

June 27, 2017 Board Minutes

Royalton Township Regular Board Meeting Minutes

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27 June 2017 - Approved

7:30 p.m., 27 June 2017, Chair Marshall Pearson called the Royalton Township regular board meeting to order with Supervisor Wayne Olson, Supervisor Jeff Schlaeger, Treasurer Wendy Tchida, and Clerk Duane Swanson present. Also present was Deputy Clerk Roberta Folkestad. The pledge of allegiance was recited.

Supervisor Olson moved, Supervisor Schlaeger seconded, to add to the agenda blades for the grader, Animal Humane Society letter, culverts, fence ordinance and town line road agreements and to approve the agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

Chair Pearson questioned the wording of the board minutes of 30 May regarding the culvert on Crestview. Supervisor Olson moved, Supervisor Schlaeger seconded, to approve the minutes as presented with the addition of a statement that the culvert on Crestview is not at the highest point, that a new one will be needed, and that culvert will be at the township's expense. The motion carried unanimously.

Chair Pearson altered the agenda to permit Patrice DeGray to report to the board on the issues that John DeGray had been asked to investigate at the last meeting. Mrs. DeGray reported: 1) A new culvert is needed at the highest point on Crestview [see discussion on the 30 May minutes above]; 2) The culvert for the driveway on Cabin Drive is possible but only with a smaller one; and 3) If the ditch on Church Road is cleared out, a driveway will be needed.

Treasurer Tchida gave her report, noting that the township has a current balance of \$336,421.12 in the treasury. Supervisor Olson moved, Supervisor Schlaeger seconded, to approve the report as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Supervisor Olson moved, Supervisor Schlaeger seconded, to approve payment of checks #8371 - 8405 totaling \$55,029.76. The motion carried unanimously with Chair Pearson, Supervisor Olson and Supervisor Schlaeger voting "aye."

Public Forum was offered; no one spoke.

Planning Commission recommendations:

Supervisor Schlaeger reported that the planning commission had requested direction from the board on continuing to study the possibility of a fence ordinance and to work on a draft for the board of an agreement with neighboring townships for town line roads. The board directed the planning commission to continue to work on both of these issues.

Old Business:

Supervisor Olson reported on the situation at 3623 State Highway 70 (PID #20.0241.000). After discussions with counsel, a permit for a fence has been received by the township indicating that

it will be completed by 30 July. Some progress has been made on the other action items concerning this property, including removal of some "junk."

Supervisor Olson reported on the following updates emanating from the 2017 annual road inspection with the recommendations for additional action:

1. PID #29.0273.003 Apple Road: Owner had been told by letter to move driveway to Apple Road from Raspberry Road; no apparent movement; reissue letter with a 30-day due date.
2. 4843 Brunswick Road: No response to first letter; send second letter.
3. 4670 Canary Road: Culvert issue was reviewed by board members; recommendation that if the driveway stays as is no further action is needed; decision to send a letter stating that as long as the driveway remains the same no further action is needed; however, if any alterations are made, those will require a culvert.
4. 4673 Canary Road: no response to first letter; send second letter.

5. 2667 Greeley Road: no apparent action; reissue second letter.

6. 5536 Pokegama Lake Road: Definite progress is apparent and may actually be completed. No further action required at this time.

7. 1390 Sherwood Street: Permit has been issued for construction of a basement and clean-up is occurring. No further action required at this time, but monitoring should continue.

8. 2119 Pokegama Lake Road: Permit has been issued; no further action needed.

By consensus, the board approved the above reports and recommendations. Board members were encouraged to continue to review issues that are still pending.

Supervisor Schlaeger reported on conversations with the telephone company about their cable through the township's culvert on Timber Drive. They met with Road Maintenance Person Dan Saumer, a repair ticket has been made, and if the township replaces the culvert they will move their line. The board noted that this does not address who will pay for this action. Noting that the telephone company had damaged the culvert, Supervisor Schlaeger was authorized to call the company again, mentioning possible involvement of the Public Utilities Commission, and attempt to resolve the issue.

The possible ditch cleanout on Church Road was tabled, pending more study.

Supervisor Schlaeger reported that he had discussed the application of calcium chloride with Amanda Kyander from EnviroTech Services, Inc located at Mountain Iron MN. Royalton is on their schedule but the county needed formal authorization. She e-mailed the forms to the township, but apparently the township does not have them. Supervisor Schlaeger will ask the county to resend them.

