

Canosia Township

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Town Board: Chair Kurt Brooks, Supervisor Kevin Connick, Supervisor Dan Golen
Clerk Susan Krasaway, Treasurer Cheryl Borndal

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES **September 6, 2017**

ATTENDING: Chair Kurt Brooks, Supervisor Kevin Connick, Supervisor Dan Golen, Clerk Susan Krasaway, Treasurer Cheryl Borndal, Road Foreman Gary Oswell, Fire Chief Gene Stevens, Assistant Chief Clyde Mortinsen, P&Z Director Tim Walburg, Rec Director Mike Ellingson, and 8 residents.

Chair Brooks called the meeting to order at 7 p.m., and the pledge of allegiance was recited.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA, MINUTES AND TREASURER'S REPORT

- A. AGENDA: Motion by Connick, seconded by Golen, to approve the agenda. Motion carried unanimously, 3-0.
- B. MINUTES: Motion by Connick, seconded by Golen, to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes (8/2/2017) with one minor wording change. Motion carried unanimously, 3 – 0.
- C. TREASURER'S REPORT: Motion by Connick, seconded by Golen, to approve the Treasurer's Report (1/1/17 –8/3017). Motion carried unanimously, 3 – 0. The treasurer also reported: All receipts are accounted for and claim #7862 for a replacement tarp will be voided due to a warranty issue.

PUBLIC INPUT

Resident Dan Jezierski asked about the locations of the 12 picnic tables the AAA club gave to Canosia; Rec Director Ellingson will show him where they were distributed throughout the township. Jezierski also asked why the supervisors were having a discussion after last month's meeting; the supervisors believe they were likely signing documents discussed during the meeting; this is not a violation of the Open Meeting Law.

Resident Cory Garden (5413 Shady Ln) asked the township to replace a dead-end sign near his home as well as a problematic culvert. Connick and Oswell will look at both issues Friday morning. Garden also asked about the township's sign inventory and sign policies (added to the agenda under New Business).

Proctor Little League representatives Vance Okstad and Nick Voltzke asked about partnering with the township to purchase an electronic scoreboard for the back ball field; the total cost would be roughly \$2,500 (all labor and installation materials will be donated by the local labor unions). They will send the board detailed information about this project and some of their other improvement ideas as well for the board to consider.

Roger Anderson gave an update on his plans for the auto club property which he is in the process of purchasing: Hopefully by this coming spring, the public will be able to buy passes to the “Pike Lake Beach & Golf Club.” There will be a new event center and restaurant. The golf course will be reconfigured slightly to accommodate the new buildings, relocated parking area and the estimated ten private homes on the property. The hope is that the homeowners’ association fees and public passes will offset the course maintenance costs. There will also be a new property access frontage road off of Midway. The plans are in the works, but official closing has been postponed until April to deal with the ongoing debate about whether AAA has the right to sell the property.

OLD BUSINESS

A. PLANNING & ZONING

P&Z Director Tim Walburg issued one permit in August. In regards to the N.Pike Lake Rd. drainage issue, he advised resident Jeff Holmes to check the elevations at the property lines

Cich’s roofs have been moved to an acceptable distance from the road; no further action needed.

B. “ANTI-BLIGHT” ORDINANCE: Supervisor working session scheduled for October 2 at 6 p.m.

C. WEBSITE

Jeff Charnes is continuing to make progress on the township website. Each department should compile lists of any additional items they would like added. Charnes will also train the clerk and others on how to update the site.

D. FIRE DEPARTMENT:

2017 FIRE DEPT. RESPONSES			
Call Type	MONTH #'s	Notes	Total for 2017
EMS	11		55
Medical MUA	0		3
Twp Fire	0		12
MUA Fire	0		13
Service	1	Tree on a powerline	7
TOTAL	12		89

The FD has started their First Responder training and calendar fundraising. The Fire Prevention Week Open House is scheduled for October 10th from 6 p.m. – 8 p.m. When asked, the chief said the department plans to apply for state training grant funding now that the eligibility rules have changed to cover additional types of training.

Proctor Lions Donation: Motion by Comnick, seconded by Brooks, to accept the \$500 FD donation from the Proctor Lions thanking the firefighters for participating in the Hoghead Festival. Motion carried unanimously.

E. FIRE RELIEF

The FIRE-16 forms have been submitted to the state.

March deadline discussion: As decided at the August meeting, Chair Brooks contacted Rose Hennessy-Allen from the Auditor's office. She responded in writing with the following info:

- As detailed in state statute, all FD reporting forms are due by March 31.
- Extensions are only given to FD's with demonstrated hardship. Canosia was not given an extension.
- Relief Association Treasurer Scott Mercier has been good about keeping their office informed about the status of our forms. However, since they were not submitted until late August, we likely will not receive our state aid until a later round of funding disbursement.

