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**Lutsen Township Board Meeting Minutes**  
**February 21, 2022**  
**Lutsen Town Hall**

**Present:** Carl Friesner, Chris Homyak, Lolli Cooper, Ashely VanDoren, Samantha Mcquatters-Spangle, Paul Geottl, Matt Kartes, Ginny Storlie, Bill Gabler

**Call to Order:** Meeting called to order by Chairperson, C Friesner at 7pm.

**Pledge of Allegiance:** Flag was presented for the pledge of allegiance.

**Approval of Agenda:** C. Friesner made a motion to approve agenda, C Homyak seconded. Motion passed.

**Approval of January Meeting Minutes:** L. Cooper made a motion to accept January meeting minutes, C Homyak seconded. Motion passed.

**Approval of Audit and Budget meeting minutes:** L. Cooper made a motion to accept Audit and Budget meeting minutes, C. Homyak seconded. Motion passed.

**Bill Gabler:** (District 5 representee of HRA board)

- Fulfilling his commitment update and attend each different township meeting twice a year Mr. Gabler informed the town board the bids and pricing on the proposed housing in Tofte across the highway from holiday is currently on hold
- Tofte township has sold HRA board land behind birch grove to allow building of single-family homes to ease the limited selection of housing in cook county. Currently in the early stages of developer designs with the possibilities of townhomes and with first time home buyers and elderly in mind.
- Project in Grand Marais near the new dog park at the bottom of gunflint is currently being rezoned to residential to allow HRA to help develop new housing
- Proposal for a potential merger of the Housing redevelopment authority and Economic development authority currently in talks between both boards.
- HRA director Jason Hale can be heard with updates on WTIP Wednesday mornings

**Commissioner's Report:**(Ginny Storlie)

- Commissioners resumes Lake Shore Septic Complacence program with the help from Lake County with extra funds under the one water shed one plan at 68k. This program will start about halfway down Cascade Beach Road and continues towards Grand Marais until funds run out.
- HR is currently working with David drone associates to compile detailed descriptions of county jobs
- Arrowhead reginal development commission (ARDC) held an election for new chairmen; Ginny Storlie won and was appointed
- ARDC contacted by the superior national trail association to assist with volunteers and staff to photograph every campsite to post online with site descriptions and locations.
- Cook county received American rescue funding in the amount of 2 million dollars, during the February 14<sup>th</sup> meeting commissioners decided to leverage \$700,000 for housing. Currently also inconsideration is childcare and capital improvement. Public input is welcome

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- Health county meeting with Kimber announced EMT accreditation is now available in Cook County.
- Northland foundation celebrated their 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary in Cook County
- Director of Public health announced being awarded a grant for children's finance agreement in the amount of 27k; this grant will help support new and existing childcare providers.
- Wilderness outpatient treatment director discussed his programs that help in substance and alcohol abuse and possible awareness of fentanyl use risks and awareness.
- Concern over an asphalt plant by Tait lake is in fact a request conditional use permit by KTM near the Mississippi creek and gravel pit for a mobile asphalt unit. Any concerns can be addressed at the Commissioners March 8<sup>th</sup> meeting at 5pm
- **Clerk's Report:** S. Mcquatters-Spangle Deputy Clerk: S. Hexum-Platzer
  - A. **Correspondence:** 5 phone calls in regards to fire questions delegated to Paul; 2 phone calls about rental and transient rental laws; 6 town hall rentals; Half-Staff Alert UNITED STATES FLAGS In Honor of the Victims of the Monterey Park Violence; MAT Spring Short Courses are in March and early April; Fraudulent MAT Impersonation Email; contacted brady powers in preparation for audit meeting; MN DNR completed a preconstruction meeting with KGM and MS, construction for trail from Ski Hill Road to begin the week of 02/13/2023. Work will start with tree clearing along the alignment; free emerald ash borer (EAB) field workshops in Two Harbors on Tuesday, March 21<sup>st</sup>
  - B. Absentee voting applications for March election available
  - C. Sharon ordered supplies and ordered historical marker for cultural and tourism grant
  - D. Review of March election procedures and notices
  - E. Relocated Yoga rental time slot due to scheduling issues
  - F. Moderated Audit meeting and review

**Treasurer's Report:** A VanDoren:

Balances as of January 31, 2022. NSFCU Business checking account is \$302,609.50. General Building fund is \$35,693.54. At Grand Marais State Bank Operating General Fund Money Market is \$50,267.60; GMSB Checking is \$50,000; Fire/EMS Truck Fund \$193,410.02; Total Funds– \$631,980.66; YTD Receipts \$4,356.81; YTD Disbursements \$52,498.49; General Town Budget \$32,900.00; Fire District Budget \$179,645.00; 2022 General Town Levy: \$20,500 and Fire District Levy \$140,000: Approved 2023 total tax Levy is 165,000.00.

