.47

TOWNSHIP MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT

Ending Balance of March, 2024 statement

99751.08

Income MMDA

Interest 4/30	84.00

Total Deposits 84.00

Debits

4/10 Online Banking Transfer out to checking Account	6000.00

Total Debits 6000.00

New Ending Balance of April, 2024 statement

93835.08