

69

## FORD RIVER TOWNSHIP REGULAR BOARD MEETING OCTOBER 11, 2021 FORD RIVER TOWNSHIP HALL

Called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Supervisor, S. Nelson, who led the Pledge of Allegiance.  
Members present: S. Nelson, D. Brown, A Wagner, J. Church, R. Scott  
Members absent: NONE

#### 4. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

None

#### 5. AGENDA

Motion, A. Wagner, support J. Church CARRIED to approve the Agenda.

#### 6. MINUTES

- a. Township Board Regular Meeting Minutes –September 13, 2021

Motion, R. Scott, support, A. Wagner, CARRIED, to accept the Township Board Regular meeting minutes for September 13, 2021.

#### 7. REPORTS

The following reports were acknowledged:

- a. Financial Reports for September 2021. The Treasurer and Clerk were in balance with the bank.
- b. Assessors Report for September, 2021.

#### 8. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

- a. Ford River Planning Commission Meeting Minutes September 1, 2021.  
Pam Heffner Caron addressed the Board because she felt she was treated poorly by the Planning Commission Chair on September 1, 2021. She feels the minutes that were drawn up by the Secretary do not accurately represent what actually took place at that meeting through the purposeful omission in the minutes of the Chairs disrespectful responses to her at three different times. She feels the three Planning Commission members involved should be held accountable. Supervisor Steve Nelson informed her that this Board cannot change the minutes and that this is merely an acknowledgment of the minutes. He went on to inform her how she can get the minutes changed. A. Wagner assures Pam that the conduct of the planning commission members will be looked into.
- b. Delta Solid Waste Management Authority Meeting Minutes August 24, 2021
- c. Delta Solid Waste Management Authority Special Meeting Minutes Sept. 9, 2021.
- d. Ford River Zoning board of Appeals Special Meeting Minutes August 17, 2021.

#### 9. FIRE DEPARTMENT BUSINESS

The following report was acknowledged:

- a. Fireman's Report for September, 2021– Maintenance Reports  
Brian Nelson, Fire Chief, was present.

Motion, A. Wagner, support, R. Scott, CARRIED, to acknowledge the fire report.

#### 10. WATER SYSTEM BUSINESS

The following reports were acknowledged:

- a. Water system report

Motion, A. Wagner, support, R. Scott, CARRIED, to acknowledge the Water System report.

- b. Water Operator Mark Rose was present and gave updates.
- c. Billing Register September 2021.
- d. Water upgrades. Ed Brunette will be giving us an estimate for 2022. Water operator Mark Rose suggests contacting the builders exchange.
- e. Water Operator back-up. Lengthy discussion took place concerning we have no back up in case of emergency. Mark indicates we have a emergency mutual aid agreement with the City of Escanaba

Motion, J. Church, support A. Wagner, CARRIED, to ask Jay DeShambo to help Mark do the flushing and in the event he cannot, we hire his nephew for 24-48 hrs. at \$16.86 per hour to help with flushing. Then, we run an ad for a backup water operator.

- f. E4303 Hwy M35.

Motion, A. Wagner, support J. Church, CARRIED, that we provide the materials at Township expense to hook up the meter water at E4303 Hwy M35 to customers line at his expense. All labor will be customers responsibility.

- g. Hook up policy. Tabled until Water Operator can supply us with a true cost so we can update the policy.

#### **11. ZONING ADMINISTRATOR BUSINESS**

- a. Zoning Administrator report September 2021.
- b. Zoning Administrator updates.  
Zoning Administrator gave updates for R-1 short term rentals and zoning changes. Public hearing scheduled for January 19<sup>th</sup> for short term rentals.

Motion, A. Wagner, support J. Church, CARRIED, to accept the Zoning report.

A lengthy discussion has taken place about the rate of pay for Zoning Administrator. When the Board hired for this position, it was difficult to determine a fair rate of pay. Supervisor has declared a conflict because the Zoning Administrator is his son in law. Treasurer will put something together for next month.

#### **12. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- a. Audit. Still nothing from Auditor.
- b. Marijuana. Planning Commission is now in the process of looking at this request by the Township Board.
- c. Junk complaint: Supervisor gave updates.
- d. Network: Tabled.
- e. 911 Signs. Supervisor updated Board hey have a few addresses to correct then should be ready.
- f. River Cemetery/K Road Property surveys. Supervisor been contacted with a date to survey both properties this month.
- g. Cemetery Sexton One person applied.

Motion, A. Wagner, support, J. Church to hire Dean Ingebrigtsen as cemetery sexton.

## 12. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Payment of bills:
  - i. GF Total: \$96,682.10
  - ii. WF Total: \$5,989.02
  - iii. LF Total: \$213.28

Motion, J. Church, support, R. Scott, CARRIED to pay the bills \$96,682.10 from the General fund, \$5,989.02 from the Water fund and \$213.28 from the Liquor fund.

- b. Attorney invoice. Supervisor feels our attorney did not represent us properly but feels he initiated the communication with resident.

Motion, R. Scott, support, A. Wagner, CARRIED, to pay the Attorney bill of \$285.00

- c. DCRC sign at 12<sup>th</sup> and M35. sign can be purchased for less than \$80.00. Supervisor will purchase. DCRC wants us to pay for tree removal on Portage Point Road.

Motion, J. Church, support, A. Wagner CARRIED we will not pay for tree removal on Portage Point.

- d. Zoning rates resolution

Motion, A. Wagner, support, J. Church, CARRIED to approve Resolution #10112021-1

- e. Plowing of access site. Tabled for more information.
- f. Purchasing/Inventory tabled until Treasurer can look into the current policys.
- g. Park policy. We will look into developing a park policy.
- h. Discussion about pets at playground. Clerk will get estimate to fence playground and pavilion. Supervisor compliments and Thanks George for taking such good care of the Playground.

## 13. PUBLIC AND BOARD COMMENT

**M. Rose:** Would like to go to a free training on Oct. 26<sup>th</sup>. He should see Supervisor for mileage pay.

**G. LaFave:** Feels we should put a note in check to lawyer warning him this will not happen again.

**R. Fettig:** Ray feels there should be more news on our website. Also would like to thank the Board for following up with the Zoning Administrator as he has been following this for about 15 years.

**B. McAdam:** Suggests using more Facebook posts to get the message out. Suggests more people in all depts. do their own posts when possible.

**S. McAdam:** Many clubs and organizations use newsletters and facebook to get the word out on events and raffles.

**G. LaFave** would like us to post on Facebook that It's time to pick up any memorials from grave sites that people want saved.

**R. Scott** would like to talk to J. Lampi concerning mutual aid for Water Dept.

**R. Fettig** thanks all the new people getting involved in our meetings.

Motion, A. Wagner, Support, R. Scott, CARRIED to adjourn at 9:06pm

*Approved*  
*Shelli Brown, Clerk 11-8-2021*