

August 8, 2022

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

1. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL, AND MOMENT OF SILENCE

Chair Gary Harms opened the August 8, 2022, regular meeting at 7:00 p.m. with a roll call. Supervisor Keith Depre hosted the meeting on Zoom.

Board Members: Chair Gary Harms, Supervisor Steve Olson, Supervisor Keith Depre, Treasurer Cheri DeMenge, Clerk Lora Eames

Contractor: Tom DeLovely (Foreman)

In addition, Harm called for a moment of silence for residents who have recently passed away:

- Jim Thurmes
- Roger “Bopper” Molstad
- Mark Watters

2. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA.

MOTION (Olson/Depre): To approve the August 8, 2022, agenda as presented. Motion carried.

3. RECEIPT/APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION (Depre/Olson): To approve the July 11, 2022, regular meeting minutes as recorded. Motion carried.

RECEIVED: August 1, 2022, ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) Committee meeting notes.

4. TREASURER/CLERK REPORTS.

a. Review/Approve Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Cheri DeMenge provided the Treasurer’s Report for July 2022.

MOTION (Olson/Depre): To approve the Treasurer’s Report as presented with a cash balance of \$618,923.17 ending July 31, 2022. Motion carried.

b. Informational Clerk’s Budget Report.

- (1) Clerk Eames reported that the Township received the following deposits in July:
 - \$58,848 in American Rescue Plan Act Funds from Minnesota Revenue.
 - \$122,077 in property tax settlements from Carlton County.
 - \$3,500 in reimbursement for Station 2 costs from the Cloquet Area Fire District.
 - \$3,390 in reimbursement for culvert replacement from Enbridge.

(2) **Monthly Operating Budget for July 2022**

Projected Revenues, incl. ARPA \$	\$255,367
Revenues Received YTD, incl. ARPA \$	-219,509
Not Yet Received	<u>\$35,858</u>

Projected Expenses	\$396,712
Disbursements Made YTD	-105,658
Under Budget YTD	<u>\$291,054</u>

5. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF CLAIMS FOR PAYMENT

The supervisors approved the following claims for payment:

a. Regular Claims

MOTION (Depre/Olson): To approve payment of regular claims for August 2022.

Motion carried.

\$815.39	Late claims list for July: Claim Nos. #4721-#4723
3,419.53	Regular claims list for August 1-August 31: Claim Nos. #4724-#4745
1,093.88	Employee payroll for August 2022
3,217.87	Regular payroll for August 2022.
<u>\$8,546.67</u>	Total

b. American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Claims.

MOTION (Olson/Depre): To approve payment of ARPA claims for \$1,556.63.

Motion carried.

\$1,556.63	Total
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6. REPORTS.

a. Cloquet Area Fire District (CAFD).

Chair Harms stated that he had nothing new to report.

b. Big Lake Area Sanitary District (BLASD)

Supervisor Depre reported that the BLASD Board met last Wednesday, August 3, 2022. They declined to pay the premium for an insurance bond (since it was not needed). The board has requested a meeting with the RBC (Reservation Business Committee) regarding future collaboration. For now, the BLASD Board will remain dormant.

c. Road and Bridge.

(1) Foreman Tom DeLovely reported that he:

- Set up poles for NO PARKING signs on Maple Drive; and he will return later to install the signs.
- Has not yet installed the new culvert on Bob's Drive.

(2) Supervisor Olson reported the following:

(a) **Watkins Spur**

Omar started working on the rebuild of Watkins Spur on July 25, 2022. He discussed some issues he encountered with the project. Some adjustments had to be made. Overall, the rebuild looks good.

Olson will follow up with the postmaster who wants the mailboxes moved to the other side of Magney Drive.

Ulland Brothers will pave Watkins Spur in September.

(b) Complaint regarding Magney Drive

Olson received a complaint from a resident who raised concerns about driving over a rough Magney Drive and Enbridge line in the winter. Later, Olson drove his truck there and did not find it so bad. The supervisors discussed future improvements to the road; but they saw no need for immediate action.

(3) The supervisors discussed the following items:

- (a) Should Watkins Spur have NO PARKING signs? The supervisory consensus was not to install signs there unless it becomes an issue.

7. OLD BUSINESS

a. Old Housekeeping Items

None.

b. American Rescue Plan Act Update and Committee

(1) Report on ARPA Committee Meeting, August 1, 2022

Eames reported that the “Getting to Know Your Neighbor” event on Wednesdays has not been so successful. So, the ARPA Committee has decided to make changes, effective September 1, 2022:

<u>From:</u>	<u>To</u>
8:30 AM–12:30 PM Wednesdays	10:00 AM -2:00 PM Wednesdays
Every Wednesday	Twice a month, first and third Wednesdays

The committee will mail postcards to residents and run a notice in the newspaper.

