

September 10, 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, Treasurer Cheri DeMenge, and Clerk Lora Eames.

Invited guests: Chris Rousseau and Tom Luke - Big Lake Area Sanitary District (BLASD) Board

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

**MOTION (Olson/DeLovely):** To approve the September 10, 2018, regular meeting agenda with changes. Motion carried.

3. **MINUTES.**

**MOTION (DeLovely/Olson):** To approve the July 9 (s/b August 13), 2018, regular meeting minutes as recorded. Motion carried. (\*Note: The August 13th minutes should have been approved. An agenda error listed the July 9th, rather than August 13th minutes.)

4. **TREASURER/CLERK REPORTS.**

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

Treasurer Cheri DeMenge provided the August 2018 report.

**MOTION (Olson/DeLovely):** To approve the Treasurer's Report as presented with a cash balance of \$385,718.19 for the month ending August 31, 2018. Motion carried.

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

Clerk Eames provided the following reports:

**DIFF IN RECEIPTS & DISBURSEMENTS**

	AUG 2018	YTD 2018	YTD 2017
Receipts	\$284	\$141,037	\$137,708
Disbursements	-22,281	-91,265	-73,520
Difference	\$-21,997	\$49,772	\$64,188

**2018 OPERATING BUDGET TO DATE**

Projected Revenues	\$170,556
Revenues Received YTD	-141,037
Not Yet Received	\$29,519

Projected Expenses	\$170,812
Disbursements Made YTD	<u>-91,265</u>
Not Yet Spent	\$79,547

Eames noted that she expected the Township to receive approximately \$24,000 in December from Carlton County for property tax settlements.

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

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

\$299.66	Late Claims #3979 and #3980 for August
4,657.10	Claims #3981 through #3988 for September
2,137.39	Regular payroll for September
<u>782.50</u>	Election payroll for September
\$7,876.65	Total

5b. **DISCUSSION/ACTION: TOWN HALL CONNECTION TO BLASD SEWER PIPELINE.**

Chair Harms provided a brief history:

- Board members previously declined to hook up to the sewer pipeline because (i) they believed the Town Hall had a working septic system; and (ii) they wished to act in the best interest of all taxpayers, not just those residing in the District.
- The Board has recently discovered that the Township has only a holding tank; and it is now interested in pursuing the connection.

Also, Supervisor DeLovely pointed out that the Cloquet Area Fire District may possibly expand its Station 2 Facility here. (An ambulance and residence would require an upgraded septic system.)

BLASD Board members Chris Rousseau and Tom Luke welcomed the decision to connect, discussed the connection costs, and answered questions.

**MOTION (Olson/DeLovely):** To approve a Perch Lake Town Hall hook-up to the Big Lake Area Sanitary District sewer pipeline when the opportunity becomes available. Motion carried.

6. **REPORTS.**

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

Chair Harms reported that the CAFD's proposed 2019 Budget has decreased from 14% to 9%. Harms, a member of the Budget Committee, noted that while this decrease is helpful, he will continue to put pressure on the CAFD Board.

In addition, Harms reported that the Station 2 (Perch Lake) tanker has been moved to Station 1 (Cloquet). Harms noted that Chief Kevin Schroeder has assured him that this new arrangement will not affect response time. However, Town Board members expressed skepticism and concern about the response times, claiming that it was better to have the water supply at Station 2 (Perch Lake). Harms asked the Clerk to invite Chief Schroeder to the Town Board meeting in October to answer questions.

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

See Item 5-b. The next BLASD Board meeting was Thursday, September 13, 2018.

c. **Road and Bridge**

Supervisor DeLovely reported the following:

- SealTech will be up Friday to begin crackpatching specific Township roads.
- He has replaced two huge deteriorated culverts from the second bridge (Br. 09515) on Ditchbank Road.

DeLovely discussed the upcoming project on the first bridge (Br. 96279). The wood hulls are falling in and must be replaced. He discussed two options:

- Replace the bridge with a box culvert for approximately \$150,000, with State Bridge Fund paying 75% to 80%, and the Township paying 20% to 25%, or \$25,000 - \$30,000.
- Replace the bridge with three plastic-coated culverts for approximately \$20,000, which could last thirty or forty years.