Board Discussion of Proposed Benefit Increase

Chair Brooks prepared a spreadsheet to illustrate the impact of increasing the benefit from \$1,200 to \$1,500. Most notably: Brooks calculated that increasing the benefit would put the fund into a projected \$90,000 deficit (when comparing projected assets to accrued liability). The chief disagreed with these calculations and will ask for clarification from Mercier (he was not able to attend the meeting).

Brooks' document also included information regarding other FD's benefit levels and investment returns. The discussion is ongoing.

There was also a brief discussion about the process for initiating a benefit level increase request. As outlined by the Office of the State Auditor:

1. The relief association initiates the change by amending the bylaws.
2. The town board ratifies the bylaws.
3. The town board approves the benefit level the town will support. Once approved...
4. Any difference in benefits is the responsibility of the fire relief association.

F. ROADS

As detailed in Supervisor Comnick's road report:

1. All scrub seals are complete.
2. Striping will be complete in September.
3. The township will do a culvert replacement and rock removal on Lockwood Ln. this year in advance of next summer's scheduled scrub seal.
4. Next month, Comnick will report on exactly what would be needed to enlarge several turnarounds to accommodate the county plows.

Plowing RFP: Motion by Comnick, seconded by Golen, to approve the draft RFP for this winter's private plowing of Holly Ln, Birchway, Pike Lane, and Kehtel (west of Shady Ln); it will be sent to KTM, Sinnott, Asphalt of Duluth, and Peterson Excavating. Motion carried unanimously, 3 – 0.

Daniels Rd. Drainage: Following the advice of a St. Louis County engineer, the property owners will pay for the culvert replacement and ditching on the private property in question. The township will improve the ditching on the public portion.

Eckstrom Rd. Rocks: Removed, no need for letter.

Kehtel Road ROW's: Tabled.

G. RECYCLING: Brooks will contact WLSSD about the improvement grant; we are not optimistic.

H. RECREATION AREA

Updates: Fencing is done, dugout has been demolished. Next month, Supervisor Golen will bring an updated list of potential projects/costs.

I. AIS

2017 AIS Wrap Up Report (submitted by Supervisor Connick): Inspections will end September 10. Connick is hoping to have a year-end inspector meeting later this month. We will have used about roughly \$50,000 of the grant funding by the end of the season; this included the CD3 station, payroll, portable toilet costs, signage, miscellaneous, etc. Any leftover funds will likely be used for additional signage, outreach materials and vests/outerwear for next year's inspectors.

Connick will find out when the 2018 grant applications are due.

J. TRAILS: The draft trails plan is now available on our website; comments welcome all this month.

K. AIRPORT ZONING: Meeting scheduled for September 14.

L. CEMETERY

Veterans: there was a discussion about trying to track down a list of Canosia veterans interred in our cemetery to make sure we have included everyone on our veterans plaque. The clerk will contact the Proctor VFW.

M. BROADBAND: Brooks will contact CenturyLink for an update and report back next month.

N. PLAWCS: Lift station 3 repairs starting soon.

O. MEETING RECAPS

DAT meeting: the board learned that UnitedHealth employees are encouraged to do volunteer projects which could come in handy for our trail projects.

MAT District 10 meeting: the board heard updates on Annexation laws, SLC plowing changes, grant money for election equipment (the clerk will contact the auditor), and signing up for fine sharing (add to agenda for next month).

P. BUILDING MAINTENANCE

Light is fixed, gutters are in, Clyde may do the foundation soon. We may need to power-wash the entire town hall this spring.

{Note: Nothing to report on Goals & Priorities, PFC, RSPT, Noxious Weeds}

NEW BUSINESS

A. ROAD SIGN INVENTORY

Connick will research what is required for a sign inventory, policy, reflectivity, etc. and report back next month. They will also consider replacing a dead-end sign which has been stolen several times.

B. ELECTRONIC SIGN

Connick will research how much it would cost for an electronic sign outside the town hall. It would be used to announce meetings, special events, etc.

CORRESPONDENCE

- A thank-you photo card from the Girl Scout troop who constructed the rec area friendship bench.
- Warranty offer for the generator (the board will discuss next month).
- Community Ed bulletin and St. Scholastica continuing education brochure
- Newsletters from Lakewood, Rice Lake, Fredenberg and Duluth Township
- Caribou Lake Association newsletter.
- Notice of the Minnesota Fall maintenance expo.

MOTIONS TO PAY BILLS/ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Connick, seconded by Golen, to pay bills #19476-19532 & MA-2017-14. Motion carried unanimously, 3 – 0.

Motion by Connick, seconded by Golen, to adjourn the meeting at 9:32 p.m. Motion carried unanimously, 3 – 0.

Respectfully submitted,

APPROVED:

Susan Krasaway, Clerk
October 4, 2017

Kurt Brooks, Chair
October 4, 2017