

Eyota Township
Board Meeting
Wednesday, April 12th, 2023

Opening

The regular meeting of the Eyota Township Board was called to order at 7 pm on, at the Eyota Ambulance Barn by Clerk Franklin Merchant. Pledge of Allegiance recited.

Present

J Schumann, F Merchant, D. O'Neill, D. Kullot, B. Halvorson, Maureen Lewis (Deputy Clerk)
Jeff Pagel

Absent

None

Guests

Jim Zwiener (Bruening Rock), Steve Pollocum, Jesper Nielson (Nature Energy), Bob Lefebvre (Nature Energy), Emily Straka (Ranger Power), Zane Jones (Ranger Power).

Treasurer Report

Stands as read. Approved by Dan O'Neill

Approval of Minutes

The Minutes of the March 8th, 2023 were read and approved as amended. Motion by Brian Halvorson, second by Dan O'Neill. Motion passed.

Open Issues

1. Set new Chair. Motion made by Brian Halvorson to set the new Chair as Dan O'Neill. Jim Schumann seconded the motion. Motion passed. Dan O'Neill accepted the Chair position for the remainder of his term.
2. Nature Energy Biomass presented on their digester system and reported that they are looking for a new home for their plant. They estimated 100 trucks in and 100 trucks out per day at the plant. They discussed that they plant is entirely indoor, which reduces odors and noise. They shared that they would partner with local farms for the manure required as well as the fertilizer generated. They will remain in contact as they continue to work on plan development.
3. Emily Straka and Zane Jones from Ranger Power presented on their presence in Olmsted County working towards the development of a power plant. They discussed newer technology that boosts power generation in Minnesota. They reported that they are looking for an 1800-acre site. With panels covering 600

acres of the site. Financial rates were discussed for rent and other compensation. Setbacks from property lines were discussed. It is based on ordinances in place. Buffer zones and other agreements were discussed.

4. Frank will research and provide options for a replacement laptop for the treasurer and network storage drive.
5. Spraying with Northstar Property Solutions was discussed and updated pricing was provided for spraying township roads, ditches, and properties.
6. ARPA – Jim Schumann reported on the progress of the ARPA fund audit report. Jim shared that he is unable to submit the report until contacted by the agency.
7. Steve from Haverhill Township talked about his concerns about the proposed ban on under 25cc gas motors.
8. Ditch on 30th Street. Options and plans moving forward were discussed.
9. Fire Contracts were sent and received by Haverhill and Viola township.
10. Road tour set for 8 am April 19th, 2023.
11. Set salaries for Treasurer and Clerk. Dan O'Neill made a motion to set the salaries as the same as 2022. Second by Jim Schumann. Motion passed. Salaries will remain the same in 2023 as 2022.
12. Board members reviewed the quotes received from contractors and other services providers for road work, spraying, etc. The documents will be scanned and available in Google Workspace. Barth Construction and Griffin Construction did not provide rate quotes and will be contacted for their quotes. Motion made by Brian Halvorson.
13. Brian Halvorson made a motion to pay the IRS late payment. Clerk Merchant will call the IRS to see if they will drop the \$160.03 fine.
14. Motion made for the township to pay up to \$500.00 as a prepaid amount to Kwik Trip. This is to account for billing overlapping issues. Seconded by Jim Schumann. Motion passed.
15. Letter will be created to begin the process of moving all banking to Foresight from Bremer Bank. Motion by Brian Halvorson to begin the process. Seconded by Jim Schumann. Motion passed.
16. A motion was made by Jim Schumann and seconded by Brian Halvorson to pay the bills minus the City of Eyota Fire Department balance. Motion passed.

Pay Bills – A motion was made by Jim Schumann and seconded by Brian Halvorson, to Pay Bills. Motion passed. Minus the Fire Department invoice from the City of Eyota.

Around the Table (Clerk) –

1. Google Workspace use moving forward.
2. Training for Clerk and Treasurer - upcoming

Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 9 pm by Dan O'Neill, seconded by Jim Schumann. Motion passed. The next general meeting will be at 7 pm on Wednesday, May 10th, 2023, at Eyota Ambulance Barn.

Minutes submitted by Franklin Merchant, Clerk

Approved on May 10th, 2023

Brian Halvorson

Daniel O'Neill

James Schumann