

July 9, 2018

**PERCH LAKE TOWNSHIP
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING**

Motions are tagged in bold. Meetings are recorded to facilitate preparation of minutes.

1. **CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL AND PLEDGE.**

Chair Gary Harms opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. with the roll call, and pledge.

Members present: Chair Gary Harms, Supervisor Steve Olson, Supervisor Tom DeLovely, and Clerk Lora Eames.

Members excused: Treasurer Cheri DeMenge

2. **REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA.**

MOTION (DeLovely/Olson): To approve the July 9, 2018, regular meeting agenda as presented. Motion carried.

3. **MINUTES.**

a. **MOTION (Olson/DeLovely):** To approve the June 11, 2018, regular meeting minutes as recorded. Motion carried.

b. **MOTION (DeLovely/Olson):** To approve the June 28, 2018, special meeting minutes as recorded. Motion carried.

4. **TREASURER/CLERK REPORTS.**

a. **Review/Approve Treasurer's Report.**

Clerk Eames, in DeMenge's absence, reported an ending cash balance of \$301,120.44 for the month of June; and the receipt of a property tax settlement check from Carlton County in the amount of \$114,070.66. This check will be included in the July report.

MOTION (Olson/DeLovely): To approve the Treasurer's Report as presented with a cash balance of \$301,120.44 for the month ending July 31, 2018. Motion carried.

b. **Informational Clerk's Budget Report**

(1) Clerk Eames reported a negative \$14,682 negative difference between receipts and disbursements. In addition, she (i) reported billing the Cloquet Area Fire Station \$2,507 for second quarter Station 2 costs; and (ii) anticipated another big property tax settlement check of approximately \$24,000 in December.

SUMMARY OF RECEIPTS & DISBURSEMENTS			
	JUNE 2018	YTD 2018	YTD 2017
Receipts	\$130	\$23,926	\$20,486
Disbursements	-14,812	-58,762	-52,350
Difference	\$-14,682	\$-34,836	\$-31,864

- (2) Operating budget to date:

SUMMARY OF 2018 OPERATING BUDGET TO DATE	
Projected Revenues	\$170,556
Revenues Received YTD	-23,926
Recent Check from County*	-114,070
Not Yet Received	\$32,560
*Recorded early for this report.	
Projected Expenses	\$170,812
Disbursements Made YTD	-58,762
Not Yet Spent	\$112,050

5. **REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF CLAIMS FOR PAYMENT.**

MOTION (DeLovely/Olson): To approve the payment of the following claims. Motion carried.

\$822.34	Late Claims #3912, #3923, and #3924 for June 2018
\$7,249.06	Claims #3924 through #3946 for July 2018
\$2,581.98	Payroll for July 2018
\$10,653.38	Total

6. **REPORTS.**

a. **Cloquet Area Fire District (CAFD).**

Town Chair Harms reported nothing new, but summarized events from the recent past:

- The Governor vetoed funding legislation (which included the CAFD request); therefore, the CAFD cannot move ahead with plans to build a new fire station. Instead, the District will stay in the current Station 1 building on Cloquet Avenue, and have Boldt Construction submit a quote for short term fixes to the roof and inside.
- The City of Cloquet has purchased the Members Cooperative Credit Union building, and plans to move its administration and police departments there.

b. **Big Lake Area Sanitary District (BLASD)**

Clerk Eames reported that she had no approved minutes to distribute. However, BLASD Chair Fredrickson had asked her to post a notice cancelling the June meeting and stating that the board would meet as normal at 6:30 p.m., Thursday, July 12, 2018. She plans to attend that meeting.

c. **Road and Bridge**

- (1) Supervisor DeLovely reported washouts from a previous storm and beaver-related flooding everywhere. He recently contacted a trapper to remove beavers Strand Road. The trapper had also removed beavers on the corner of County Road 7 and Ditchbank Road. DeLovely called County Transportation to reopen that area for draining, and the water is going down.
- (2) Supervisor Olson reported two road-related communications:
 - A conservation officer called regarding a beaver dam flooding the second bridge on Ditchbank Road.

- Someone called about submitting a bid for mowing roadsides; Olson informed him of the month in 2019 when the Town Board will be seeking bids.
- (3) Miscellaneous discussion:
 - Jerry Telker has completed roadside mowing on Township roads.
 - Area trappers are finding that the current market price does not support their efforts. Therefore, trappers are not plentiful.
 - DeLovely contacted the County regarding flooding on Lund Road and complaints about the road's condition. In the process, he found out that the road is on the County's schedule for rebuilding in 2019.

