

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

**TOWN BOARD MEETING**  
**May 28, 2024 – 7:00 P.M.**

**Call to Order**

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

Supervisors Present: Lu Barfknecht, Mark Ceminsky, Allen Novacek, Tim Pope, and Pete Storlie.

Others Present: Liz Atwater, Mark Nelson, Kathy Parranto, Laura Adelman, Nancy Sauber.

Zoom Attendance: Carol Cooper, Chris Hale, Deb Burkhardt, Chris Fuller, Jeff Otto, Randy Wood, Julie Larson.

**Approval of the Agenda**

*Motion:* Vice Chair Ceminsky moved to approve the agenda as written. Supervisor Novacek seconded the motion. *Motion carried 5-0.*

**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 Storlie opened the floor for public comment and reminded that if anyone has comment regarding any agenda items, now is your time to speak.

Laura Adelman

See page 6 for written public comment.

Chair Storlie closed the floor for public comment.

**CUP Reviews**

Mark Nelson- Airstrip

*Motion:* Vice Chair Ceminsky moved we mark this as reviewed. Chair Storlie seconded the motion. *Motion carried 5-0.*

Spirit Ranch I- Chris Hale- Dog Kennel and Horse Boarding

*Motion:* Vice Chair Ceminsky moved we mark this as reviewed. Supervisor Novacek seconded the motion. *Motion carried 5-0.*

**Sheriff's Department**

Deputy Puls reported they do not have anything new to report. Vice Chair Ceminsky shared there has been an issue in the Township, in Eureka Estates that signs are being pulled down or taken out of the ground. Clerk Atwater has filed an incident report with the Sheriff's Department. Deputy Puls stated they will request extra patrols.

## **Roads**

### Road Report

Vice Chair Ceminsky reported that many of the roads have already been dust coated. The roads that have not been dust coated are waiting for additional rock overlay. Denmark has had overlay, and the County has completed the dust coating. Speed limit signs will be going up soon.

### Road Committee

Clerk Atwater reported that the information looking for volunteers for the Road Committee has been sent out to residents. She will send a follow up in the next week or two.

### 2024 Additional Road Projects

The Town Board reviewed the quotes from Vendors for the following road projects:

- Fairgreen (265-255<sup>th</sup>) 1,470 tons
- Fairgreen (235<sup>th</sup> South) 650 tons
- Ipava (267<sup>th</sup> South) 585 tons
- Highview (267<sup>th</sup> South) 585 tons
- Jamaica (CO Road 86 North) 520 tons
- 257<sup>th</sup> (East of Dodd Blvd) 975 tons

*Motion:* Vice Chair Ceminsky moved to accept Anderson Rock and Lime quote out of Solberg pit for the lime rock class 5 modified to do the additional work we had talked about. Supervisor Novacek seconded the motion. *Motion carried 5-0.*

### Request for Quotes

Clerk Atwater stated the RFQ's for ditch mowing and tree trimming have been sent out and put on the website. Deadline is June 4<sup>th</sup>.

### Sign Quotes

Vice Chair Ceminsky reported that we received quotes for stop signs, double yellow arrows, dead end signs, end of road panels, and for post top for street signs. Vice Chair Ceminsky will get the quantity of each of the signs needed and will discuss at the next meeting.

## **Minutes**

*Motion:* Vice Chair Ceminsky moved to approve the Special Town Board minutes from May 14, 2024. Supervisor Novacek seconded the motion. *Motion carried 5-0.*

## **Treasurer's Report**

### Net Pay and claims

The Clerk presented payroll in the amount of \$3,168.01 and claims in the amount of \$55,331.74 for payment. See page 5 for a list of claims.

*Motion:* Vice Chair Ceminsky moved to approve the net pay and claims as presented. Chair Storlie seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Allen Novacek – Aye; Tim Pope – Aye; Pete Storlie – Aye; Mark Ceminsky – Aye, Lu Barfknecht - Aye. *Motion carried 5-0.*

### CD

Clerk Atwater explained the Asphalt/Hard Surfaces Fund CD at Frandsen was maturing on 5/31/2024. She recommended the Board rollover the CD at Fransen to a 6-month CD at 5.06%.

*Motion:* Vice Chair Ceminsky moved to roll over into a 6-month CD at 5.06% at Frandsen. Supervisor Novacek seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Allen Novacek – Aye; Tim Pope – Aye; Pete Storlie – Aye; Mark Ceminsky – Aye, Lu Barfknecht - Aye. *Motion carried 5-0.*

## **Unfinished Business**

### Mining Superintendent and Mining Fees

Supervisor Novacek discussed 165-18 Mining and where the Mining Superintendent is listed, but explained he didn't see where the ordinance states the Township must have a Mining Superintendent. Supervisor Novacek stated he is completely against the mines having to pay for the inspections by the Township or Mining Superintendent. Supervisor Barfknecht stated that as a Board member she is not qualified to review if the reclamation phases of a mine have been completed. The Mine Superintendent job is to make sure that the CUP and plans are being followed. Supervisor Novacek suggested the Township eliminate CUP reviews. Chair Storlie stated that the ordinance would need to be reviewed regarding the language on CUP reviews. Supervisor Barfknecht explained there is a list of CUPs and when they need to be reviewed, and not all CUP's require annual reviews. Vice Chair Ceminsky recommended the Town Board table the discussion until the next meeting until they can have more information presented.

