

ELLSWORTH TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING MINUTES

MARCH 16, 2023

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Dave Tipka – Chairman Supervisor; John Smith- Supervisor; Dave Jutz -Supervisor; Lori Johnson-Clerk; Elvera Smith – Treasurer

OTHER ATTENDEES: Alan Skjefte, Dawn Renner, Jan Jutz

APPROVE AND ACCEPT FEBRUARY MINUTES: *Motion made by John Smith and second by Dave Jutz*

TREASURER'S REPORT:

- Michael Murphy Plowing: \$2,100 Feb & Nov Plowing \$525 (bill delayed in mail) = \$2,625.00
- Salaries: \$3,926.80

Motion to approve Treasurer's report and pay the bills made by Dave Jutz and second by John Smith

CLERKS REPORT:

- Election Report: new supervisor is Alan Skjefte and new treasurer is Dawn Renner – we had 32 voters – Alan 30 and Dawn 29.
- Reminder of Board of Equalization April 13th @ 6:00 at Town Hall
- Restructure: John Smith will be Chairman Supervisor
- Dawn and Alan will get sworn in at the training in Willmar. We will also have to change the names at the bank. Discussion about raising the amount for people attending the training. Will raise to \$105.00 for training for Spring Courses made by Dave Jutz and second by John Smith.

OPEN MEETING: None

Motion to close the open meeting by Dave Jutz and second by John Smith

OLD BUSINESS:

- Furnace Repair – John Smith will definitely have it repaired by next meeting. He has the pump and will be installed to we don't have to drain tank each week.
- Mark Woods Update: - Dave has meeting for Tuesday for Cattarman's road closure – Lori talked to Mark Woods office and they had not been working on the VRBO issue. He will talk to them again.
- Report on 270 & 272nd – Lori talked to attorney – there are various options – it would involve an engineer and Dave Jutz can contact him also. Any of the costs would be part of the project and not paid for by township. We would need to have at least 50 percent of lots.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Resolution for the watercourses: Dave Jutz reported on the watercourses issue for water ditches. We need to propose a resolution and then April 5th Dave will go to Board of Townships and they will do a resolution and then go to do District 5 and is working with Jane Youngkrantz ?) who is currently working on it and it will then go to state and hopefully next year will be on a legislation bill.
Dave Tipka feels that it is not a township issue, only the culverts and it is a DNR issue. Township is only responsible for road right of way. Dave Jutz feels that this will help and it is worth a try. Dave Tipka said that the DNR still says where and how we put the culvert in. Dave Jutz agreed it is not our responsibility to pay for, however, if we could get this grant it would help. It was agreed that it was worth a try.
Dave has resolution that will be taken to meeting on April 5th and will meet with Bruce Dicke to present.

- John Smith asked about the meeting in May regarding mail balloting. Lori also said she received e-mail from resident that was wondering about what can be voted on at annual meeting and also about the Excel project. Dave Jutz said he was at the Excel project meeting and it is very unlikely it would pass. There were approximately 10 proposed lines that would run from Monticello to Marshall – Buffalo Ridge. They will put a pin in Marshall and Monticello and get as close to that proposed route as they can. The State of Minnesota will go with the straightest line possible. Many farmers are very concerned.
- Discussion of possibly putting internet into the townhall in future. We could look into pricing.

ADJOURN: