

**TOWN OF FAYAL**  
**4375 SHADY LANE, EVELETH, MN 55734**

*Heidi M. Coldagelli, Clerk/Treasurer*

*Anthony Tammaro, Chairman*

*Supervisors: Lee Branville, Mark Chad, Richard Sather, Patrick Ziegler*

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**REGULAR MEETING OF THE FAYAL TOWN BOARD**

**FEBRUARY 6, 2024**

The Regular Meeting of the Fayal Town Board of Supervisors was called to order at 7:00 PM by Chairman Tammaro. Present were: Chairman Tammaro, Supervisor Branville, Supervisor Chad, Supervisor Sather, Supervisor Ziegler and Clerk/Treasurer Coldagelli. Chairman Tammaro led with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Audience members in attendance were Gina Brascugli, Keith and Aaron Nelson and Matt Hoffmann.

***Motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Town Board Meeting of January 16<sup>th</sup>, 2024, made by Supervisor Branville, support from Supervisor Ziegler. Motion carried unanimously.***

**SCHEDULED GUESTS-** Keith and Aaron Nelson were present to discuss an off-take ditch needing some attention. The Road & Bridge Department did a good job replacing the culvert on River Road last year. Since that replacement, now the off-take ditch needs cleaning. Mr. Nelson believes the area is a Township owned off-take ditch. Clearing and cleaning is approximately a few hundred feet. The property is owned by Ryan Salo and Mr. Nelson's understanding is the Town has an easement for the ditch. Discussion regarding concerns that the backhoe would get stuck if attempting to dig out the area. Possibly clearing of the brush and trees could alleviate the drainage issue. Supervisor Ziegler will work with Foreman Jason Latvaaho to address.

Chairman Tammaro had a few questions for Mr. Nelson due to his County Commissioner position. Chairman Tammaro brought forward if Commissioner Nelson had any knowledge of approval of the rezoning of a property from residential to industrial that is on our agenda? To Commissioner Nelson's knowledge, the property had received initial approval by St. Louis County Planning and Zoning, but he could not recall if it had reached the County Board for final approval. Secondly, Chairman Tammaro requested clarification on the status of the old Bullfrogs building. The property has been tax forfeited. Due to a ruling by the United States Supreme Court, St. Louis County cannot proceed with any tax forfeited properties at this time. There is a request in process to present to the Legislature to correct the issue, but that is still several months out for a resolution. The structure will be removed when the legal issue is corrected by the Legislature.

Commissioner Nelson also added that a number of citizens have come to him with concerns regarding the deteriorated road condition of Thunderbird Trail. Currently the Town has submitted a Local Road Improvement Grant application requesting funding for the project. Commissioner Nelson has reached out to some parties to reflect his support of the project.

**AUDIENCE CONCERNS-** None at this time.

**REPORTS-**

**Clerk/Treasurer's Report-** Bank statements for the month of January have been received and all accounts reconciled. Revenues were \$150,299.75 and expenditures were \$207,554.91. Ending balances for the month of January were:

Miners Checking- \$693,105.04  
Assessment Savings- \$20,886.63  
CD Savings- \$16,566.18  
4M Fund- \$1,404,529.33

For the month of February to date, revenues are \$2,805.67 and expenditures are \$63,505.65.

***Motion to approve the Clerk/Treasurer's Report, made by Supervisor Branville, support from Supervisor Sather. Motion carried unanimously.***

**Other Reports-**

***Motion to accept the Planning Commission meeting minutes from December 20<sup>th</sup>, made by Supervisor Ziegler, support from Supervisor Branville. Motion carried unanimously.***

***Motion to accept the Road and Bridge Report for January, made by Supervisor Ziegler, support from Supervisor Chad. Motion carried unanimously.***

Supervisor Branville questioned that the Road and Bridge Report listed a new timer was purchased for the ice rink, but Chairman Tamaro had reported that he shut the lights off. Chairman Tamaro clarified that due to the ice conditions, he manually shut off the lights.

**CORRESPONDENCE-**

January 17<sup>th</sup> - Email from Paul Peltier from RAMS with notice from Representative Pete Stauber's office seeking local community project requests for fiscal year 2025. Placed on file.

