

EUREKA TOWNSHIP
Dakota County, State of Minnesota

TOWN BOARD MEETING
October 24, 2023 – 7:00 P.M.

Call to Order

The Eureka Township Town Board meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by Chair Barfknecht and the Pledge of Allegiance was given.

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

Others Present: Liz Atwater, Mark Henry, Bill Clancy, Elise Mincke, Chad Harmer, Travis Thiel, Brian Ahern.

Zoom Attendance: Carol Cooper, Gloria Belzer, Julie Larson, Ralph Fredlund, Ryan Kiesel.

Approval of the Agenda

Vice Chair Sauber requested the following be added to the agenda:

Unfinished Business:

G- Following the ordinance and attorney advice.

H- Chapter 9 in the MAT Manual.

Motion: Chair Barfknecht moved to approve the agenda as amended. Vice Chair Sauber 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.

23450 Hamburg Ave- Chad Harmer

Mr. Harmer stated this past spring the road had deteriorated to the point you needed an all-wheel drive vehicle. With the rain over the last month the road is starting to resemble last spring with potholes. Mr. Harmer wanted to bring this to the Board's attention and hopes the Board will look at repairing this road in the spring.

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

Vermillion River Watershed Plan Update

Travis Thiel reported that the Watershed Plan is in the process of being updated. State requirements that every 10 years the Watershed must update its plan to address the priorities and actions of its stakeholders. This is a 3-year process, and currently in the identification

phase and getting stakeholder input. Resident input is important, and more information can be found on the <https://bit.ly/vrw2026>

CUP Reviews

Prairie Creek School

Ryan Kiesel was present to represent the annual CUP review for Prairie Creek School. He noted that the school is in compliance with the conditions of the CUP and referred the Board to the accountability documents and annual reports on the Prairie Creek website.

Motion: Vice Chair Sauber moved to approve the review of the Prairie Creek School CUP. Supervisor Novacek seconded the motion. *Motion carried 5-0.*

Westwind School

The Board discussed this school is no longer in existence. Clerk Atwater is sending the owners a letter to let them know that the property has a CUP.

Road Report

Road Superintendent Henry reported they are working on touching up roads and getting rid of potholes before winter. Road Committee working on analyzing the roads, projects, and priorities.

Road Committee- Brian Ahern, Elise Mink, and Chad Harmer

Mr. Ahern stated they started the committee with 8 members and Mr. Henry as an advisor. The Committee first met on Saturday, September 9th. The committee all agree that progress has been made on the roads, and at the same time they are not to where they want to be, and they need to continue to get up to a minimally acceptable standard. At the same time trying to stay within budget. This will take time. They discussed current issues, which include lack of crown, drainage, road shoulder and ditch conditions, and tree removal. They have met a total of 9 times so far. They discussed longer-term planning for maintenance. The committee has driven all the roads and has graded them based on various criteria. Mr. Ahern discussed their findings, which included Fairgreen and Hamburg being the most problematic road segments that should have priority. The committee presented a budget and road plan for 2024 to the Board.

Vice Chair Sauber stated "We did not have a sealed bid this last year because it was under the \$175,000. Yet we were asked to do 50-60 thousand more in materials for Hamburg and Fairgreen during the same road season. I want to go on record saying that is not correct procedure. Those roads have had gravel for a long time. I am assuming this conversion to lime rock, that thought has been around for a long time. If that was going to be expected to be done, that amount of money needed to go with what was quoted in the spring and it would have had to go to sealed bid. That is one of the reasons I was not for doing this at this point. "

Motion: Supervisor Novacek moved to direct our Road Superintendent to get two quotes in an attempt to correct Fairgreen and Hamburg yet this year, if it is possible. Supervisor Pope seconded the motion. *Motion carried 5-0.*

Complaints

The Board directed Clerk Atwater to send a letter to the complainant that this complaint was sent to the Attorney as additional information regarding litigation. 2023-09- 9390 267th Street W, Lakeville, MN.

Treasurer's Report

Net Pay and claims

The Clerk presented payroll in the amount of \$2,635.18 for payment.

The following claims in the amount of \$1,829.84 were presented for payment. See page 5 for a list of claims.

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

CD Recommendations

Motion: Supervisor Pope moved to put \$25,000 into a CD at Frandsen based on the Clerk's recommendation from General Fund. Supervisor Novacek seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Nancy Sauber- Aye; Allen Novacek – Aye; Tim Pope – Aye; Randy Wood – Aye, Lu Barfknecht - Aye. *Motion carried 5-0.*

Unfinished Business

Ordinance Permit Pricing vs Referring to a Fee Schedule

Public Hearing November 14th at 6:00 pm

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

Supervisor Novacek will get a quote from Grossman and at least one other vendor for installation of the signs. Quotes will need to be forwarded to the Clerk for comparison to present to the Board.

MPM/Chard Mining

Chair Barfknecht reported no new updates.

MPCA

The Town Board directed Clerk Atwater to write a letter to the Ploogs with a November 10, 2023, deadline.

Closed Road -245th between Dodd and County Line

Clerk Atwater reported the debris and other items in the ditches on 245th must be cleaned out prior to December 1st as this is part of the Minnesota Snowmobile Trails.

TKDA Proposal

The Board decided not to proceed with the TKDA proposal at this time.

**Eureka
Township
Date Range:**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Check #</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Total</u>
10/24/2023	Payroll ending 10/15/2023	11107	Payroll ending 10/15/2023	\$ 1,933.31
10/24/2023	Payroll ending 10/15/2024	11108	Payroll ending 10/15/2023	\$ 701.87
10/24/2023	Benafica, LLC	11109	QSEHRA 2023-0220446 November 2023 HRA	\$ 530.50
10/24/2023	JTN Communications	11110	November 1-30, 2023	\$ 199.00
10/24/2023	Metro Sales	11111	INV2381867 October 10-November 9, 2023	\$ 120.00
10/24/2023	Ottomatic Lawn Care	11112	Town Hall mowing 9/19 and 9/28	\$ 750.00
10/24/2023	Plunketts Pest Control	11113	Exterior treatment 9/26/2023	\$ 80.34
10/24/2023	T & C Cleaning	11114	Inv# 602 October cleaning	\$ 150.00
				<u>\$ 4,465.02</u>