

**EUREKA TOWNSHIP**  
*Dakota County, State of Minnesota*

**TOWN BOARD MEETING**  
**May 24, 2022 – 7:00 P.M.**

**Call to Order**

The Eureka Township Town Board meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chair Lu Barfknecht and the Pledge of Allegiance was given.

Supervisors Present: Lu Barfknecht, Ralph Fredlund, Nancy Sauber, Kathleen Kauffman and Donovan Palmquist (via Zoom).

Others Present: Ranee Solis, Bill Clancy, Beth Eilers.

Zoom Attendance: Jeff Otto, Julie Larson, Stacy Shaw, Deb Burkhardt, Randy Wood.

**Approval of the Agenda**

The following changes were made to the agenda:

1. Add F. Fee schedule from Inspectron under Old Business.
2. Add B. Wayne Hallcock inquiry under New Business.
3. Add C. Town Hall under New Business.
4. Add D. Mining code goals and issues under New Business.
5. Add 1. TKDA bill under Clerk Matters.
6. Add 2. Closed meeting with Paul Reuvers under Clerk Matters.
7. Add 3. Crack seal JPA revision under Clerk Matters.
8. Add 4. Lights under Clerk Matters.

*Motion:* Chair Barfknecht moved to approve the agenda as amended. Supervisor Fredlund seconded. *Motion carried 5-0.*

**Road Report – Mark Henry**

Safety Signs quote

*Motion:* Supervisor Fredlund moved to accept the quote from Safety Signs in the amount of \$3,200 and proceed with installation on 245<sup>th</sup> St. Supervisor Sauber seconded. *Motion carried 5-0.*

Mark Henry recommended that a barricade also be placed at Dodd Blvd.

**Sheriff's Department - None**

**Public Comment**

*\*The opinions expressed in public comments are those of the authors and may not represent the official positions of the Town Board. The Town Board does not control or guarantee the accuracy of information contained in the comments, nor does it endorse the views expressed.*

Chair Barfknecht opened the floor for public comment and reminded that if anyone has comment regarding any agenda items, now is your time to speak. Chair Barfknecht asked three times if there were any attendees who would like to make comment. Hearing none, the floor was closed.

### **Treasurer's Report**

#### Net pay and claims

The Clerk presented payroll in the amount of \$2,312.90 for payment.

The following claims in the amount of \$17,005.98 were presented for payment:

Anderson Rock	Gravel – Fairgreen	\$290.28
Grossman Companies	April Road bills	\$14,067.50
General Code	Website annual maintenance	\$995.00
Victor Lundeen	CTAS checks	\$316.46
De Lage Landen	June copier rental	\$85.55
Central Farm Services	Town Hall LP tank	\$596.15
Custom Office Products	Supplies – paper	\$82.00
Quadient	Postage	\$41.04
Point North	May billing	\$333.00
JTN Communications	June internet	\$199.00

*Motion:* Supervisor Fredlund moved to approve the net pay and claims as presented. Supervisor Kauffman seconded with a friendly amendment to table the claim for General Code as they are not currently maintaining a site for the Township Code. Supervisor Fredlund accepted the amendment. Roll call vote: Lu Barfknecht – Aye; Ralph Fredlund – Aye; Nancy Sauber – Aye; Kathleen Kauffman – Aye. *Motion carried 5-0.*

*Motion:* Supervisor Sauber moved to pay the current invoice from Quadient and cancel the account due to issues with the postage meter and fees that the Treasurer has been unable to surmount. Supervisor Kauffman seconded. *Motion carried 5-0.*

### **Old Business**

#### Recodification project update

*Motion:* Supervisor Kauffman moved to authorize the Chair to sign the change order from General Code in the amount of \$888.00 on behalf of the Board. Supervisor Sauber seconded. *Motion carried 5-0.*

#### Ordinance amendments for recodification

The Clerk presented the following Ordinance amendments since the last recodification of the Ordinances for review and implementation into the current recodification:

Ordinance 2013-06 (Impervious Surface), Ordinance 2017-01 (Horticulture), Ordinance 2017-02 (Commercial Agriculture), Ordinance 2017-03 (Sump Pump), Ordinance 2017-04 (Area – Accessory Buildings), Ordinance 2017-05 (Pool Fees), Ordinance 2018-01 (Landscaping in Rights-of-way), Ordinance 2019-01 (Broadcast tower), Resolution 2019-7

(Parking of commercial vehicles), Ordinance 2020-01 (Solar Energy), Ordinance 2021-01 (Lien for delinquent fees), Ordinance 2021-02 (Mining Setbacks).

*Motion:* Supervisor Sauber moved for the Clerk to place the Ordinance amendments on the website and forward them to General Code for implementation. Supervisor Kauffman seconded. *Motion carried 5-0.*

#### Housing Rights Transfer text amendment

The Board agreed to place this item last on the agenda.

#### Mining engineer scope of work

The Board discussed asking Carrie Jennings to attend the June meeting to offer suggestions on the scope of work for a mining engineer consultant.

#### Study group on accessory buildings

Supervisor Kauffman suggested appointing a diverse study group to gather a variety of views on the Ordinances pertaining to accessory building regulations. The Board discussed sending out surveys to the citizens to obtain information and engaging a planner to assist with any Ordinance revisions. The Board requested Supervisor Sauber, the Professional Services liaison, to reach out to TKDA and Cindy Nash, a planner recommended by the Township attorney.

#### Fee Schedule

Vice Chair Palmquist received a new fee schedule from Inspectron. The Clerk will provide an updated fee schedule for Board review at the June meeting.

