

TOWN OF FAYAL
4375 SHADY LANE, EVELETH, MN 55734

Heidi M. Coldagelli, Clerk/Treasurer

Anthony Tammaro, Chairman

Supervisors: Lee Branville, Mark Chad, Michael Erjavec, Richard Sather

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REGULAR MEETING OF THE FAYAL TOWN BOARD

APRIL 1, 2025

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 Erjavec, Supervisor Sather and Clerk/Treasurer Coldagelli. Supervisor Chad arrived at 7:03. Chairman Tammaro led with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Audience members in attendance were Journ Askey, Gina Brascugli, Matt Hoffmann, Aaron Rasmusson and Steve Shykes.

Motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Town Board Meeting of March 4th, 2025, made by Supervisor Branville, support from Supervisor Sather. Motion carried unanimously.

SCHEDULED GUESTS- Aaron Rasmusson and Journ Askey were present to discuss that they are interested in purchasing the former Woodline building and turning it into a cannabis cultivation site. The building would have 5,000 square feet of cannabis. They wanted to introduce themselves and ensure there were no major problems with their intentions. Chairman Tammaro informed Mr. Rasmusson that there is no actions the Board can take against it. The current plan is to grow the cannabis indoors and ship the product wholesale to dispensaries across the state. If the license is approved, the state mandates operation within 18 months. Purchasing the building is hinging upon the ability to obtain the license. Supervisor Sather questioned the number of individuals that would be employed? Mr Rasmusson responded that initially it would be two of the business partners and the business plan is to end up with 6-10 employees. Supervisor Chad arrived at this time. The intention is to expand in the next year or two and apply for a 15,000 or 30,000 square foot license. The 5,000 square foot is the smallest license to get and more licenses are available, the 30,000 square foot is the most difficult.

AUDIENCE CONCERNS- None at this time.

REPORTS-

Clerk/Treasurer's Report-

Bank statements for the month of March have not yet been received so this report is tentative. Revenues were \$139,739.67 and expenditures were \$271,985.26. Tentative ending balances for the month of March were:

Miners Checking- \$430,226.16
Assessment Savings- \$115.71
CD Savings- \$70.73
4M Fund- \$1,890,266.98

For the month of April to date, revenues are \$5.00 and expenditures are \$14,621.59.

Supervisor Branville questioned if the checking balance is a balance that the Town usually carries in the checking. Clerk Coldagelli confirmed that is correct since funds have been moved to the 4M Fund.

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 Public Utilities Commission meeting minutes, made by Supervisor Erjavec, support from Chairman Tammaro. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion to accept the Delinquency Report, made by Supervisor Branville, support from Supervisor Chad. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion to accept the PUC Wastewater Operator report, made by Supervisor Branville, support from Chairman Tammaro. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion to accept the Public Access Television meeting minutes from March 12, made by Supervisor Chad, support from Supervisor Sather. Motion carried unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE-

March 3rd- Letter from St. Louis County Planning and Zoning with notice of variance application for Mike Wilen. Variance hearing is scheduled for April 10th at 2:00 PM. Sent to Planning Commission but they do not meet until April 16th. Placed on file.

March 5th- Email from Minnesota Benefit Association with information regarding township officer group life insurance. Placed on file.

March 10th- Flyer from Couri & Ruppe Law Office with Township Legal Seminar information for Saturday, October 25th. Clerk Coldagelli would like to attend.

March 17th- Letter from Carr's Tree Service with information about services they offer. Refer to Road and Bridge.

March 17th- Email from St. Louis County Association of Townships with meeting minutes for February 26th. Placed on file.

March 19th- Email from Paul Peltier from RAMS with notice of RAMS Capitol lobby day and Ranger party on Monday, April 7th. Anyone is welcome to attend.

March 25th- Flyer from Minnesota Power with notice of new electric rates effective March 1st, 2025. Discussion regarding rates. Placed on file.

March 28th- Email from Range Association of Municipalities & Schools with board meeting minutes from February 27th. Placed on file.

OLD BUSINESS

Chairman Tammaro-

Lift Station A-1- An amount of \$44,408.72 has been received from FEMA. Quotes were updated from Minnesota Pump Works for \$33,686.00 and Hometown Electric for \$6,900.00. Did not get a quote from A-1 yet, but they will be needed to pump the lift station during the replacement.

Motion to proceed, made by Supervisor Sather, support from Supervisor Erjavec. Discussion that the quotes had little change. Hometown Electric's quote was reduced due to the panel no longer being raised. ***Motion carried unanimously.***

Fire Department Hourly Wage- Assistant Fire Chief Matt Hoffmann and Supervisor Chad haven't met yet to discuss. Will continue to leave on the agenda.

