

Royalton Township Regular Board Meeting Minutes
6052 Royalton Road, Braham, MN 55006
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26 March 2024
Approved

7:35 p.m., 26 March 2024, Chair Jeff Schlaeger called the Royalton Township regular board meeting to order, with Supervisor John Graham, Supervisor Pete Belland, Treasurer Jenessa Saumer, and Clerk Duane Swanson present. Septic Administrator Amy Thompson and Road Superintendent Dan Saumer also attended, along with members of the planning commission and members of the public. The pledge of allegiance was recited.

Supervisor Graham moved, Chair Schlaeger seconded, to approve the agenda as presented with the addition of three items: resolution, diesel fuel pre-buy, and old plow truck. The motion carried unanimously.

Chair Schlaeger moved, Supervisor Graham seconded, to approve the minutes of the February regular board meeting of 4 March 2024 as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

The board acknowledged receipt of the draft minutes of the annual meeting of 12 March 2024 as presented. These minutes will be approved at the 2025 annual meeting.

Chair Schlaeger moved, Supervisor Graham seconded, to approve the minutes of the Board of Canvass meeting of 12 March 2024 as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Treasurer Saumer read her report, noting that as of 29 February 2024, the township had a balance of \$287,368.12 in the treasury. Deposits were \$16,507.75; disbursements were \$15,573.96, leaving an ending balance of \$304,553.79. Outstanding checks were \$16,252.06, leaving a spendable balance was \$288,301.73. Supervisor Graham moved, Supervisor Chair Schlaeger seconded, to approve the report. The motion carried unanimously.

Chair Schlaeger called for discussion of checks #11090-11122 in the amount of \$8,929.25. Supervisor Graham moved, Chair Schlaeger seconded, to approve payment of the bills. The motion carried unanimously with Chair Schlaeger, Supervisor Graham, and Supervisor Belland voting "Aye." Chair Schlaeger moved, Supervisor Graham seconded, to authorize Treasurer Saumer to update the signatories at the bank by removing Marshall V. Pearson and adding Peter T. Belland. The motion carried unanimously.

Public Forum was offered. Patrice DeGray requested information on when/if planning commission membership will be discussed. Clerk Swanson reported that, per the town's ordinance, commission members serve at the pleasure of the board; the board has not defined specific terms of members; the ordinance limits the membership to five, one of which must be a member of the town board.

Paul Wilkens asked about the legality of cameras in the town hall. Chair Schlaeger noted that, after consulting with legal counsel, installing a camera before adoption of a camera policy is illegal; no township monies were spent in its installation, and the camera has since been removed. By consensus, the board will revisit this issue at a future meeting.

Planning Commission recommendations:

There were no planning commission recommendations.

Old Business:

Septic issues: There was no additional information on the expired septic permit for 11227 Homer Road; the letter to the homeowner had been returned to the town.

Zoning issues: There were no zoning issue updates.

Road report: Road Superintendent Saumer reported that the roads were muddy because of the recent snowfall.

There were no new updates on the FEMA disaster submissions or on Road T-13. With no information on membership

PB _____ JG _____ JMS _____ JS _____ DPS _____

in the Pine County Township Officers Association, by consensus, the board decided to postpone a decision until the next meeting.

By consensus, the board approved attendance at the Spring Short Course of the Minnesota Association of Townships for Supervisors Graham and Belland and Clerk Swanson; registration is \$75.00 per person.

Clerk Swanson reported that the scoring committee for the fire district planning grant will meet at 11:30 a.m., 3 April 2024, in Savage. Board members are invited. Royaltown's resolution in support of the planning grant will be introduced as evidence at the meeting.

New Business:

Clerk Swanson noted that only one gravel quote had been received; he noted that the call for quotes had been published twice in the legal paper, that e-mails had gone out to the three firms that had submitted quotes in the past, and that the call had been posted at the town hall. The board noted that one firm had requested a delay because of the weather. After discussion, the board determined to open the sole quote. The board opened the quote envelopes, reviewed the required documents, and declared that all was in order. Chair Schlaeger moved, Supervisor Graham seconded, to accept the quote of \$13.92 per cubic yard from Rydberg & Sons, Inc. The motion carried unanimously, with Chair Schlaeger, Supervisor Graham, and Supervisor Belland voting "Aye." The clerk will complete the paperwork for this quote.

Regarding building upgrades, Road Superintendent Saumer was authorized to investigate and reattach the backsplash behind the microwave in the kitchen. Clerk Swanson was authorized to contact electrician Gary Hawkinson to see if he would be willing to look at the malfunctioning light switch in the file room.

Chair Schlaeger noted that Federated Cooperatives currently had a pre-buy offer for diesel fuel at a cost of \$3.25 per gallon. Supervisor Belland was tasked with investigating costs from other suppliers for both off-road and on-road fuels with a report back to the next meeting.

Chair Schlaeger asked the board's wishes on the old plow truck. After discussion of possible avenues for sale, by consensus, the board decided to hold off a decision until later in the year.

Clerk Swanson introduced Resolution 2024-2 thanking former Supervisor Marshall Pearson for his 12 years of service on the town board. Chair Schlaeger moved, Supervisor Graham seconded, to approve the resolution. The motion carried unanimously. All board members signed the resolution which will be forwarded to Mr. Pearson.

Correspondence:

There was no correspondence.

FYI:

The Board of Appeal and Equalization will meet at 9:00 a.m., 29 April 2024, at the town hall. The annual road inspection will follow the conclusion of the Board of Appeal.

The next regular meeting of the town board will be at 7:30 p.m., Tuesday, 30 April 2024.

At 8:10 p.m., Supervisor Graham moved, Chair Schlaeger seconded, to adjourn. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Duane P. Swanson, Clerk

Jeff Schlaeger, Chair/Supervisor

John Graham, Vice Chair/Supervisor

Pete Belland, Supervisor

Jenessa M. Saumer, Treasurer