### **New Business**

#### Newsletter

The Board suggested several changes to the newsletter before posting on the website. The Board discussed the previous practice of sending postcards for public hearings, noting that they are second class mail and have not been received in a timely manner.

*Motion:* Supervisor Sauber moved to revoke the policy of sending postcards as notice for public hearings. Chair Barfknecht seconded. *Motion carried 5-0.*

#### Wayne Hallcock inquiry

Mr. Hallcock inquired about whether a permit is needed when tiling a field. The Board recommended the Clerk send a letter to Wayne Hallcock stating that the Township does not have Ordinance requirements, but he should speak with the Soil and Water Conservation District and FSA. A copy of the letter should also be sent to the SWCD and FSA. Julie Larson offered to provide contact information for the agencies to the Clerk.

#### Town Hall

Supervisor Kauffman reported that the Town Hall roof does not appear to have hail damage, but an inspection will be scheduled.

Supervisor Kauffman stated the Town Hall landscaping is old and in need of refreshing. She suggested turning part of the lawn into bee lawn or prairie grass, and perhaps adding a small pocket park with a swing and picnic area. There are fundraising opportunities that would help deter the cost. For instance, Dakota County Soil and Water will do a 50% match for returning land to prairie. The Board discussed adding a presentation at the Annual Meeting of potential projects and receiving citizen input. It was also suggested that a survey be sent out or placed in the newsletter. Another suggestion was to replace dead bushes with yard ornaments that require no maintenance. The Board agreed to continue researching ideas.

### Mining goals and issues

Supervisor Kauffman drafted a list of goals for revision of Eureka's Mining Ordinance:

- Make the Ordinance terms consistent with current best practices.
- Make the Ordinance consistent with Eureka's long-standing goal that mines be opened, efficiently and safely mined, and then closed and reclaimed. Currently, mines remain open for indefinite periods and have no incentives to complete mining.
- Improve reporting and testing requirements.
- Establish a mining engineer paid for by the mines.
- Improve enforcement and fining mechanisms.
- Eliminate cement plants.
- Make mines responsible for wear and tear on Township roads.
- Place strong limitations on mines to protect the right of neighboring properties to peace, quiet, and dust-free conditions.

*Motion:* Supervisor Kauffman moved to approve the list of mining goals to send to Troy Gilchrist for revisions to the Mining Ordinance. Vice Chair Palmquist seconded. *Motion carried 4-0*, with Supervisor Sauber recused.

### **Clerk Matters**

#### TKDA bill

The Clerk received a bill from TKDA for site visits and mileage to Scotts Miracle Gro and to the MPM pit and requested the Board determine how this should be invoiced.

*Motion:* Supervisor Kauffman moved to request TKDA separate the bill for each site visit. Chair Barfknecht Seconded. Supervisor Sauber made a friendly amendment that Vice Chair Palmquist contact TKDA for this request. The amendment was accepted. *Motion carried 4-0*, with Supervisor Sauber recused.

Supervisor Sauber offered that the authority to invoice for the site visits is Ordinance 6 Mines, Chapter 10 Fees, Section 3 Reimbursement of costs.

*Motion:* Supervisor Kauffman moved that the TKDA bill related to MPM be sent to them for reimbursement under Ordinance 6, Chapter 10, Section 3 and that payment is due upon receipt. Chair Barfknecht seconded. *Motion carried 4-0*, with Supervisor Sauber recused.

The Clerk noted that she had not yet received reports from TKDA related to the billing. Planning Commission Chair Clancy stated he would forward the report related to MPM to the Clerk for disbursement to the Town Board. Supervisor Sauber offered to speak with TKDA regarding Scotts.

#### Closed meeting with Paul Reuvers

The Board agreed to schedule a closed meeting with Paul Reuvers on June 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm to receive an update on the Scotts/Hyponex building permit application status.

#### Revised Crack seal JPA

The Board requested Mark Henry review the revised crack seal JPA with the County.

#### Town Hall Lights

*Motion:* Chair Barfknecht moved to approve the quote from Kendrick Electric in the amount of \$3,106 to convert 34 Town Hall light fixtures to LED. Supervisor Kauffman seconded.  
*Motion carried 5-0.*

#### Housing Right Transfer text amendment

Edits and comments were received from Township Attorney Bob Ruppe, Supervisor Kauffman and Commissioner Eilers and presented to the Board for discussion. The Board agreed that the suggested edits should not be placed in the master copy. Instead, the Clerk will compile a separate document noting the suggested edits.

Jeff Otto requested the Board define the process and determine who is doing what. He noted that forms need to be drafted, clerical training needs to take place for the Clerk and Deputy Clerk on the database, as well as attorney review to ensure the language is consistent with the Ordinance.

The Board agreed that the Clerk will keep the master text amendment and provide a copy to Jeff Otto. The purpose is not for the Clerk to control the content but rather to track the document.

The Board agreed to schedule a special meeting on June 21, 2022, at 6:30 pm to review the maps of landlocked parcels, decide on driveway language, discuss suggested edits, and finalize the text amendment for a public hearing.

#### **Adjournment**

*Motion:* Chair Barfknecht moved to adjourn the meeting. Supervisor Kauffman seconded.  
*Motion carried 5-0.*

Meeting adjourned at 10:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

\_\_\_\_\_  
Ranee Solis, Town Clerk

Minutes Officially Approved By: \_\_\_\_\_ on: \_\_\_\_\_  
Town Chair Date