In addition, committee members will invite instructors and law enforcement to hold classes. Committee members plan to evaluate changes in four months.

(2) Discussion with Board

Eames reported that the Committee had two questions for the Board:

- What is the Board’s definition of success for the committee?
- Would the Board authorize the payments of stipends to instructors or artisans?

The supervisors responded to both questions. They agreed that while “Getting to Know Your Neighbor” has not attracted residents, things may change now that the committee is planning specific activities.

Depre asked Eames to report next month on the budget previously approved for opening the Town Hall on a weekly basis. The supervisors were agreeable with stipends for instructors if the stipends come from the committee’s ARPA budget.

Eames, DeMenge, and J Olson discussed additional ideas with the Town Board. Some suggestions which came up were:

- Health care information
- FDL tribal government and treaties
- Invasive species
- Law enforcement
- Fire/Emergency Medical Services

c. Elections

Eames reported that she is receiving affidavits of candidacy for the following town government offices until Tuesday, August 16, 2022:

- Supervisor A – Four-year term
- Supervisor C – Four-year term
- Treasurer – Four-year term

So far, she has received one affidavit for Supervisor A and one affidavit for Treasurer.

d. Letter from CAFD Chief Jesse Buhs re 2023 Operating Budget and Levy and 10-Year Capital Asset Plan

Harms referenced the July 21, 2022, letter to all CAFD member communities from District Chief Buhs, outlining the proposed 2023 budget and levy. Harms noted that the levy is a 9% increase. The letter is informational and there is no need to respond.

8. NEW BUSINESS

a. New Housekeeping Items

Treasurer DeMenge brought up two items – a noisy ceiling fan in the men’s bathroom and deterioration of paint in women’s bathroom. Harms will follow up.

b. Approval of Enbridge Application for Driveway Access/Entrance Permit.

Paul Halvorson, Enbridge, sent an email dated June 20, 2022, which includes a permit application and updated Exhibit A which is part of the Road Use Agreement previously approved. They are requesting permission to construct a temporary access driveway for use during the Line 3 and Line 4 removal. Mileage required along Magney Drive has increased.

Olson reported that they have a temporary access on Magney, and they will use the road as a haul route to the “T” on Brower. Enbridge may start the project during the 2022 winter; but they are more likely to start in 2023. Olson noted that Enbridge should use the Township’s driveway access permit form and pay the \$100 fee. DePre suggested that the Town Board have Attorney Troy Gilchrist review the entire permit agreement.

MOTION (DePre/Harms): To submit the Enbridge access agreement amendment to Town Attorney Troy Gilchrist for review. Motion carried.

c. Considerations of ARPA Purchases for Town Hall

(1) Quote for Electronic Message Board

Harms reported that he sought two quotes – one from Sign Pro, Cloquet, and one from Todd Signs, Hermantown.

Only Sign Pro responded with a proposal:

Sign Pro: Electronic Message Center, July 29, 2022

Price: **\$18,400.00 complete**

Price includes sales tax* and installation of EMC board

Price does not include final electrical hookup

5 yr. warranty on parts, 10 yr. parts availability

3 feet high x 4 feet wide x 6 inches depth, LED display panel

8 mm, single sided, full color with 120 x 160 matrix

Total LED pixels: 19,200 average LED life: 100,000 hours

Borderless cabinet

Display text, graphics, images, and video clips

*Sales tax not applicable

Olson and Depre expressed concerns that the message board would not be visible from the road. They suggested mounting a two-sided sign on a pole near the Town Hall above the snow. Harms will ask Lehet to provide a quote for the larger board.

(2) Quote for Gutter Helmet

The board previously considered a quote from Gutter Helmet but took no action. After discussion at the May 9, 2022, regular meeting, Harms sought an additional quote from LeafGuard. The salesperson from LeafGuard did not follow up with a quote. After some discussion, Harms tabled consideration of gutter protection until after the purchase of an electronic message board.

d. County Board of Adjustment (CBA) Hearing: Iverson Inn, Inc.

The Clerk received a notice that the CBA will hold a public hearing on August 16, 2022, 7:00 p.m., in the County Transportation Building, to consider the following variance permit request:

“Iverson Inn, Inc., 979 Cary Road, (PIN 92-034-5280, 5285, 5390): Allow an after-the-fact nonconforming conversion of a pump house formerly used by fire department to a rental cabin with attached deck. The cabin with attached deck is nonconforming... Allow 17 campsites to exceed the standard 400 square feet of unit floor space.”

Supervisor Depre discussed the request in depth and expressed confidence that County Zoning (Heather Cunningham) would act appropriately. So, he had no plans to attend the meeting.

9. VISITOR COMMENTS

None.

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