

EUREKA TOWNSHIP
Dakota County, State of Minnesota

TOWN BOARD MEETING
March 13, 2024 – 7:00 P.M.

Call to Order

The Eureka Township Town Board meeting was called to order at 7:02 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: Amy Liberty (Deputy Clerk), Bill Clancy, Brian Ahern, Deb Burkhardt, Cindy Murphy, Tim Murphy

Zoom Attendance: Julie Larson, Gloria Belzer, Carol Cooper, Bethany Fischer

Approval of the Agenda

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

Bill Clancy of 25511 Ipava Ave., wanted to publicly thank Vice Chair Nancy Sauber and Supervisor Randy Wood for their service.

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

Reports

*Dakota County Transportation

Kevin Krech presented the Town Board information regarding a project to reconstruct the roadway and increase the safety of County Road 86 (280th Street West).

He discussed the following project information:

- Shoulder Widening
- Drainage Improvements.
- Turn lanes and bypass lanes at intersections.
- Traffic Detours during construction.
- 58 adjacent Parcels (approximately 43 owners)
- Assuming all properties will have temporary impacts.
- Average Traffic: 3500 vehicles per day (2021)

The County will be reaching out to all property owners.

*Planning Commission

Vice Chair of the Planning Commission, Deb Burkhardt, shared items that were discussed at the March Planning Commission meeting. A full summary is provided in the meeting minutes and is available for viewing at the Town Hall and on the website.

Permits

Fischer, Paul & Bethany, 8686 250th St. W., PIN 13-02000-02-023 *Pole Shed

Bethany Fischer was available via Zoom to answer any questions the Supervisors may have. Vice Chair Sauber asked about the corrected square footage that was noted on the application. Ms. Fischer agreed to come into the Town Hall to initial the correction.

Motion: Supervisor Novacek moved to approve the pole shed for Paul & Bethany Fischer, PIN 13-02000-02-023, with the changes mentioned by Supervisor Sauber. *Motion carried 5-0.*

Agreement Follow-up

On August 11th, 2022, a Zoning Violation Abatement Agreement was made between the Township and Niel and Tacie Devasir regarding an agriculture building that needed to be moved due to a lot-split. This needed to be completed by December 31st, 2023. Chair Barfknecht agreed to check on the property to see if it is now in compliance.

§ 240-12 Setbacks and lot dimensions.

E. All dwellings shall be separated by at least 250 feet from the nearest agricultural building; however, this restriction shall not apply where the dwelling and the agricultural building are in common ownership.

Minutes

Motion: Chair Barfknecht moved to approve the meeting minutes for the February 13, 2024, Special Town Board meeting. Supervisor Wood seconded. *Motion carried 5-0.*

A few errors were found while reviewing the minutes for the February 13, 2024, Town Board meeting that was conducted right after the Special meeting.

1. Page 2, first paragraph, the word *house* is listed twice. This should be removed.
2. Under Reports, ALAAC, it should be specified that Supervisor Pope is the primary alternative and Chair Barfknecht is the second alternate.

The Clerk will make these corrections.

Motion: Chair Barfknecht moved to approve the meeting minutes for the February 13, 2024, Town Board meeting as amended. Supervisor Wood seconded. *Motion carried 5-0.*

Treasurer's Report

Deputy Clerk Amy Liberty read the following:

Treasurer's report as of February 29, 2024 -Total bank balances are \$642,454.56. Total Investments are \$441,447.43. Total Township assets are \$1,083,901.99.

Motion: Vice Chair Sauber moved to approve the Treasurer's Report for February 29, 2024, as presented. Chair Barfknecht seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Lu Barfknecht -Aye; Allen Novacek -Aye; Tim Pope -Aye; Randy Wood -Aye, Nancy Sauber -Aye. *Motion carried 5-0.*

Net pay and claims -Net pay is \$3,240.75. Claims are \$131,905.93.

For a total Net pay and Claims of \$135,146.68. See page 6 for a full list of payroll and claims.

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

Receipts and Disbursements

Deputy Clerk Liberty stated the February 2024 receipts were in the amount of \$59,872.63 and the February 2024 disbursements were in the amount of \$93,282.89.

Other Treasurer Reports

The Town Board reviewed the Cash Control Statement, Schedule 1, PTO balances, and Investments reports that were included in the meeting packet.

