

**BIRCHDALE TOWNSHIP
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, August 30, 2022 – 8:00 P.M.**

1. Call to Order/ Pledge of Allegiance/Roll Call

Vice Chair Joe Ostendorf called to order the regular meeting of the Birchdale Township Board at 8:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 30, 2022 at the Birchdale Town Hall. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Present were Supervisors Dale Ahrens, Joe Ostendorf, Arnie Berscheid, Larry Bebus, Treasurer Marlene VanHavermaet and Clerk Jackie Bauer. Also in attendance was Erv Herdering from Herdering Inc. Supervisor Jim Carstens was absent.

2. Approval of Agenda

A motion was made by Supervisor Bebus, seconded by Supervisor Ahrens and unanimously carried to approve the agenda.

3. Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Supervisor Berscheid seconded by Supervisor Bebus, and unanimously carried to approve the July 26, 2022 regular Meeting minutes.

4. Approval of Treasurer's Report

Treasurer VanHavermaet presented the August Treasurer's Report. A motion was made by Supervisor Berscheid, seconded by Supervisor Ahrens and unanimously carried to accept the Treasurer's Report.

5. Approval of Bills

Next presented was the list of bills for the month of August to be considered for payment. A motion was made by Supervisor Ahrens, seconded by Supervisor Berscheid and unanimously carried to approve payment of the bills in the amount of \$3,891.05 (See attached list of bills).

6. Resident's Comments

- a. None.

7. Reports/Requests/Presentations

8. Township Road Report

- a. Road Maintenance Agreement Between Birchdale Township and Kandota Township – At last month’s meeting, Birchdale Township Board approved and signed the Road Maintenance Agreement between Birchdale and Kandota Townships regarding the maintenance and repair of Bayview Drive and Bay Loop, 231st Avenue and Bittner Drive. Supervisor took the signed agreement to the Kandota Township meeting for their signatures. The Kandota Board asked about dust control of Bayview Loop as they have not applied dust control in this area before. Supervisor Ostendorf gave the supervisors Mr. Herdering’s phone number. They may have additional questions on dust control for this area. Supervisor Ahrens asked who did the snow plowing for Kandota Township and Mr. Herdering, who was in attendance at the meeting, stated that he believed it was Craig Tschida last year and possibly a contractor from Osakis the year before.

9. Unfinished Business

- a. Storm Siren Near Diamond Point – The storm siren that the township operates near Diamond Point is not working. Supervisor Carstens has looked at the equipment but is unable to determine why the siren is not functioning. Supervisor Carstens was not in attendance so this item will be moved to the September meeting. Also, Clerk Bauer has invited a resident who is interested in the maintenance of this storm siren. He will attend the September meeting also.
- b. Review of Long Lake – Supervisors were able to view Long Lake by pontoon and the see the level of the water in the lake as reported by residents. Supervisors Ostendorf and Bebus attended. They stated there are some real problems with the lake. The level of the lake is getting higher and higher with no outlet. The residents have had an engineering assessment done and contacted the Department of Natural Resources, but that is where it is at. Birchdale Township’s involvement is 1 culvert along 1 road that would fall along the possible path of re-routing the water from the lake to another lake. There are 25 residents around the lake. With the plan that the engineering assessment and DNR came up with, it would cost \$1 Million Dollars and that was two years ago. The residents would need to find an entity to sponsor them and then pursue grant money to try to fund this. Todd County Commissioners are calling a working meeting to discuss options for lowering the water in this lake scheduled for October 4th at 10 AM at the courthouse. Supervisors Ostendorf and Bebus will plan to attend this meeting.
- c. Follow-Up From Vacation Hearing Held On May 19th Regarding Wren-Gray Property – Clerk Bauer has contacted Township Attorney Troy Gilchrist now that the 40 day appeal window has passed to find out what final steps need to be taken regarding follow-up from this hearing. Attorney Gilchrist advised Clerk Bauer to file Resolution #2022-08,

Resolution Granting In Part and Denying In Part The Vacation of Two Portions of Platted Right of Way (including exhibits), with the Todd County Recorder's Office. Clerk Bauer will do this.

- d. Quote received for Brush Cutting From D & K Tree Service – Clerk Bauer had sent a quote form last month to Dave Kuhl from D & K Tree Service but brush cutting but did not receive a quote back. She has since contacted Mr. Kuhl and obtained a quote. The Board is seeking another vendor for brush cutting so that if MBC Drainage is busy with the tree trimming project in the township, that the township has another company to contact. D & K's quote was \$425.00. The Board will keep this quote in the file for possible future use. Supervisor Ahrens stated that MBC is doing a very good job. Supervisor Ostendorf stated MBC Drainage is getting close to done with the tree trimming in the township. They have about 15% of the work left. They will finish up and then next fall, go through again and remove any debris that is left behind. They still have the Angler Drive area to do which is more difficult because it is more specific work. Supervisor Berscheid suggested that the Board have Hoffman Tree Service take the Angler Drive part and trim this area and the Board agreed.

- e. FEMA Meeting – Supervisor Ostendorf attended a meeting with Todd County Emergency Management Director Mike Wisniewski and townships who are seeking funding for storm damages, on Thursday, August 25th, 2022 at the Todd County Boardroom. Supervisor Ostendorf stated that the township can apply for funds through FEMA for the 3 minimum maintenance roads under preventative maintenance for trees that are down and debris on the road. Supervisor Ostendorf will work with Clerk Bauer to share the information that she needs for setting up the account with FEMA to get started.

10. New Business

- a. Chair Ostendorf then opened the sealed quote received for Snow Plowing for the 2022-2023 Season. The quote was from Herdering, Inc. and included the following:
 - o CAT Motor Grader with Snowplow Equipment - \$125.00/Hour
 - o Single Axel Truck with Snowplow - \$125.00/Hour
 - o Tandem Axel Truck with Snowplow Equipment - \$125.00/Hour

The quote information had also been sent to Mayers, Inc. Melrose, MN; however a quote was not received. A motion was made by Supervisor Berscheid, seconded by Supervisor Bebus, and unanimously carried accepting the quote and awarding the work to Herdering, Inc.

- b. Fire Extinguisher Check – Supervisor Ahrens will contact John Vornbrock from Summit to have the fire extinguisher checked.

11. Informational Items

The Board then reviewed the following informational items:

- a. Special Assessment Information Request received from:
Main Street Title & Closings, LLC:
 1. Leslie Schrupp & Kathryn Schrupp, 10065 Amigo Trail, Grey Eagle – Clerk Bauer informed that there are no pending assessments from Birchdale Township and that Amigo Trail is not a township road.
- b. Special Assessment Information Request received from:
Stearns County Abstract & Title Company
 1. Deer Camp 86, LLC, 25044 County 2, Birchdale Township
Clerk Bauer also informed that there are no pending assessments from Birchdale Township.

12. Officers Comments

- a. Mr. Herdering stated that he will do shouldering on all of the tar roads but he was wondering about those sections where there are resident lawns and whether he should skip those areas. The supervisors stated that he should use his judgement and just use gravel for shouldering, no black dirt.
- b. Supervisor Ostendorf asked about shaping some of the culverts and cleaning out the ditch areas around them that need them. He will review which ones need some clean-out with Mr. Herdering. There is a culvert that was flooding some land near a resident who lives by wetlands. The resident would like the culvert moved but the culvert is not actually located on the resident's property so it cannot be moved. This was one of the areas that Supervisor Ostendorf had reviewed.

13. Adjournment

With no further business, a motion was made by Supervisor Berscheid, seconded by Supervisor Ahrens, and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 9:05 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jackie Bauer
Birchdale Township Clerk