

**KALMAR TOWNSHIP BOARD
TOWN BOARD MEETING
SEPTEMBER 18, 2023**

Attendees:

Supervisors: Glenn Quam, James Hanson, Jerome Fischer

Clerk/Treasurer: Deputy Clerk Robert Suchomel filled in for Clerk Stanich

Road Contractor: Michael Wood

Also in Attendance: One resident

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Chairman Fischer.

Agenda Approval – On a motion made by Mr. Hanson and seconded by Mr. Quam, the proposed agenda was approved after being modified to add a discussion of Planning/Zoning commission membership.

Clerk’s Report – August meeting minutes were approved (M/M/S: Mr. Hanson / Mr. Quam).

Treasurer’s Report – Seven claims submitted for payment (claims 1457 – 1463) totaling \$9,273.00 were reviewed; payment of claims was approved on motion by Mr. Hanson and second by Mr. Quam.

Treasurer reported on the bank account balances. Mr. Hanson moved to approve the report. Mr. Quam seconded the motion and it was approved. As of the meeting date, the total of all bank and CD accounts is: \$1,293,815.76

Public Comment – Mr. Kevin Delva observed there hasn’t been much new information added to the township website. He asked if more to be done on the site to promote the recycling reimbursement program.

New Business –

Kasten Annexation Agreement – Byron staff had informed the township that Mr. Kasten is moving forward with his request to have his 4 acre parcel annexed into Byron. Mr. Hanson recalled that supervisors had agreed to the annexation when Mr. Kasten had discussed it at a previous monthly meeting.

34th Street Update– Olmsted County provided an email update to explain that the Co.Rd 4 contractor has additional grading and shaping to do on the eastern segment of 34th St. An October completion is targeted. Mr. Wood noted that the long field driveway on the south side of that road is not adequate to use by harvesting equipment. A drawing provided by the County did not clearly show if the field drive would remain within the County Road ROW or be given to the adjoining property owners. Mr. Wood suggested the township confirm that Kalmar township will not be responsible for any improvements to the driveway.

Funding for Voter Support – The township was informed that Kalmar’s share of \$1.25 million MN legislature funding for election administration from the VOTER act is \$63.90. Supervisors felt this amount was not useful for any purchases. Since the grant requires reporting documentation on how the money is spent, Mr. Hanson offered, and Mr. Quam seconded, a

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motion to return the money to Olmsted County elections office. Motion was unanimously approved.

Road Inspection Tour – Tuesday, October 3, was selected for the Fall Road inspection tour. The following Tuesday was set as the backup date. Participants will meet at 8:30 AM at Otto's in Byron.

4th Street Update – Deputy clerk reported that MNDOT has opened the application period for townships to apply for 'LRIP' grants for local road improvements. Mr. Fischer will check with Olmsted County Highway Dept to find out how complicated the grant process is and what other costs the township might incur if awarded a grant to resurface 4th St. Supervisors observed that property tax payment for the Southern MN Municipal Power substation on 4th St has significantly declined for the past 3 years. They asked that the clerk contact County Assessor's office to understand the changes and learn the long-term tax outlook for the property.

Planning / Zoning Commission Membership – Supervisors approved appointment of James Wharton and Robert Suchomel as alternates to the Planning Commission. (M/M/S - Mr. Hanson / Mr. Quam).

Old Business –

Road Status – Mike Wood reported that a new driveway recently constructed on 110th Ave was not placed where Mr. Hanson had instructed the owner to position it and that the gravel driveway is about 6" higher than it should be. The site will be looked at during the road inspection tour. Final ditch mowing is complete.

Mr. Wood said that New Haven township is willing to split a truck load of winter road salt (from Northern Salt Inc) with Kalmar. Motion to have Kalmar participate in the joint purchase was made by Mr. Hanson, seconded by Mr. Quam and approved. Supervisors had no objection to Mr. Wood's suggestion to purchase rock, to mix with the salt, from the Stussy Mantorville pit due to the road detour in Byron which makes hauling from the Rock Dell pit more difficult.

Reding Property Issues – Mr. Hanson had driven past the property today and observed that no clean-up work has been started. Supervisors recalled that this is not the first time the property has accumulated a large amount of scrap metal. The property owner has requested she be given until October 1 to clean up the property. Supervisors will allow her that date to complete cleanup. However, clerk will instruct TCPA to take the most aggressive action possible to force clean up if the date is not met.

Shared Road Agreement – Mr. Fischer reported that Salem Township has signed the agreement between the two townships that defines township responsibilities for Frontier Road. Mr. Hanson made a motion to sign the agreement. Mr. Quam seconded. Motion was approved and Mr. Fischer signed the document.

TCPA Meeting Report – TCPA reported that the township's lawsuit against the Groves property heirs regarding unpermitted construction has been resolved to TCPA's satisfaction.

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Township Hall Update – Mr. Stanich had investigated the process needed to have the town hall certified as an historic structure. After debating the potential benefits versus the process requirements, supervisors decided it was not practical to undertake such a certification process. Mr. Stanich had offered to speak with an architect to learn what type of services such a firm might be able to offer for town hall remodeling. Supervisors encouraged him to pursue that discussion.

Township Investments– A pair of \$250,000 CDs matured last week. Supervisors directed the clerk to reinvest \$100,000 into a mix of Money Market and 3-month CD so that money is available for the Fire Contract payment at year’s end. The remaining \$400,000 should be used to purchase a pair of 12-month CDs.

Miscellaneous Items –

Mr. Suchomel: The September OCTOA meeting will be held at Dover township hall on 28th.

Mr. Quam: A resident called to say that they had applied another round of chloride and asked that the Township not blade that road segment again this fall.

Mr. Hanson: None.

Mr. Fischer: None.

Adjournment – Mr. Hanson made a motion to adjourn the monthly meeting; Mr. Quam seconded. Motion approved; meeting ended at 7:59 pm.

Approved by the Board,

Attest,

Date: _____



Date: _____

Board Chair
For the Kalmar Town Board

Clerk/Treasurer