January 23<sup>rd</sup> - Letter from the Rock Ridge Class of 2024 seeking financial support for their all night graduation party. Moved to New Business.

January 24<sup>th</sup> - Email from Cathy Rouleau from St. Louis County Association of Townships with meeting minutes from October 25<sup>th</sup>. Placed on file.

January 30<sup>th</sup> - Email from Ashley Edwardson from the League of Minnesota Cities with notice that the MMUA training contract has been renewed for three years for \$1,732.50 per meeting in 2024 (a 5% increase), with a 5% yearly increase in years 2025 and 2026. The League covers 55% of the cost with the RSG group responsible for 45%. Placed on file.

February 2<sup>nd</sup> - Email from Duluth Superior Foundation with notice that applications are open for acceptance until March 1<sup>st</sup>. Discussion that Clerk Coldagelli should apply for the power extended in the Ballfield to accommodate the concession stand and the scoreboard.

February 2<sup>nd</sup> - Email from Nathan Eiting with the DNR with request to share that the MN Department of Natural Resources, Division of Forestry, is hiring wildland firefighters. They are seeking Wildfire Response Leads and Smokechasers. Placed on file.

February 5<sup>th</sup> - Letter from the Minnesota Benefit Association with information regarding group life and disability options available for Town Board officials. Placed on file.

February 5<sup>th</sup> - Packet from the United States Bankruptcy Court regarding local government opioid claims and voting to accept or reject the second amended joint chapter 11 plan of reorganization of Endo International PLC and its affiliated debtors. Placed on file.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Chairman Tamaro-**

Chairman Tamaro questioned if Supervisor Branville was going to be looking at window replacement in the spring. He will be seeking quotes from three contractors.

**St. Mary's Lake Development Grant-** Clerk Coldagelli has not received an update from Brad Scott.

**Local Road Improvement Grant-** Clerk Coldagelli submitted two grant applications and is awaiting notification.

**Zoning Change Request-** Will pull off future agendas as the understanding is its been completed.

**Camera and Locator Grant-** Clerk Coldagelli has started on the grant application, which is due by February 15<sup>th</sup>. Equipment will be purchased whether grant is approved or denied.

**Clean Heavy-Duty Off-Road Equipment Grant-** Grant was highly competitive and was denied due an to overwhelming number of requests.

**Eveleth Bulk Water Purchase Agreement-** Clerk Coldagelli will follow up with the City of Eveleth regarding the status.

Chairman Tamaro brought forward for discussion the Recreation Department ending balance. The Skate Shack/Picnic Shelter project consumed a significant amount of the balance. A new sweeper was purchased for \$5,499.00, two pickleball nets, improvements to the volleyball court, rink lights, a ballfield shed, ballfield improvements and a waterline extension at the ballfield.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Engagement Letter GASB-75-** VIA Actuarial Solutions provided a contract for other postemployment benefit services for the years 2024 and 2025. The cost for 2024 is \$2,000.00 and for 2025 is \$1,200.00.

***Motion to sign the engagement letter and approve the pricing, made by Supervisor Sather, support from***

**Supervisor Branville. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Planning Commission Vacancy**- Two members, Bill Maki and Alex Peritz have served two terms and their terms expired the end of December. Both were interested in returning to the Commission.

***Motion to approve Bill Maki and Alex Peritz to the Planning Commission, made by Chairman Tamaro, support from Supervisor Branville.*** Chairman Tamaro thanked both members for showing interest in their reappointment. It is very difficult to fill vacancies on our Commissions. ***Motion carried unanimously.***

**Recreation Department Balance**- Clerk Coldagelli recommended transferring the cost of the sweeper for \$5,499.00 from the Capital Equipment Fund to the Recreation Department. Discussion regarding the Capital Equipment balance.

***Motion to approve the transfer, made by Supervisor Ziegler, support from Supervisor Sather. Motion carried unanimously.***

**Savings/Checking Transfers**- Clerk Coldagelli reviewed her recommended transfers and some funds to reorganize. The Town received nearly \$11,000.00 in delinquent utility tax payments in January. It was the largest first quarter amount that Clerk Coldagelli has received in the eight years she has been here. For late tax apportionment, \$176.75 needs to be transferred from the Checking account to the Assessment Savings.

