

San Francisco Township Monthly Meeting  
September 21, 2020

Board members convened at 6:45 to review accounts payable and authorize payments. Present were Board members, Doug Weber, Larry Schmidt and Kevin Lundquist, Treasurer Denise Andersen, Clerk Heidi Schmidt, 6 residents and 4 zoom attendees. All recited the pledge of allegiance.

The August minutes were reviewed and Approved.

Treasurer reported \$147,199. in checking and \$387,320 in CDs. Report was Approved.

Motion made and approved to pay the accounts payable presented for September totaling \$16,507.

**Road and Bridge Report:** No news on paving in Carver Highlands. Board will review Road list for Oct.

**Mining:** The proposed Operations Agreement for the Hanson mine has been given to Chard Excavation for review and signatures. / OMG, now MN Paving wants a detailed list of expenses against the escrow we held when they operated the mine. Denise has it and needs a mailing address.

**Citizens Committee:** Phil Solseng presented the time line and options for Historical Status that enables us to apply for grant money for restoration of the town hall. Maddy gave a quick overview. The application is in to the State Historical Society. Once this is accepted we can apply for Federal designation. There is only a 2 week window. The township has no obligation if on the Federal Historic Registry unless we are restoring the building. Phil explained options to get a large grant for restoration. The application will need a Condition Assessment. Cost about \$10,000. This was done 2 years ago and the same contractor may charge less to update it. Plans and specs for the project must be included. Estimated cost is \$40,000. The Board should also consider matching funds with the grant. Probability of obtaining the grant is greater if the township also has funds towards the project. Hours of prep and the 2 items afore mentioned also count. Community involvement also adds value to the application. Steve Mueller requested bids. Mac McDonald had the lowest and is the highest rated restoration contractor in the state. Doug made a motion for the committee to submit application to the National Historic Registry. Consensus that we need to stay on top of the deadlines. If all goes through the first time construction still wouldn't start until January 2022. It is a gamble to get the grant. We may have to apply consecutive years. Funds are only available until 2025. Tabled the condition assessment until the October meeting. Decided not to apply for small grant so as not to jeopardize the large grant.

**Old Business:** No new developments on ROW, Tires or Defining Roads. Parsnips need to be sprayed as crops come out. Kevin will contact county. Road agreement with Dahlgren will be discussed in October after board members review it.

**New Business:** The solar plant wants the remainder of their escrow returned as the plant is complete. Larry will contact Hancock township to see if they have any expenses. The culvert needs to be repositioned.

Jason Meilke, Erin Stubb & Adrian Hatinson from Carver County were present to go over Proposed zoning changes. Ag Preserve rules will change per a court decision. Carver County has the highest number of Ag Preserve acres in the metro. It will become easier to remove the status. Renewable energy will be added to essential services. Wind, Solar and Biomass. County roll in decommissioning solar or wind will be explored. Height allowances will be considered. Rural service districts will be reviewed. Perhaps add some non-ag uses. What if access management was returned to the local authority? A small annual gravel pit permit may be considered. Minimum widths of lots may be

changed. Ag structures on non-ag land? Increasing allowed building sizes. Elder care IUP requirements will be looked at. The county hopes to work through these items at several work sessions and have them adopted by Feb or March 2021.

The stop sign was stolen for a second time at Rapids Lake Rd. Kevin will order a new one.

Kevin will be resigning from his position after October. The board will vote on a new supervisor. We need volunteers for his replacement.

**Notes from the clerk:** Election is coming up in November. The board voted and approved the judge list. There are township conference calls on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday with MAT. Heidi applied for CARES funding for the additional supplies needed for a COVID election.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:06PM

Respectfully submitted by,

Heidi Schmidt - San Francisco Township Clerk