The 2023 Audit was completed by Lewis, Kisch & Associates in February. The documentation was emailed to all Town Board Supervisors by Clerk Atwater.

Deputy Clerk Liberty ended the Treasurer’s Report by sharing the success of the first online credit card payment received for a permit and explained the full process.

Task List

The Town Board reviewed the task list and discussed the following:

- Jake Braking Sign Quote- Road Superintendent Henry

Chair Barfknecht reminded the Board that the term “Jake Braking” cannot be used as it is a patented name for the braking system. Discussion started with what sign would be appropriate. Vice Chair Sauber shared that it was suggested by Mr. Ruppe to use “No Engine Breaking,” a term that is specific to the Ordinance.

Motion: Chair Barfknecht moved to get the quotes on signs that say, “No Engine Breaking by Township Ordinance”- Vice Chair Sauber seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Lu Barfknecht–Aye; Tim Pope–Aye; Randy Wood–Aye; Nancy Sauber–Aye; Allen Novacek-Nay. *Motion carried 4-1.*

Supervisor Wood will contact either Mark Henry or obtain quotes himself from Safety Signs and M-R Sign Company.

Unfinished Business

Ordinance 235- The Town Board decided the best route was to adopt the Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization (VRWJPO) rules by reference as amended, much like what is stated for the MN State Building Code. Recapturing the current policies of the VRWJPO in the Eureka Township Code Book is not necessary.

Lakeville Fire Contract

Clerk Atwater contacted Fire Chief Mike Meyer and learned that the contract will be reviewed at the end of March by the department. After a full review, Mr. Meyer stated he would be willing to have an open dialogue with the Town Board regarding the terms.

Farmington Fire Contract

Clerk Atwater had a conversation on Thursday, March 7th with Matthew Price, Interim Fire Chief of Farmington. Clerk Atwater asked for clarification as to how the contract was calculated prior to the new contract being submitted and how they calculated the rate for the 2024 proposed contract and

services. Mr. Price needed to review the information and would contact Clerk Atwater sometime during the third week of March.

250th Speed Study

The Town Board reviewed a proposed Resolution and letter that would be sent to Dakota County that was written by Commissioner Eilers. Dakota County does request reasoning as to why a speed study request is needed. It was suggested to add the wording in the Resolution “including cross traffic through the Township at excessive speeds” to help the rationale as to why a speed study is needed.

Motion: Chair Barfknecht moved that we go forward with the letter and the Resolution 2024-04, requesting the speed study on 245th St. W. Vice Chair Sauber seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0.

New Business

Supervisor Wood met with Road Superintendent Mark Henry earlier in the day to discuss various road items, including the gravel quotes. The Town Board reviewed the three quotes that were obtained and in the meeting packet. The following was suggested:

- Anderson Rock & Lime should be awarded all projects, apart from #4.
- Milestone Materials should be awarded project #4 since they were used for 225th last year.
- Both should be used for spot gravel.

Invitation for Gravel Quotes 2024

Project #1	Spot Gravel	900 ton
Project #2	257 th (Highview Ave to Cedar Ave)	720 ton
Project #3	Flagstaff (225 th St to N Township line)	600 ton
Project #4	225 th (Dodd Blvd to Cedar Ave)	1,000 ton
Project #5	245 th (Essex Ave to Denmark Ave)	1,000 ton
Project #6	Essex Avenue (235 th Street W to 245 th St W)	1,200 ton
Project #7	247 th (Cedar Ave to Essex Ave)	1,000 ton
Project #8	Iberia Avenue (267 th St W to 280 th St W)	750 ton

Motion: Supervisor Wood moved to accept the Anderson bid for project numbers 1,2,3,5,6,7, 8 and for Milestone give also 1 and number 4. Supervisor Novacek seconded the motion.

It was asked for clarification if other maintenance could be handled by either company. The intent of the motion is to allow both Anderson Rock & Lime and Milestone Materials to be hired for other services if needed. Roll call vote: Lu Barfknecht–Aye; Tim Pope–Aye; Randy Wood–Aye; Allen Novacek-Aye; Nancy Sauber-Nay. *Motion carried 4-1.*

Vice Chair Sauber wanted the reason she voted “Nay” in the meeting minutes. “As a matter of principal, I do not want to vote for this because had Hamburg and Fairgreen been done properly, both numbers for that material should have been entered either into last year’s gravel requirements or this year’s gravel requirements which would have not been able then to go to a quote. One way or another it should have been a bid. I am not going to vote for it simply because of that.”