***Motion to approve the transfer, made by Supervisor Zieger, support from Supervisor Chad. Motion carried unanimously.***

Clerk Coldagelli brought forward the following items to transfer to the 4M account from Checking. From Fund 101, the 2023 Town Hall Fund contribution of \$10,000.00 and the 2023 Capital Equipment Fund contribution of \$16,598.72. From Road & Bridge Fund 102, the 2023 truck contribution of \$9,000. From Fayal Water Company Fund 601, the 2023 maintenance contingency contribution of \$4,000.08 and the 2023 depreciation contribution of \$4,330.80, for a total of \$43,929.60 from Checking to the 4M Fund. A transfer is necessary from 4M to Checking of \$8,415.32 for the 2023 Employee Benefit CD to the appropriate funds. This should be the last year that the Employee Benefit CD will need to transfer funds into the Checking as the retiree supplemental healthcare reimbursements will not exceed \$15,000.00. A total transfer of \$35,514.28 from the Checking to the 4M account is needed.

***Motion to approve the transfer, made by Supervisor Zieger, support from Supervisor Sather. Motion carried unanimously.***

Clerk Coldagelli brought the following items for Board consideration from Checking to move to the 4M Fund. Fayal Water Company Fund 601 has \$39,800.29 that has been set aside from Standby Water charges. Fayal Sewer Company Fund 602 has a \$32,923.78 balance in the Maintenance Contingency for a total of \$72,724.07 recommended to transfer from Checking to the 4M Fund.

***Motion to move the aforementioned items from the accounts to the 4M Fund, made by Supervisor Branville, support from Supervisor Sather. Motion carried unanimously.***

Clerk Coldagelli brought two items forward to assist in organizing some of the financials. Clerk Coldagelli reviewed the other savings accounts at Miners Bank. In the regular savings account, there is a balance from an O’Laughlin waterline project from 2008 of \$10,541.89 in Fayal Water Company Fund 601 that the Clerk would like to move to the 4M Fund.

***Motion to approve the transfer, made by Supervisor Sather, support from Supervisor Ziegler. Motion carried unanimously.***

The final transfer consideration was transferring from the Assessment Savings to the 4M Fund. Fayal Sewer Company Fund 602 had originally \$6,625.00 in the Assessment Savings. It appeared to be placed in there several years ago and was a sewer availability charge, but unsure why it was separated in the savings account. Clerk Coldagelli transferred a portion of it when she originally made the transfer for the airpack purchase and the remaining balance transfer to the 4M Fund back in April. The second piece is to transfer \$17,547.99 for the first airpack payment for a total transfer amount of \$20,886.63.

***Motion to approve the transfer, made by Supervisor Ziegler, support from Supervisor Chad.*** Discussion regarding how well the 4M Fund has been performing. Clerk Coldagelli updated the Board that savings rates are paying in the 5% range and CDs are now showing a decline into the 4% range. ***Motion carried unanimously.***

Chairman Tamaro brought forward Rock Ridge’s all night graduation party request. In the past have donated between \$100.00 and \$200.00.

***Motion to give the All Night Grad Party \$200.00, made by Supervisor Ziegler, support from Supervisor Sather.***

**Motion carried unanimously.**

Supervisor Sather brought forward a quote for \$8,806.10 for pump repairs from Minnesota Pumpworks.

**Motion to replace the check valves and air release valves, made by Chairman Tammaro, support from Supervisor Sather.** Can be paid with the ARPA Funds. **Motion carried unanimously.**

**Motion to pay the claims in the amount of \$83,455.18, made by Supervisor Ziegler, support from Supervisor Chad.** **Motion carried unanimously.**

Clerk Coldagelli will search for the easement regarding Mr. Nelson's request.

**Motion to adjourn, made by Supervisor Branville, support from Supervisor Sather.** **Motion carried unanimously.**

Chairman Tammaro adjourned the Regular Meeting at 7:39 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

*Heidi M. Coldagelli*

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Clerk/Treasurer Town of Fayal

Approved: *Anthony Z...*  
Chair

Date: 2-20-24

Attest: *Heidi M. Coldagelli*  
Clerk