

Town of Duluth

Town Board Meeting August 8, 2024

Call to Order: The regular meeting was called to order with the Pledge of Allegiance at 6:35 p.m. Supervisors Rolf Carlson, ArMand Nelson, and Saprina Matheny were present. Supervisors Jim Ward and Stacia Grayson were absent. Planning Director Liz Strohmayer, Fire Chief Bob Engelson, and Police Chief Mark Haselow were present. Clerk Nicole Chatterson was also present.

Approve Minutes: ArMand moved to approve the July Town Board meeting minutes and July 10, 2024, Saprina seconded. Amendment: spelling typo fix perp to prep. Armand moved Saprina seconded. The motion passed unanimously. Minutes for the variance appeal hearing for the Sievert's were not approved as a quorum of supervisors that were present at the variance appeal hearing.

Approve Agenda: Add Skating rink under Supervisor Report with that addition the agenda was approved.

Finances: The Treasurer provided a report with a beginning balance of \$800,946.61 Deposits of \$265,753.63 Expenses of \$26,817.32 and an Ending Balance of \$791,037.81. ArMand moved to approve the financial statement and payroll. Saprina seconded. The motion passed. The payroll net pay account distributions and the claims list for approval were approved and signed

Public Comment: No Public Comment.

Department Reports

Police: Mark reported a that there were two suspicious males in the area. There has been more garbage brought onto the Englund Road property. Question: should we move forward with more legal? Liz will investigate the County ordinance to see if there is anything that speaks to this issue.

Fire: The Clerk shared an email from Steve Fenske regarding the potential volunteer for the Fire Department project. Chief Engelson determined that it would not be worth moving forward. Resident Brad Jackson has a military truck which is traditionally used as a personnel truck. Many outfits have turned this style rig into a wildfire truck. Mr. Jackson would like to donate it to the Township/Clifton Volunteer Fire Department. The truck has a value of \$15,000.00-16,000.00. There would be some cost associated with modifying the truck to serve the Fire Department, but this could be a future project. ArMand will follow up with MAT to see what we must do to accept the truck.

Planning and Zoning: Birch Hilgers issue is completed. Liz received a copy of the letter that is ready to send from the Town's lawyer regarding Mr. Zurcher's property. ArMand is looking at the MS4 book. He asked if there was a map. Liz stated that there is a map online from the state. Saprina spoke to the Duluth City Attorney to verify what parcels are considered Congdon Trust Land.

Legal: Nothing to report.

Roads: Supervisor Ward was not present to provide a report. Mowing was completed on Town Roads. We will discuss snow plowing contract next month.

Town Hall: The art teacher from North Shore Community School reached out to the Clerk's off and inquired if the Town Hall could display some of the NSCS 6th grade art. The Board agreed to display the artwork. Plunkett's service report showed little activity in the traps. Hannah included some information in the packets that she looked into. There is a fitness grant that might be beneficial to the community center at North Shore. Saprina will share this information with the school. Roger was asking the Board to go forward with installing the light CLP quoted on the power pole and have it directed to the lot. The Board would like to table it until September and will wait to see what Jim had in place for bids. The water heater is throwing an error code. We will reach out to Murphy Plumbing to see if they can trouble shoot the code. There is a possibility that the sump pump needs to be replaced, as it is not handling the water load from rain events. There can be up to two to three inches of

water in the basement. This could be one of the reasons our furnace went out. Liz suggested for now, the Town purchases a dehumidifier for the basement to help with the moisture issue in the basement. Nicole will purchase a dehumidifier.

American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA): We received another bid for ramp project. We will revisit the bids next month.

Materials Management: All is good.

Cemetery: Roger spoke with Molly about the timber's leftover from last summer's project. He wanted to know if he could utilize the leftover timbers to stop traffic in the rain garden. The Board said they could be moved and used at the hall.

Communications: Hannah had an online meeting with TextMyGov regarding a text message service to reach residents. It was determined that at this time, the Township would have enough need to use a service like this to justify the cost.

Personnel: Nothing to report.

Supervisor Report: Saprina has continued conversations with the NSCR. The Town has received the tax filing information that the MOU requires. Saprina will speak with Mel about those documents. There was some confusion that the Annual Meeting the \$3,000.00 is precluded from the MOU as we are not to pay for capital improvement.

Old Business: Nothing to report.

New Business: Nothing to report.

Correspondence:

- Duluth Township Newsletter
- CLP Powerlines
- Gnesen Township Newsletter
- Enbridge Pipeline
- Pipeline
- Couri & Ruppe-Town Legal Seminar
- WLSSD: Public Hearing Capital Budget and Solid Waste Management Fee

Calendar Events and Meeting Schedule

- Saturday, August 10, 2024, 1:00 p.m. -4:30 p.m. Come on Home Party, Town Hall
- Tuesday August 13, 2024, 7:00 a.m.-8 p.m. Primary Election CLERKS OFFICE CLOSED for ELECTION
- Thursday, August 15, 2024, Clerks office closed 9:00 a.m.-noon
- Tuesday, August 20, 2024, Clerks office closed
- Thursday, August 29, 2024, MAT District Meeting, Grand Lake Town Hall, 5287 Highway 53 Saginaw, MN
- Thursday, September 12, 2024, 6:30 p.m. Town Board Meeting

Adjournment: ArMand moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:53 p.m. Saprina seconded. The motion passed unanimously.