7. **OLD BUSINESS**

a. **Old Housekeeping Items.**

Harms reported that Al Soukkala finished painting the brown trim outside the building. Last month, Soukkala repainted the flagpole, and installed a new flag and solar light panel.

b. **Status of Demolition of Big Lake Store Building.**

Building Address: 796 Cary Road
 Parcel ID: 92-010-4272
 Owner: James W. Johnson
 Additional contact: Jason Johnson (son)
 Owner Address Attn: Jody Larson
 PO Box 1747, Bemidji, MN 56619

DeLovely reported that the contractor (DeCaigny) plans to submit his demolition bid to Jason Johnson (owner's son) later this week. Harms reminded Board members of their approval of last month's motion to engage the Town's attorney in this process, which has been going on for two years. Then, he agreed to delay action for another week or two to see what happens with the DeCaigny bid.

c. **Status of Nuisance Ordinance**

There are no new developments here. Supervisor Olson had previously committed to setting up a meeting between FDL officials and the Perch Lake Town Board regarding the possibility of contracting with the FDL for animal control enforcement if the Township passed its own ordinance. Olson will set up the meeting when he returns from vacation.

d. **Report on Minnesota Association of Townships' Summer Course, June 28, 2018, t DECC.**

DeMenge, Eames, Harms, and Olson attended the course.

- Olson offered two observations from the gravel road maintenance training, that the local governments should (i) have a good grader-operator; and (ii) use good quality gravel and have it tested. (DeLovely assured those present that the Township's gravel at Blonde's Pit has been tested.)
- Eames attended the election training. On a different note, she reported two recent legislative changes - the threshold for obtaining sealed bids has increased from \$100,000 to \$175,000; and town boards can now donate to local food shelves.

e. SealTech, Inc., Schedule.

The Town Board previously approved two quotes from SealTech, Inc. - one for sealcoating and cracksealing the parking lot, and one for crackpatching roads. Harms reported that he has been working with SealTech on a date for the parking lot and coordinating with CAFD to remove its fire trucks for the twenty-four hour period required. The new date is July 24. In the meantime, DeLovely has spoken with SealTech regarding their crackpatching of Magney, Pine, Lakeview, Lyndhurst, and Salmi. They will contact Harms to set up a firm date.

f. Response to Bob Lund's Concerns about Loggers' Wood Storage along Reponen Road.

Last month, Lund raised concerns with the Town Board as to Berthiaume's storing logs in the Reponen Road right-of-way; and blocking the roadway. Board members did some checking to determine the correct road right-of-way. DeLovely reported that (i) new roads built since 1953 have a 66-foot width; and (ii) roads established before 1953 have a width of whatever the Town grades and mows. Reponen Road was established in 1921. If the Town wanted Reponen Road to have 66 feet, it would have to purchase land from the propertyowner. Based on this fact, Olson and DeLovely observed that Berthiaume does not appear to be storing logs in the Reponen road right-of-way. However, blocking the road can be a misdemeanor. (When blocking the road, a contractor must have a flagger and signs to get people to slow down.) Board members will check further and determine if they need to send the logger a letter.

8. NEW BUSINESS

a. New Housekeeping Items

Chair Harms reported that the Township has purchased its water cooler from Arrowhead Water, and arranged to have water and salt delivered as needed.

b. Motion Required for Conflict of Interest Resolution: C DeMenge, Treasurer

MOTION (Olson/DeLovely): To approve Resolution 2018-004, authorizing a contract with Treasurer Cheri DeMenge, an interested officer, to substitute as an Election Judge or Head Judge in the 2018 Primary Election. Motion carried unanimously - Harms, Olson, DeLovely.

c. Candidates for Offices of Treasurer (1) and Supervisor (2) Informational

Eames announced that the following offices which will be listed on the November General Election ballot - one Treasurer and two Supervisors. Interested persons may contact her during the filing period, July 31 through August 14.

9. VISITOR COMMENTS.

Resident Kurt Besser announced that the Big Lake Improvement Association will be holding its Annual Garage Sale and Annual Banquet soon. The Annual Banquet will be at the Lounge and catered by Carmen's. Besser asked about having future gatherings at the Town Hall. Chair Harms welcomed them, provided they comply with the hall capacity of 100 persons.

10. ADJOURNMENT.

Chair Harms adjourned the meeting at approximately 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved by Town Board

Lora Eames, Clerk

Gary Harms, Chair