Watch For Children Sign

Motion: Vice Chair Sauber moved the old *Watch for Children* sign that used to be on Old Cedar and then was removed, be replaced from the garage, from the storage building, back on Old Cedar to help the young parents along that roadway. Supervisor Pope seconded the motion.

Roll call vote: Lu Barfknecht–Aye; Tim Pope–Aye; Randy Wood–Aye; Allen Novacek–Nay; Nancy Sauber–Aye. *Motion carried 4-1.*

Motion: Vice Chair Sauber continued and stated that if it doesn't happen to be there any longer because someone spirited it away, she moved that we invest in a sign *Watch for Children* to be placed in the right of way on Old Cedar as it has been in the past. Chair Barfknecht seconded.

Roll call vote: Lu Barfknecht–Aye; Tim Pope–Aye; Randy Wood–Aye; Allen Novacek–Nay; Nancy Sauber–Aye. *Motion carried 4-1.*

Planning Commission Applications

The deadline for submitting applications was set for April 1, 2024.

Interviews were set to take place on April 9, 2024.

Applications/Directions

- Splitting and Combining Tax Parcels for Lot Line Adjustment application

Motion: Chair Barfknecht moved to accept the new form for the Splitting and Combining Tax Parcels for Lot Line Adjustment application. Vice Chair Sauber seconded the motion. *Motion carried 5-0.*

- Supplement to Accessory Structures Permit application

The Supervisors reviewed the supplement page and raised an important note about the definition of an agricultural building. Citizens need to realize these buildings are referring to farming operations.

Motion: Vice Chair Sauber moved that we adopt the Supplement to Accessory Structures Permit application with the addition of the word "new" in number (one) 1. *Size of new structure* and otherwise as presented. Chair Barfknecht seconded. *Motion carried 5-0.*

Reorganization Meeting

The current Town Board debated what would be a proper date for this meeting. It was decided to set the date for March 26, 2024.


Adjournment

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

The meeting adjourned at 8:48 pm.

Respectfully submitted,


Amy Liberty, Deputy Clerk

Minutes Officially Approved By:  on: 4-23-24
Town Chair Date

<u>Date</u>	<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Check #</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Total</u>
3/13/2024	Payroll ending 2/29/24	11261	Payroll ending 2/29/24	\$ 2,014.22
3/13/2024	Payroll ending 2/29/24	11262	Payroll ending 2/29/24	\$ 344.86
3/13/2024	Payroll ending 2/29/24	11263	Payroll ending 2/29/24	\$ 881.67
3/13/2024	Internal Revenue Service	11264	Tax February Payroll	\$ 1,781.08
3/13/2024	PERA	11265	February Payroll	\$ 1,139.82
3/13/2024	Couri & Ruppe	11266	Legal Services February	\$ 7,897.50
3/13/2024	Dakota County Financial Services	11267	Poll-pad cost sharing	\$ 467.00
3/13/2024	Dakota Electric	11268	Electric 1/15-2/11/2024	\$ 235.99
3/13/2024	Dakota Electric	11269	Electric 1/15-2/11/2024 Shed	\$ 17.59
3/13/2024	DSI	11270	March Garbage Bill	\$ 163.05
3/13/2024	Genisys Credit Union	11271	Purchase 9 month CD at 5.3 THC	\$ 35,000.00
3/13/2024	Genisys Credit Union	11272	Purchase 9 month CD GF	\$ 30,000.00
3/13/2024	Genisys Credit Union	11273	Purchase 9 month CD RB	\$ 40,000.00
3/13/2024	Grossman Companies	11274	Grading January 29-February 1, 2024	\$ 4,071.00
3/13/2024	Grossman Companies	11275	Grading January 29-February 1, 2024 Shared Roads	\$ 552.00
3/13/2024	Inspectron	11276	February 2024 Inspections	\$ 390.06
3/13/2024	Kennedy & Graven	11277	January Enforcement	\$ 46.00
3/13/2024	Lewis, Kisch & Associates	11278	2023 Audit	\$ 9,275.00
3/13/2024	Mark Henry	11279	February 2024 Road Mileage	\$ 132.66
3/13/2024	Point North	11280	March 2024 Billing	\$ 533.00
3/13/2024	Visa	11302	Adobe, Amazon and USPS	\$ 204.18
				<u>\$135,146.68</u>