L. Cooper made a motion to accept the treasurer's report. C Homyak seconded. Motion passed

**Review and Approval of Claims:**

- Clerk S. Mcquatters-Spangle provided the invoiced February Claims. Details; 22 claims for a total of \$6,513.06 This included a SCBA flow test and inspection for \$1,684.70 and batteries for ARMOR radios for \$946.08.  
C. Friesner made a motion to approve claims, C. Homyak seconded. Motion passed.
- Clerk provided February payroll Claims for a total of \$2,271.06. C Homyak made a motion to approved payroll. L. Cooper seconded. Motion passed
- Cash Control Statement for January was reviewed and compared to the Treasurer's Information and matched. Supervisors signed a document which is on file.
- Claims approval and Payroll distributions were signed by Supervisors; copies are on file in the town office.

**Fire Chief's Report:** Paul Geottl:

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- 5 fire calls for the month of January
- Approved Brad's Auto repair for fire truck oil changes and basic services
- Fire chief received reimbursement for purchase of wetland turnout gear for firefighters
- Training was conducted on narrow roads and rescues in winter season
- Training using water pump and air trailer
- Discussion on weather firefighting in Lutsen should charge to owners' insurance as some other counties do? Further research will be required to determine if this is applicable to the Lutsen area.

**EMS Chief's Report:** Matt Kartes:

- 12 total EMS calls for the month of January
- Purchasing EMS jackets with Lutsen design and print underway
- **Currently the Lutsen EMS is short of staff and seeking any individual interested in training; if interested please contact [lutsentownship@gmail.com](mailto:lutsentownship@gmail.com) ; Fire Chief Paul Geottl or EMS Chief Matt Kartes**

**Supervisors Report:**

**C Friesner:**

- Attended Audit and Budget meeting

**L Cooper:**

- WTIP reporting on Lutsen Township
- Helped to resolve concerned citizen request with town hall scheduling

**C Homyak:**

- Attended Audit and Budget meeting
- Attended "Capital Day" in St. Paul and listened to MAT, state senators and MN governor speak on townships and policies including the possibilities of payment in lieu of taxes.
- Discussed MAT and township related topics with Steve Fenske a MAT representative on Cartway procedures

**Old Business:**

- **Storage shed to continue build: storage shed doors have arrived and installed. Electrical will wait until spring.**
- EMS truck insurance claim awaiting assessor and rental truck availabilities; **C Homyak will contact MATIT insurance on updates.**
- Skinner, Larson cartway; **Currently placed on hold to allow all parties involved to attempt compromise**
- New locks and keys for Township building- **C Friesner will contact locksmith Patrick Reeves.**
- MN DOT bike trail walk October 27, 2022 update; awaiting summery of walk.
- Culture and tourism grant: Historical marker currently being researched and designed; new items to be ordered in congruence with the accepted grant. **Approval of increased spending to accommodate quality long lasting materials.**
- Consideration to make Lutsen township suitable for emergency shelter; generator. **EMS and Fire chief will research different types and possibilities that could work for Lutsen Townahl**
- Change phone services; Clerk reached out to sheriff, MAT personnel and other townships on legalities of using broadband based phones services instead of traditional and found it be in

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compliance with township rules and regulations. **C Friesner made a motion to switch phone services. C Homyak seconded. Motion passed.**

**New Business:**

- Trailbreakers resolution No 02-2023 requesting to act as a fiscal agent for Lutsen Trailbreaker for federal recreation trail grant. **C Friesner made a motion to accept resolution No 02-2023. L Cooper seconded. Motion passed, document signed and dated by chairperson and clerk.**
- Donation request from Tofte township for 2023 fireworks. Donation currently on 2023 annual budget.
- Donation request from Lutsen alpine ski team and increased request for 2024 season. **Supervisors agreed to place on the annual meeting agenda**
- Citizen request to review usage of “Jacob breaks” within speed limits. C Friesner volunteered to contact citizen to further discuss issues and solutions for the Lutsen area.

**Donations:** N/A

**Citizen Comments:** West end connect board is seeking a citizen to represent Lutsen mainly focusing in housing issues and child care in the west end; any interested parties or inquiries can contact Mary VanDoren.

**Adjournment:** C Friesner made a motion to adjourn; seconded by C. Homyak. Motion passed and meeting was adjourned at 8:26pm

Respectfully Submitted, Samantha Mcquatters-Spangle; Clerk Carl Friesner; Chairperson