

## **Township of Breitung Regular Board Meeting 10-27-22 at 12:00Noon. In Person Meeting at the Breitung Community Center**

### **Present In Person:**

**Board Members:** Chairman Tim Tomsich, Supervisor Chuck Tekautz, Supervisor Greg Dostert  
Clerk Dianna Sunsdahl, Deputy Clerk Renee Pearson

**Absent:** Treasurer Jorgine Gornick

**Public:** Daniel Reing-Police Chief, Jodi Summit-Timberjay, Jessica Hanine-Tower News (arrived at 12:07pm), Matt Tuchel, Preston Tripp-JPJ, Keith Nyman, Jen Nemanich-Mesabi Bituminous (left @ 12:55pm), Gene Wright, Valeda McDonald, Rom Gorsma-Maintenance Supervisor, Trudy Hendricks, Joe Majerus-MN DNR, Brad Dekkers-MN DNR

Call to Order @ 12:00pm by Chairman Tim Tomsich

### **Acceptance of Agenda**

Motion by Supervisor Dostert to accept the agenda as presented

2<sup>nd</sup> by Supervisor Tekautz

Motion Passed 3-0

### **Approval of Minutes**

Motion by Supervisor Tekautz to approve the minutes of the 10/13/22 Special Board Meeting as presented

2<sup>nd</sup> by Supervisor Dostert

Motion passed 3-0

### **Approval of September 2022 Treasurers Report**

Motion by Supervisor Tekautz to approve the September 2022 Treasurers Report as presented

2<sup>nd</sup> by Supervisor Dostert

Motion passed 3-0

### **Correspondence**

- Habitat for Humanity Highlights-so noted
- St Louis County Housing Summit-so noted
- IRRR-The Ranger 10/05 and 10/19 edition-so noted
- IRRR-10/20 Update-so noted
- USDA Housing Loans and Grants-so noted
- Digital Estimating Team-so noted
- Hey Gov-so noted
- LMC-Rate Increase for Safety-so noted

### **Public Input-None**

### **Reports:**

- Police-See Attached, continue to be busy, lots of calls, looking at equipment and training for next year, working on blight and parking ordinance
- Fire-See Attached
- Road and Bridge-See Attached
- McKinley Park-All storage payments are in
- Recreation-Lights installed at the rink, MN Power coming on Monday
- Wastewater Board-met 10/26, Vermilion Solar Energy signed an agreement with MN Power, Force Main Project looking to start next month. Some budget discussion but will further discuss next month. Received a potential NOV from MPCA in regards to the RV Park in Tower. RV Park received an order to stop construction from the MPCA. MPCA has been on sight several times in the past week. TBWWB would like to see the City of Tower do a Corrective Action Report to the Board to prevent incidents in the future
- Ambulance Commission-Committee meetings with representatives from each township covered by the Commission met except for Greenwood Township. Looking at ways to purchase new ambulance without funds from Greenwood, as it is approximately 1 year out after ordering a new vehicle. Will ask the City of Tower if they would be willing to borrow the money if there is a gap in funds to purchase a new ambulance. Next meeting 11/9/22

Motion by Supervisor Dostert to accept the reports as presented

2<sup>nd</sup> by Supervisor Tekautz

Motion passed 3-0

### **Old Business:**

Infrastructure Project 2022-2 bids received and opened. 1 bid from KGM in the amount of \$434,233.75, and the 2<sup>nd</sup> bid from Mesabi Bituminous in the amount of \$346,215.85

ATV Trails-Joe and Brad from the MN DNR were at the meeting to discuss plans, and ask the Board of their interest in connecting the trails. Chairman Tomsich mentioned that the Board is in favor of proposed option 1. The ATV Camp on State Property will be off the Murray Spur Road, and there is interest in connecting Tower-Soudan through trails. This would be a Township Trail and just a connection between the State Park and the existing Trail. The DNR is currently in the Design Phase. The State will be building a trail to the end of the State Park Boundary which is next to private land. The DNR can help build the trail, and the Prospectors Group is interested in this as well. The Board asked Clerk Sundahl to send letters to both adjoining property owners, Aaron Lustek and Wayne Kultala. Consensus by the Board to hold a Special Meeting in November to discuss further. The Board is also looking to the future and expanding the current gravel pit. The purchasing of land would be beneficial to both endeavors.

