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Lutsen Township Board Meeting Minutes
July 18, 2023
Lutsen Town Hall

Present: Sharon Hexum-Platzer, Ashely VanDoren, Paul Goettl, Carl Friesner, Samantha Mcquatters-Spangle, Lolli Cooper, Chris Homyak, Ginny Storlie, Matt Kartes

Call to Order: Meeting called to order by Chairperson, C Friesner at 7:00 pm.

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

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

Approval of June Meeting Minutes: C Homyak made a motion to accept June meeting minutes, C Friesner seconded. Motion passed.

Commissioner's Report:(Ginny Storlie)

- Gitchi Gami trail meeting; Surfacing will finish within a few days of final bridge placement from Lutsen ski hill road to Arrowhead parking lot. Discussion with construction crew on leaving parking area/cemetery access area in better condition that it started. They agreed to grade and fill the area.
- Transfer station build currently happening in Cannon MN shines light on the issue of waste disposal in Cook County. As of current on July 18, 2023 4 large semi's filled left Cook County for a single days waste. Dustin Hansen presented the Cook County Commissioners board a scale drawing of a facility to completely enclosed for trash needs, disposal and waste. With Superior Garbage closing in 2026 the plan is to find a more economical and sustainable way to dispose of a majority of Cook County waste. Senator Smith and Klobuchar have asked to work with Dustin Hansen and for a letter of support to help promote such a building to come to fruition.
- Mike Larson came in front of the commissioner's board to present a 5 year annual golf course consultant report on its upkeep to maintain premier course status and possible grants and ideas for capital improvements. EDA and committee agreed to help brainstorming ideas to help the gold course upkeep.
- Emergency shelter letter drafted by Lutsen's own Sharon Hexum-Platzer brought before Schroeders and Tofte boards for thoughts as a west end emergency short term shelter. **Cook County Commissioners board will review requests for support and possible capital investment on July 25, 2023 at 8:30am open to public.**

Clerk's Report: S. Mcquatters-Spangle Deputy Clerk: S. Hexum-Platzer

- A. Correspondence: Call about short-term rental ordinances. 3 town hall rentals reserved. Folding chairs rented out for Lutsen 99er. Question on Lutsen cemetery plot information; redirected to Thompson's. Northland Connection Economic Development Research Program inquiry. Grant Opportunities Available; forwarded to supervisors. Deadline to apply for HomeHelpMN is July 7. The 2023 Multifamily Consolidated RFP/ 2024 HTC Round 1 application deadline July 16th. 2023 Federal Recreational Trail Program awarded for October 2023; forwarded to supervisors. Community Development Resources Workshop; forwarded to supervisors. Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness Situational Assessment Report Released. Superior National Forest Removes Spice Lake Fire Closure Order. 2023 TIF Training – Live Webinars available. Superior National Forest Lifts Fire Restrictions. NSFCU visa contacted over late payment; received invoice on late items. Returned flags of wrong size and exchanged purchase for correct size. Reminder: Community Development Resources Workshop; forwarded to supervisors. Cook County Board of Adjustment August 9th Public Notices; forwarded to supervisors. Address correction for volunteer firefighter. County Resolution to act as fiscal agent for Lutsen Trailbreakers.
- B. Correction to April minutes: Reorganizational data was not added onto the minutes from the agenda. The new April minutes contain the data in its entirety. **L Copper motion to accept the amended minutes; C Homyak seconded. Motion passed.**
- C. Cartway appraisal received; all involved parties contacted

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- D. Sharon drafted an emergency shelter letter requesting support. After discussion on the importance of having an available space and necessity in an emergency it was agreed to present this request in front of the board of commissioners for Cook County MN. **Lolli Cooper with attend the July 25th meeting at 8:30am to represent the township.**
- E. New MN flag ordered
- F. Quorum for cartway posted for July 31, 2023
- G. Sharon met with KTM for fill around shed

Treasurer's Report: A VanDoren:

Balances as of June 20, 2023. NSFCU Business checking account is \$354,130.81. General Building fund is \$35,7089.20. At Grand Marais State Bank Operating General Fund Money Market is \$50,277.82; GMSB Checking is \$50,000; Fire/EMS Truck Fund \$218,451.84; Total Funds– \$708,568.67; YTD Receipts \$168,857.22; YTD Disbursements \$141,839.47; General Town Budget \$32,900.00; Fire District Budget \$179,645.00; 2022 General Town Levy: \$25,000 and Fire District Levy \$140,000: Approved 2023 total tax Levy is 165,000.00.