Chair Pearson updated the board on the pole shed progress. The building is up, more grading is required, and the garage door is scheduled for installation soon. He asked if an automatic garage door opener should be installed. After discussion, the board decided that an automatic opener was not necessary at this time.

The approval letter from David Latourelle for the turnaround on Eagle Drive has not been returned. The township office will call and see if this cannot be finalized so that the turnaround can be recorded with the county.

Permission letters for the turnaround on Mystic Dove Drive have been sent.

New Business:

The board discussed the situation at 1386 Sherwood Street, Braham, referencing the comments that Nancy Dodd had made to the planning commission. Zoning Administrator Kemen reported on his conversations with the Animal Humane Society relaying their request for a letter from the township detailing relevant portions of the animal ordinance. Lanor Workman addressed the board on this issue noting that her son had been bitten by a dog from the property, that police reports had been made, and that because the dog had not been quarantined her son would have to undergo rabies shots. After discussion, Chair Pearson moved, Supervisor Schlaeger seconded, to direct Zoning Administrator Kemen to work with Deputy Clerk Folkestad to send a letter to the Animal Humane Society providing the information they have requested.

Supervisor Schlaeger questioned how the culvert being filled in on Royal River Run may be affecting Bluebell Road. Supervisor Olson was directed to discuss this issue with his contacts at the Department of Natural Resources. Board members were encouraged to continue to monitor this situation.

Supervisor Olson reported that the township is aware that Raspberry South needs gravel to cover the culvert.

Supervisor Olson reported that he had authorized purchase of blades for the grader and that they have been delivered at a cost of approximately \$2,500; complaints have been made that the grader is not grading the roads evenly. New blades should alleviate this problem. Discussion occurred on whether or not the township should order another set of blades to have on hand. Chair Pearson directed that Road Maintenance Person Saumer compare prices and report back at the next board meeting.

The township's dump truck needs new wing blades. Chair Pearson delayed this item until the next board meeting.

Mr. Jim Waxberg questioned what has happened to the stop signs along Royal River Run. He was told that because the road is not a township responsibility the signs are not the responsibility of the township. He also asked about a stop sign at the three-way stop on Bluebell. Supervisor Olson will investigate.

Madeline Pennings was present to address the board on the noise situation on Canary Road. She reported that they have not yet replaced the exhaust system on the noisiest machine but that they have the parts and are limiting use of the machine until the exhaust system can be replaced. She also reported that they have sold the dirt bike. Chair Pearson relayed a message he had received from neighbor Barb Dreyer that the noise situation is much improved. Chair Pearson thanked Ms. Pennings for their actions and for reporting them to the board.

Clerk Swanson noted that the township had received word from the county that a County Board of Adjustment hearing would be held on 5 July to consider a variance request from Scott Ovick, 12961 Pokegama Lake Road, Pine City (PID #29.0003.000). Planning Commission member Gary Valvoda, who chairs the county's Board of Adjustment, provided background information on this process. Chair Pearson will attend the hearing.

The board decided it was not necessary to purchase a new Pine County plat book.

Clerk Swanson requested approval of the minutes of the 24 April 2017 Board of Equalization and Appeals meeting. County Assessor Kelly Schroeder had forwarded her summary of the meeting to the township. The board had reviewed the minutes in May but formal approval was delayed until this summary was received. Chair Pearson directed that new copies be provided the board for formal action at the July meeting.

Mr. Steve Hass requested maps for graveling and was told to talk with Road Maintenance Person Saumer who has the information.

The board was informed that culverts had been installed on Homer Road, Raspberry North, and Cabin Drive; that permission letters had been sent for brushing and tree cutting on Bluebell, Hazelnut, and Mystic Dove; that letters have been sent to Nessel and Pokegama townships about the yearly change of maintenance of 540th and Mystic Dove, respectively; that the property split request for Michael McGaffigan (PID #29.0221.000) has been approved by Zoning Administrator Kemen; that the Pine County Commissioners will hold a meeting at the Royalton Town Hall on 8 August 2017; and that the next board meeting will be at 7:30 p.m., 25 July 2017.

At 8:48 p.m., Supervisor Schlaeger moved, Chair Pearson seconded, to adjourn. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted:

Duane P. Swanson, Clerk

Marshall Pearson Chair

Wayne Olson Supervisor

Jeff Schlaeger Supervisor