DeLovely favored the second option, believing it would be less costly and time consuming, and just as durable as a box culvert.

Board members did not make any decisions concerning DeLovely's proposal.

When asked about beavers, DeLovely explained how the FDL patrols and Township invest time and effort on animal control issues:

- The FDL patrols the ditching system to ensure that the waterways remain open and the DNR takes care of the beaver problem there.
- The Township takes care of beaver problems on its own roads, such as Strand Road. (The beaver problem there has been resolved for now.)

7. **OLD BUSINESS**

a. **Old Housekeeping Items.**

None.

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

<b>Building Address:</b>	796 Cary Road		
<b>Parcel ID:</b>	92-010-4272		
<b>Previous Owner:</b>	James W. Johnson	<b>New Owner</b>	Anthony J. Linder
	Jason Johnson (son)		642 Barney's Road
	Attn: Jody Larson		Cloquet, MN 55720
	PO Box 1747		
	Bemidji, MN 56619		

Both Chair Harms and Supervisor DeLovely reported that they had been told that (i) Johnson, the current owner, had sold the property; (ii) the closing would take place Wednesday; and (iii) the new owner, Tony Linder, planned to begin demolition immediately.

c. **Status of Nuisance Ordinance**

Board members have previously discussed having a meeting with FDL officials regarding the possibility of the Township contracting with FDL for animal control enforcement if the Township passed its own ordinance. Olson will set up the meeting soon.

d. **SealTech Schedule for Crackpatching Township Roads**

DeLovely reported that SealTech will crackpatch Salmi Road, Lakeview Drive, Maple Drive, Pine Grove Drive, Lyndhurst Bay Drive; and the rest will be done next year.

e. **Town Board's Response to Complaint about Loggers Blocking Reponen Road.**

The complainant, Bob Lund, was not in attendance. After discussion, the Board determined that Berthiaumes' operations were in compliance; they saw no need for further investigation.

f. **Discussion/Action: Town Hall Connection to BLASD Sewer Pipeline**  
(See Item 5b.)

8. **NEW BUSINESS**

a. **New Housekeeping Items**

Clerk Eames reminded everyone that the November meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 13, 2018, since Monday, November 12, 2018, is a holiday - Veteran's Day Observed.

b. **Approval of Additional Election Judge for November 6, 2018, Election.**

**MOTION (Olson/DeLovely):** To appoint Kurt Besser as a Substitute Election Judge for the November 6, 2018, Election. Motion carried.

c. **Report on MAT District 10 Meeting, August 30, 2018, Grand Lake Town Hall, Twig.**

Both Clerk Eames and Treasurer DeMenge attended the meeting. Eames reported that (i) a District Director election was held and James Fisher won reelection; (ii) one legislative change included a contract law change increasing the contract value for sealed bids to \$175,000 (up from \$100,000); and (iii) attendees approved a resolution to ask the State Legislature to stop taxing social security income.

d. **Dead Pine Trees behind Town Hall**

Board members agreed to allow Quinten Anderson to remove dead pine trees north of the Town Hall and close to (if not in) the property line.

9. **VISITOR COMMENTS.**

Resident Tom Luke and Supervisor DeLovely discussed DeLovely's proposal for the first bridge on Ditchbank Road. Harms and others suggested asking the FDL if they would help with costs.

10. **ADJOURNMENT.**

Chair Harms adjourned the meeting at approximately 8:00 p.m.

11. **VISITOR QUESTION AFTER ADJOURNMENT.**

Ron and Jenn Fuchs (3191 Maple Drive) sat in the audience, but did not approach the Board until after the meeting. They expressed concern that the minutes did not show that Supervisor DeLovely had met with them on their property on August 23rd, and found that their driveway was compliant. Board members explained that the September or October minutes would reflect an update in their situation.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved by Town Board

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Lora Eames, Clerk

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Gary Harms, Chair