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

Review and Approval of Claims:

- Clerk S. Mcquatters-Spangle provided the invoiced July Claims. Details; 25 claims for a total of \$66,731.54 This included \$19,500.00 for cartway appraisal using money placed in escrow for cartway; \$2,500.28 for second quarter federal taxes; \$8,408.00 for MATIT insurance coverage; \$10,000.00 donation to Lutsen trailbreakers to help rebuild Lutsen snowmobile bridge; \$4,960.00 for electrical work with partial reimbursement from IRRRB grant; \$4,371.18 for fire truck and equipment repair.
C. Friesner made a motion to approve claims, C Homyak seconded. Motion passed.
- Clerk provided July payroll Claims for a total of \$1,656.98. C Homyak made a motion to approved payroll. L Cooper seconded. Motion passed
- Cash Control Statement for Julu 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:

- 2 fire calls for the month of July including the Papa Charlies fire; Lutsen fire department was first on scene and helped to contain fire for over 12 hours and required over 300,000 gallons of water on this 6 alarm call incident.
Great job and hard work Lutsen Firefighters!
- EMS/Fire helped helicopter to land in ball field for emergency transfer of patient
- Jaws of life malfunction/ warranty covered replacement while fixing newer unit
- Air compressor malfunction and hydraulic fluid leak required emergency fix from Kivida
- Helped to host fish fry at 4th of July parade

EMS Chief's Report: Matt Kartes

- 7 total EMS calls for the month of July including assisted fire calls
- Called from Lutsen 99er aid station to help assist Papas fire incident. EMS chief commented on how proud he was of the community coming together and rallying to help cover the aid stations in this emergency!
- Helped to host fish fry at 4th of July parade

Supervisors Report:

C Friesner:

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- Communicated with locals on issues pertaining to Grandview Park and littering
- Communicated with citizens on parking issues and possible resolution at the townhall; **Looking into painting parking lines at townhall to create more efficiency during high traffic times.**

L Cooper:

- WTIP reporting on Lutsen Township; **Will talk about littering and garbage issues happening at Grandview Park**
- Email correspondence on town board issues

C Homyak:

- Communicated with locals on issues pertaining to Grandview Park and littering
- Help to cover aid station for Lutsen 99er
- Email correspondence on town board issues

Old Business:

- requested replacement of shingles of ball park outhouse building and reviewed landscaping around newly constructed shed to allow vehicle access to garage door. **Kartes will removing bushing from problem areas and shingle outhouse roof.**
- Security Camera access; All Supervisors will have remote access to newly installed outdoor cameras around Lutsen Townhall with yearly renewals of password access
- **Storage shed to continue build:** Discussion of installation of counter for concession stand within shed; prices and varieties to be reviewed. Request to finish interior of storage shed. Peak electric to finish wiring. **C Friesner will contact Scott for continuing construction on shed and interior finishing.**
- EMS truck insurance claim awaiting assessor and rental truck availabilities; **waiting for rental truck availability.**
- Skinner, Larson cartway; **Meeting currently scheduled for July 31, 2023 at 6pm**
- New locks and keys for Township building- **Arrowhead locksmith will be contacted**
- Culture and tourism grant: Final available amounts will be used to better rake the ball field, landscape around playground area, shingle outhouse.
- Consideration to make Lutsen township suitable for emergency shelter; generator. Henry Walsh detailed different types of senecios and necessities of generators and suggested an action plan of installation of propane tank and estimate of prices. Sharon Hexum-Platzer suggested requestion funds from Cook County ARPA funds for west end emergency to support the community in times of need. Sharon Hexum-Platzer drafted a letter of request to be reviewed by the town board. **L Cooper will represent Lutsen Town board and present this request in front of the commissioner's board on July 25, 2023 at 8:30am.**
- IRRRB grant update: **Matt Kartes and Sharon Hexum-Platzer finished the historical marker install, rock decoration and juniper planting for am amazing look display. Thank you both!**
Brushing around ball field will be completed within the grand timeframe.
- Lutsen trailbreakers: **Resolution #2023-43; "Where as, Lutsen Township initially agreed to act as fiscal agent in order to secure the grant. Now that the grant has been selected for funding, Lutsen Trailbreakers requests Cook County to replace Lutsen Township as fiscal agent." C Friesner made a motion to rescind acting as Lutsen Trailbreakers fiscal agent. L Cooper seconded. Motion passed.**
- Request to review the failing electric mat heating in the fire hall garage during budge meeting and different types of heating. **To Be reviewed at annual continuation meeting.**
- Discussion of CD investments with funds exceeding insurance cap from bank. **Research and review of possible investments will be presented to board for review.**

New Business:

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- Requested review of no littering signage at Grandview Park as this has started to become an issue; discussion of way to resolve this issue included more signage, placing garbage disposal on site and security cameras. **C Friesner will look into types of trail cameras and more visible signage as well as more on site review by local board members.**
- Parking lines for Lutsen Townhall; **Due to increased traffic C Friesner agreed to look into placing parking lines in Lutsen Townhall parking lot with yearly resurfacing.**

Donations: Lutsen 99er donation to Lutsen Fire/EMS

Citizen Comments:

Adjournment: L Cooper made a motion to adjourn; seconded by C Friesner. Motion passed and meeting was adjourned at 8:33 pm

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