## Infrastructure Project 2023

- Resolution 2022-30 Make Application and Accept CDBG Funds  
Motion by Supervisor Dostert to pass the resolution as presented  
2<sup>nd</sup> by Supervisor Tekautz  
Motion passed 3-0
- Resolution 2022-31 Make Application and Accept IRRR Funds  
Motion by Supervisor Tekautz to pass the resolution as presented  
2<sup>nd</sup> by Supervisor Dostert  
Motion passed 3-0

Stuntz Bay Road Project-Preston from JPJ stated no new updates

## MN OSHA Safety Grant and Security Doors

Clerk Sunsdahl gave update to the Board on questions asked at previous meeting, grant application not difficult, Clerk would do a portion, then Safety Chair has a portion to submit. Inability to connect AI system into existing cameras. The Board asked Chief Reing to research other alternatives. Will discuss at Special Meeting in November.

## St Louis County Ordinance 62-Update to Short Term Rentals

Update by Supervisor Dostert that the Lodging Tax Board met and have sent a letter to the County. No comments to be submitted by the Breitung Board to St Louis County.

## Hwy 169-Noise Reduction, Signage, Speed Limit Postings

Supervisor Dostert spoke with engineers from MN Dot and received applications and fee schedules for different options. The "No Passing" alternative from Tower to Jasper St would be hard to enforce, best to have a Law Enforcement presence in that area. The cost is \$1508 per sign for Noise Reduction. Clerk Sunsdahl to gather further information from Tower on signage that has been installed in the Tower area.

## New Business

### October 2022 Bills

Motion by Supervisor Dostert to pay bills as presented  
2<sup>nd</sup> by Supervisor Tekautz  
Motion passed 3-0

### Fire Department

- Training Officer Pay  
Motion by Supervisor Tekautz to accept letter from Training Officer Steve Burgess stating he will perform the duties without pay for the remainder of this year and to send a thank you letter  
2<sup>nd</sup> by Supervisor Dostert  
Motion passed 3-0
- FEMA Grant-Safer Grant-Assistant Chief Tuchel discussed that the Breitung Fire and Rescue was not awarded the FEMA grant monies that was requested this year for new gear but would like to apply again next year. All information is being gathered for the "Safer Grant" application and will be submitted for reimbursement of turn out gear for 3 new fire fighters in the amount of approximately \$18,000.

## Police Department

- Tacos with Cops Monies-Training and Equipment-Huge success, ran out of tacos well before 5:00pm. Will do again next year with more food. Chief Reing and Officer Nyman researching various items for purchase with the money received such as computer monitors, finger printing machine, and a medical bag for the squad car
- Police Contract with the City of Tower-Chairman Tomsich met with 2 members of the Tower City Council as well as the Tower Clerk Treasurer to begin discussion on a contract for the 2023 season. The City of Tower would like to keep the hours to 40 hours per week, but are open to discussion of P/T Officers during special events such as 4<sup>th</sup> of July, Halloween, and other days. Chairman Tomsich presented an estimate of costs for 2023. Breitung would like to include payment language for late payments, and when the November 2022 payment is due, Breitung will bill for 2 months as to be ahead on payments. Since this is a signed Contract payment request will not be needed from the Tower City Council.

Post Office Mats-The Post Office has lost their contract with the service who picked up and cleaned their mats, asking the township for an alternative. The Board asked Clerk Sunsdahl to follow up on this item with the Tower Postmaster.

## Winter Help

Motion by Supervisor Tekautz to put an ad in the paper for Winter Help, primarily for skating/rink caretakers

2<sup>nd</sup> by Supervisor Dostert

Motion passed 3-0

Request for No Parking on Main St-Complaint received by the Clerk from a concerned citizen that parking on Main St is a safety concern because the road is narrow. Supervisor Tekautz stated he has received complaints about people parking on the sidewalk as well. No action taken and Chief Reing will observe during patrol and take necessary action

Mary Batinich Request-Resident at 26 Center St asked if campers can hook up to new sewer, the board stated that according to the Parking Ordinance this is not allowed because it is not designated as a Camp Ground. Clerk Sunsdahl to send a letter to resident stating this.

## Resolution 2022-29-Resolution Accepting Donations

Motion by Supervisor Dostert to Accept the resolution as presented

2<sup>nd</sup> by Supervisor Tekautz

Motion passed 3-0

**Next Regular Board Meeting:** Thursday, December 1st, 2022 at 12:00pm

**Next Special Town Meeting:** Thursday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2022 at 6:00pm

**Next Special Board Meeting:** Thursday, November 17<sup>th</sup> @ 11:00am

## **Adjourn:**

Motion by Supervisor Dostert to Adjourn the Meeting at 1:45pm

2<sup>nd</sup> by Supervisor Tekautz

Motion Passed 3-0

Respectfully Submitted

Dianna Sundahl  
Clerk, Breitung Township