### Culvert Replacement 265<sup>th</sup> and Fairgreen

Vice Chair Ceminsky stated he spoke with Grossman and negotiated the price to \$8,000 from \$9,800.

## **New Business**

### Applewood Orchard

William Rueter stated that they have applied for an Ordinance text amendment on Agritourism and are planning to ask for a Public Hearing.

Clerk Atwater explained the process for the Public Hearing with the Planning Commission, notice requirements, and the Town Board meeting. She also explained she will be working with the Township Attorney to ensure the process is followed correctly.

### Topics from the Round Table Meeting

The Board discusses their recommendations and priorities for the Planning Commission.

Night to Unite should be a top priority based on the timing of the event.

- 1- Home extended business, Commercial and Agritourism. The Town Board believes these are related and it might be best to work on these together. There has already been research done on each of these topics as well.
- 2- Buildable Lots and Housing Density
- 3- Cannabis – waiting on updates from the Attorney on new legislature that was passed.
- 4- Low priorities
  - a. Squatters Ordinance
  - b. Housing numbers for new builds, remodels, and additions
  - c. Definition of a front yard
  - d. Indoor agriculture
  - e. Accessory building limitations
- 5- The Board would like more information about the phase 2 speed study and 257<sup>th</sup> traffic counters.

Attorney- Troy Gilchrist

Chair Storlie explained that Troy Gilchrist is leaving Kennedy & Graven and starting his own firm called the Town Law Center PLLP.

*Motion:* Vice Chair Ceminsky moved to continue on with Troy and the new firm, Town Law Center PLLP, but to have Bob with Kennedy & Graven to handle our zoning enforcement matter. Supervisor Barfknecht seconded the motion. *Motion carried 5-0.*

Spring Newsletter

The Town Board reviewed the spring newsletter and directed the Clerk to send it out to those on the News and Notices email distribution list.

**Clerk Matters**

Clerk Atwater reported she will be on vacation June 5-7 and the packet deadline is Tuesday, June 4<sup>th</sup> at noon.

**Adjournment**

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

The meeting adjourned at 8:14pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Liz Atwater, Town Clerk

Minutes Officially Approved By:          on:     7-9-24      
Town Chair Date

<u>Date</u>	<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Check #</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Total</u>
5/28/2024	Payroll ending 5/15/24	11374	Payroll ending 5/15/24	\$ 2,014.22
5/28/2024	Payroll ending 5/15/24	11375	Payroll ending 5/15/24	\$ 969.09
5/28/2024	Payroll ending 5/15/24	11376	Payroll ending 5/15/24	\$ 92.35
5/28/2024	Payroll ending 5/15/24	11377	Payroll ending 5/15/24	\$ 92.35
5/28/2024	Benafica, LLC	11378	HRA	\$ 530.50
5/28/2024	Envirotech	11379	Dust Control	\$ 39,288.80
5/28/2024	Envirotech	11380	Dust Control	\$ 11,391.34
5/28/2024	Metro Sales	11381	Copier	\$ 120.00
5/28/2024	North Cannon WMO	11382	Annual Dues 2024	\$ 2,818.10
5/28/2024	Point North Networks	11383	May Billing	\$ 533.00
5/28/2024	Safety Signs, LLC	11384	245 <sup>th</sup> remove barricades	\$ 500.00
5/28/2024	T & C Cleaning	11385	May Cleaning	\$ 150.00
				<u>\$ 58,499.75</u>

Name

Lived here since 1998; raised kids here

My daughter chelsea and son ben and their families are here with me today because we share a desire to keep our farmland in the family.

This is an increasingly challenging goal as the cost of living keeps rising.

We want to preserve our family farm and the rural lifestyle my kids were raised on – I'm afraid that without changes to our zoning ordinance to allow more housing and business options we will never have that chance because Eureka's tax base is shrinking with the timed annexation of the airport to Lakeville and the lack of support for small business owners in the township.

I am here requesting the board consider allowing more housing rights and small business operations in Eurkea Township.

I would like to have the flexibility to allow my daughter and son and their families to live on the land where their father and I raised them.

Several townships and small towns around Eureka have adopted ordinances that allow people to build houses 1:10 acre basis under Met Council's Rural Residential and Diversified Rural designations in their 2040 Plan.

I have 70 acres, and under zoning do not have another housing right. I would like the option for my kids to be able to build houses and we can farm together.

Please take the time to investigate options that allow more housing to be built on acreage and for businesses friendly options that allow people like me to have a chance of keeping the land and the farm in the family.

I have some documentation from Met Council and an example of some ordiannces that I can leave you. Some of the towns around us who have adopted these ordinances include Castle Rock, Miesville, Empire and Hampton.

*- flexible residential dev'mnt*