

Minutes of Field Township's Regular Board Meeting August 8, 2023 Page 1

The Field Township regular board meeting was called to order at 7:04 pm at the Field Town Hall. There was prayer and the pledge of allegiance was recited.

Present: Supervisors Enzmann, Knutson, Chapman, Treasurer Ellie Brunner, Clerk Pat Chapman,

Deputy Clerk Tim Chapman, Crystal Royer (ST. Louis County Planning and Community Dev.), Whitney Ridlon (IRRR), Steve Howard and Patty Horazuk (Paul Bunyan Communications).

The July 11, 2023 board minutes were read. A motion was made by Supervisor Chapman to approve

the minutes. Seconded by Chairman Enzmann. There were no objections.

Correspondence:

1. Homestead Mills
2. MAT
3. NorthWoods True Value
4. Peter Glowaski
- 5 Art Unlimited
6. All American Title Company
7. MATIT
8. Froe Bro.
9. St. Louis County
10. Northeast Title
11. A1 Rental

Treasurer's report from Treasurer Ellie Brunner:

Beg. Bal: \$133,320.49 Ending Balance : \$163,318.53

Receipts: \$39,594.62 Outstanding Checks \$0

Expenses: \$9,596.58 Bank Balance \$163,318.53

Motion made by Supervisor Chapman , seconded by Chairman Enzmann to approve the treasurer's report, net pay distribution report and authorize payment of claims. There were no objections.

Committee Reports:

Broadband - Whitney Ridlon began the discussion stating there is St. Louis County money for broadband in remote areas for businesses, education, home, health care, public safety, and farming uses.

Steve Howard reminded the board Paul Bunyan had applied for a grant to service Field Township in

2020 but another vendor received the contract. That vendor could not fulfill the contract so Field Township was forced to start over in the process of receiving broadband services. He said now prices are double but there is more funding and Paul Bunyan would like to look at the properties in Field Township and determine the population along the cable route. It would be about a 2 million dollar project with the township paying 1-2% of the cost when the project is completed. The time line would possibly be apply for funding in 2023, receive funds in 2024 and start work in 2025. The state would match funds and there is county and IRRR money available. Federal money has more restrictions. The board was encouraged to communicate with County Commissioner Paul McDonald

who is on the Broadband Committee. Also, to notify township residents about possible developments

and keep in mind that eventually letters of support would be needed from at least 25% of houses involved. Polished letters aren't necessary but should explain how lack of internet affects their lives.

Treasurer Brunner suggested asking teachers at Northwood's School to facilitate students writing letters

in the classroom when needed.

The township board was favorable to Paul Bunyan's proposal to review the township for broadband services.

Ambulance – No report.

Fire – No report.

Roads - Supervisor Knutson reported the roads were in good shape.

Hall - There was discussion about the water at the hall. Suggestions are to check the breaker, check the

water pressure tank, and the water heater. Steve Raait might be interested in remodeling the bathrooms

at the hall.

Cemetery - Supervisor Knutson will check with Josh Antus about the cost of more black dirt in the new

section of the cemetery. Clerk Chapman will research a bulletin board for the outside of the church.

Joint Powers Board - Deputy Clerk Chapman handed out copies of a grant application for future review.

Hospital -Hospital Representative Mike Enzmann reported there were additional funds from the state for

employees to be paid this year and next. The hospital will have a possible \$100,000 increase in the levy.

Two breaks in the hospital sewer line have occurred.

Old Business – No report

New Business - No report.

Clerk Chapman announced the next meeting will be September 12, 2023 , 7 pm at the town hall..

Supervisor Chapman made a motion to adjourn at 9:09 p.m. Motion seconded by Supervisor Knutson.

There were no objections.

Chairman Mike Enzmann _____ Clerk Pat Chapman _____ Date: _____