

San Francisco Township Monthly Meeting  
January 11, 2021

Board members convened at 6:45 Supervisors reviewed accounts payable and authorized payments. Present were Board members Doug Weber (presiding), Larry Schmidt, Scott Selken, Treasurer Denise Andersen and Clerk Heidi Schmidt, 4 residents and 10 zoom attendees also attended. Doug called the meeting to order and all recited the pledge of allegiance.

The December minutes were reviewed via email. Motion carried to approve as submitted. Treasurer reported \$214,207. in checking and \$388,044 in CDs. Report was Approved.

**Zoning:** Kenya Jahnke was present to ask about a second driveway to access a shed. There are large trees in the road right of way. Larry asked if they would agree to let the township remove these trees. Kenya agreed. There is a natural opening where drive is proposed. Looks like an old approach. Board agreed they would approve driveway if building was approved.

**Road and Bridge Report:** Ron Olson was plowing against 2 days of blowing snow. Some residents complained of blocked roads. There is just one plow and one pickup designated for the township. They will try to open the Highlands approach road sooner in prolonged storms.

-Larry will review Road map from county and report next month.

- Road agreement with Dahlgren is pushed to next month

**Mining:** Chards reported 280,000 tons removed from the Hanson mine for 2020. The Operations agreement needs to be updated with the agreement on the reclamation berm slope County Rd 11 will be closed May-Sept for a big restructuring project. Chards want permission to haul on Saturdays for this project. Larry stated that it is a public nuisance to have closed and makes the detour routes dangerous. Ordinance 14 allows for Saturday hours for a significant need that is not solely financial and with Board permission. Chard stated that Saturday hours actually force them to pay overtime so there is not a lot of financial gain for them. Scott agreed there are safety issues when that road is closed. Doug said there will always be a project so this can not become the norm. He is feels that no trucks on Saturday was one of the satisfiers that came out of the Ordinance meetings this spring. Larry made a motion to approve Saturday trucking for the Co Rd 11 project only. Seconded. Passed. There should be a resolution. Doug and Heidi will formulate one for February.

-Ron Olson brought a proposal for a gravel mine on 174<sup>th</sup> St. It is a 37 Acre site. Kristen from Sundeen Engineering presented an EAW. The process now allows the township to review the study or hire a consultant to do so. Then there is a 30 public comment period while the application is submitted to other entities like the soil and water, DNR etc. A public meeting can be held. Formal application will be made at the end of the 30 days. Doug wants to consult the town attorney to get and consultant that overseas that all entities due their due diligence. The 30 days starts when EWA is published. The township must respond to all comments on the EAW. Phil Solseng said that an EIS is more complete. Studies should be paid for by the entity not the township.

Larry suggested using WENCK as the county uses them for mining projects. Doug motioned to hire WENCK as our mining specialist. Second. Approved. Bob Olson questioned how they know the Chard mining trucks are working on that project. Acknowledged.

**Citizens Committee:** Committee met with the Todd who did the hall assessment. Received last night. This is needed to apply for Legacy Grant monies. Next step is National Historic designation. Estimated cost for all repairs is \$273,000. Foundation walls need a lot of work. Exterior masonry is deteriorated. Has never been tuck pointed. Report suggested repairing existing windows. Final proposal for grant money is due in September. There is a preliminary submission in July. Maddy reminded us this is super

competitive. We must be realistic in our request. The citizens committee will meet several times to come up with a recommendation for the board. In February the board must decide if they want to move forward to acquire plans and specs for the project. This will cost \$30,000-40,000. The Architect from Mac McDonald can be at the February meeting.

-The next newsletter should go out before the annual meeting. End of February. Can get dust coating information out as well.

**Old Business:** Virgil Klatt asked about high speed internet. The Gov seems to throw it back on the townships who don't have near the funds to needed make a dent in the need. Doug stated that residents need to keep after companies to expand to our area. Century link is oversold in the Highlands. Jaquar only goes into heavily populated areas. Also call the Governor, Senators and Representatives to get state money for expansion. This should go in the next newsletter.

-No new developments on ROW, Tires or Defining Road or Parsnips.

-Solar Plant is meeting with Larry about culvert.

**New Business:**

**Notes from the clerk:** Looking for a deputy clerk who would take over clerk job in about a year.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:56PM

Respectfully submitted by, Heidi Schmidt - San Francisco Township Clerk