

EUREKA TOWNSHIP

Dakota County, State of Minnesota

TOWN BOARD MEETING

September 26, 2023 – 7:00 P.M.

Call to Order

The Eureka Township Town Board meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m. by Chair Barfknecht and the Pledge of Allegiance was given.

Supervisors Present: Lu Barfknecht, Nancy Sauber, Tim Pope, Allen Novacek, and Randy Wood.

Others Present: Liz Atwater, Brian Ahern, Bill Clancy, Melanie Storlie.

Zoom Attendance: Carol Cooper, Ralph Fredlund, Andrew Wojtowicz, Julie Larson.

Approval of the Agenda

Clerk Atwater requested the following:

New Business:

E. Attorney- Closed meeting

Motion: Chair Barfknecht moved to approve the agenda with the additional item. Supervisor Pope seconded the motion. *Motion carried 5-0.*

Public Comment

**The opinions expressed in public comments are those of the authors and may not represent the official positions of the Town Board. The Town Board does not control or guarantee the accuracy of information contained in the comments, nor does it endorse the views expressed.*

Chair Barfknecht opened the floor for public comment and reminded that if anyone has comment regarding any agenda items, now is your time to speak.

Chair Barfknecht asked three times if there were any attendees who would like to make a comment. Hearing none, the floor was closed.

Road Report

Supervisor Novacek reported the grader was out but broke down for a day. They were back out the following day. Supervisor Novacek requested information from Grossman addressing the shoulders of the gravel roads. He explained the process takes the gravel on the edge, cuts it at an angle and throws the excess on the road. Then right behind that is the grader that levels the road.

Complaints –

2023-07 – 10132 235th – Fence

Chair Barfknecht stated she left a few phone messages, with no return phone call. The Board directed Clerk Atwater to send letters to follow up to the resident and complainant.

Treasurer's Report

Net Pay and claims

The Clerk presented payroll in the amount of \$2,688.81 for payment.

Claims in the amount of \$4,837.06 were presented for payment. See page 5 for a list of claims.

Motion: Vice Chair Sauber moved to approve the net pay and claims as presented. Chair Barfknecht seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Nancy Sauber – Aye; Tim Pope – Aye; Randy Wood – Aye, Lu Barfknecht – Aye; Allen Novacek- Aye. *Motion carried 5-0.*

2023 Year to Date: Expenses vs Budget

Clerk/Treasurer Atwater reviewed the 2023 year to date expenses with the Board.

Unfinished Business

Ordinance Permit Pricing vs Referring to a Fee Schedule

The Town Board reviewed the proposed Ordinance changes for Chapter 126: Fees. Public Hearing will be November 14th at 6:30pm.

Township Road Speed Project/Laws on Putting up Speed Limit Signs

Supervisor Pope shared a quote from M-R Signs for \$2,795.18 that is for signs and posts. The quote does not include installation. Need to get a quote for installation of signs to do a comparison of vendors and quotes.

ARPA Funds

Motion: Supervisor Wood moved to accept the JTN agreement for second phase of Broadband expansion. Vice Chair Sauber seconded the motion. Supervisor Pope requested the record to reflect “I will be voting against it. I think that \$86,000 is a lot of money for 51 homes and 80% is what Ben said that the people would probably sign up. It would be interesting to find out how many people do.” Roll call vote: Nancy Sauber – Aye; Randy Wood – Aye, Lu Barfknecht – Aye; Allen Novacek- Aye; Tim Pope – Aye. *Motion carried 4-1.*

MPM/Chard Mining

Chair Barfknecht reported that the Board hasn’t heard anything since the last meeting. Vice Chair Sauber requested the minutes reflect she did not take part in the discussion.

MPCA

Clerk Atwater reported the MPCA has spoken with Mr. Ploog and was informed that an area farmer will be taking the manure once he finishes harvesting his field. The Board requested Clerk Atwater to follow up with the following questions: Who is the area farmer who is taking the compost? Are they in Eureka Township? What is the anticipated harvest date? What is the new deadline? The Board is concerned this can go on another year if another deadline is not set. The Board wanted to make sure that the MPCA is aware that this property does back up to a residential area.

Closed Road -245th between Dodd and County Line

Supervisor Wood reported we are waiting for a bid from TJ Grossman. The Board discussed the Sheriff is getting complaints from Scott County Residents about the road being open. TJ Grossman advised wait to do anything until after the harvest. The Board had further discussion on options for the road including a more permanent solution. Supervisor Pope requested that the record reflect that “I heard during discussion that if you put up signs and

people don't obey them." Chair Barfknecht to follow up with Commissioner Slavik about the County taking over the road maintenance.