Eveleth-Fayal Cable Access- Chairman Tammaro informed the Board that there was a motion at the Public Utilities Commission meeting for Fayal to remove themselves from the Joint Cable Board. Chairman Tammaro does not want to proceed with that yet as he believes that the problem will take care of itself. Discussion regarding if Fayal were to remove themselves, then they would be out the assets.

Motion to table for now, made by Chairman Tammaro, support from Supervisor Erjavec. Motion carried unanimously.

Fire Department Rechassis Project- The chassis has been paid for and is at Ascendance. It will be moved to the Fire Hall next week. Custom Fire is working to update the contract and can get it in for assembly in August. Supervisor Branville asked if the vehicle was insured? Clerk Coldagelli has already placed insurance on it. Chairman Tammaro asked to check into the warranty with Ascendance and have it in writing when it will start. The warranty is supposed to start when the vehicle's build is complete.

NEW BUSINESS

Public Works Contract Language Clarification- Chairman Tammaro brought forward for discussion that his opinions were when Foreman Jason Latvaaho is off, he is off and not called and that the employees are in charge. If he is called, he should be compensated. The contract states, "an employee acting as Temporary Foreman in the case of absence of the Working Foreman shall be compensated at the Working Foreman hourly rate for all such hours assigned." There are also Liaisons that can be called if they need help. Questions need to be clarified as to who acts as the Temporary Foreman. Discussion that it would be the senior employee and if they do not want the responsibility, then the next employee. Also needs to be clarified if this is in effect even if the Foreman is absent for one day. Currently, whenever the Foreman is absent he provides a list of work for the employees to complete while he is gone. Chairman Tammaro will speak with the employees. Supervisor Branville suggested nominating an individual as the Temporary Foreman each contract by resolution.

Yard Waste Dates- Spring dates are April 19th, 20th, 26th, 27th and May 3rd and 4th. Fall dates are October 4th, 5th, 11th, 12th, 18 and 19th. Supervisor Branville included that other dates added as needed.

Quote for Clerk's Office A/C Units- Chairman Tammaro received a quote from USA Electric for replacement of the mini split systems in the Clerk's Office. That price was \$2,000-\$4,000 less than the prices received in the fall. The one in the Town Hall appears to be working okay.

Motion to go ahead with the USA Electric quote for the office area air conditioning units for \$7,400.00, made by Supervisor Branville, support from Supervisor Chad. Motion carried unanimously.

Transfer from 4M Fund to General Fund for Chassis Purchase- A transfer from the 4M General Fund to the Miner's Checking account for \$126,491.57 is needed for the purchase of the chassis.

Motion to approve, made by Supervisor Chad, support from Supervisor Sather. Motion carried unanimously.

Annual Meeting Review- Discussion that banning deer feeding was brought forward as a motion but did not pass with a 6-6 tie. A motion was also made regarding grants for terrestrial and aquatic invasive species, but died for lack of a second. Supervisor Branville asked if Foreman Latvaaho could check into an inexpensive screener for the black dirt.

FDIC Conference- Assistant Fire Chief Matt Hoffmann would like to attend the conference in Indianapolis next week. His room is free of charge.

Motion to approve the FDIC Conference for Matt Hoffmann at normal Township expense, made by Supervisor Chad, support from Supervisor Branville. Discussion that it should be the tuition cost and per diem. ***Motion carried unanimously.***

Patrick Ziegler Sewer Line- Mr. Ziegler contacted Chairman Tammaro and would like to turn over his sewer line to the Township. Supervisor Erjavec recommended not accepting it as an engineer wasn't involved in the installation and Fayal have no depths documented. The line to our knowledge is bored. There are a few individuals that are not connected to the sewer that live in that area. The PUC can review the request. Clerk Coldagelli added that Mr. Ziegler's service line does not follow Fayal's Ordinance as our Ordinance requires a separate and independent building sewer shall be provided for every building unless certain conditions are met. Both properties are sharing the same service line. One of the properties is currently listed for sale. Discussion regarding the line and the PUC can discuss.

Airpack Payment- \$17,547.99- The airpack payment is due and Mining Effects pays the payment.

Motion to make the payment, made by Supervisor Chad, support from Supervisor Erjavec. Motion carried unanimously.

Supervisor Sather brought forward that Joe Drobnick approached him with a request for a street light on the corner near his home. He is concerned for safety with the number of children that reside in that area. Discussion that there is process of petitioning the PUC for the request. Discussion regarding the MN Power power pole installed by the Town Hall and its purpose.

Motion to pay the claims in the amount of \$67,441.37, made by Supervisor Chad, support from Supervisor Branville. Motion carried unanimously.

Reminder that Board of Appeal is on April 30th from 1:00-2:00PM and a quorum is needed.

Motion to adjourn made by Supervisor Branville.

Chairman Tammaro adjourned the Regular Meeting at 7:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Heidi M. Coldagelli

Clerk/Treasurer Town of Fayal

Approved: _____

Chair

Date: _____

4-15-25

Attest: _____

Clerk