Point North/IT Services

Motion: Chair Barfknecht moved to approve the contract for 3 years with Point North. Vice Chair Sauber seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Nancy Sauber – Aye; Tim Pope – Aye; Randy Wood – Aye, Lu Barfknecht – Aye; Allen Novacek- Aye. *Motion carried 5-0.*

Motion: Vice Chair Sauber moved to accept the firewall bid from Point North in the total amount of, between hardware and services, \$623.75. Chair Barfknecht seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Nancy Sauber – Aye; Tim Pope – Aye; Randy Wood – Aye, Lu Barfknecht – Aye; Allen Novacek- Aye. *Motion carried 5-0.*

Planning Commission Application Recommendation

The Board reviewed the Planning Commission Application and made a few edits.

Motion: Vice Chair Sauber moved to accept the Planning Commission Application as edited. Supervisor Pope seconded the motion. *Motion carried 5-0.*

Right of Way- Ditch Repairs

The Board had a discussion regarding options for repairing the slope of the ditch.

Motion: Vice Chair Sauber moved that we direct the road contractor to amend the slope of the ditch, at whatever the address is, to a more graduate incline and not go beyond \$3,000. Vice Chair Sauber amended the motion by adding or whatever the recommended slope is as determined by our Road contractor. *Motion failed due to lack of second.*

Julie Larson requested to go on the record, "I have requested assistance with this steep ditch from the Township because it is a right of way and legally I cannot alter that."

The Board agreed to table this until the next meeting.

TKDA Quote

The Board discussed the quote as well as options to create a plan internally. Vice Chair Sauber suggested that TKDA come to the next meeting to answer questions for the Board and the Road Committee members.

New Business

Hampton Transmission Project (Xcel)

The board received notification from Xcel Energy on the proposed transmission line. No action required.

Moving Elections to November

Clerk Atwater explained the process for putting a question on the ballot for citizens regarding moving Township elections to November and even years. If the Board initiates the process, they would need to pass a resolution to put the question on the ballot. Vice Chair Sauber

recommended having an open house for the citizens to answer questions and inform them of the pros and cons of moving the elections.

Motion: Supervisor Novacek moved that we do not proceed with changing our elections to November. Supervisor Pope seconded the motion. Allen Novacek- Aye; Nancy Sauber – Aye; Tim Pope – Aye; Randy Wood – Nay, Lu Barfknecht – Nay. *Motion carried 3-2.*

Attorney Closed Meeting
October 10, 2023, at 6 pm.

Septic Letters
Clerk Atwater explained the Deputy Clerk Liberty will send out non-pump Septic letters per the report from the County.

Minutes for Approval
8.22.2023 Town Board Minutes
Motion: Supervisor Pope moved to approve the minutes are written by the Clerk for August 22, 2023. Supervisor Novacek seconded the motion. *Motion carried 5-0.*

Clerk Matters
Clerk Vacation
Clerk Atwater will be on vacation October 18-20. Clerk Atwater inquired about disposal of old items, such as telephones. The Board gave permission to the Clerk to dispose of items as needed.

Adjournment
Motion: Supervisor Pope moved to adjourn the meeting. Chair Barfknecht seconded the motion. *Motion carried 5-0.*


Meeting adjourned at 10:06 pm

Respectfully submitted,



Liz Atwater, Town Clerk

Minutes Officially Approved By:



Town Chair

on: 10/25/23
Date

Eureka
 Township
 Date Range:

09/12/2023 To 09/12/2023

<u>Date</u>	<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Check #</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Total</u>
09/26/2023	Payroll ending 9/15/2023	11063	Payroll ending 9/15/2023	\$ 1,933.31
09/26/2023	Payroll ending 9/15/2023	11064	Payroll ending 9/15/2023	\$ 755.50
09/26/2023	Benafica, LLC	11065	October 2023 HRA	\$ 530.50
09/26/2023	De Lange Landon Financial	11066	Copier Rental	\$ 95.83
09/26/2023	Envirotech	11067	Dust Control	\$ 2,516.86
09/26/2023	JTN Communications	11068	Internet October 2023	\$ 199.00
09/26/2023	Metro Sales	11069	Copier Rental	\$ 216.00
09/26/2023	Ottomatic Lawn Care	11070	Town Hall Mowing and Fertilizer	\$ 1,100.00
09/26/2023	Randy Wood	11071	Fleet Farm- flex tape and Ace Hardware- Garage keys made	\$ 28.87
09/26/2023	T&C Cleaning	11072	Town Hall- September Cleaning	\$ 150.00
				<u>\$ 7,525.87</u>