Town of Embarrass

Board Meeting

May 13, 2020

PENDING BOARD APPROVAL

Visitors: None

Present: Roy Worsham, Gene Wright, Gary Rantala, Mary Novak, Jennifer Boese

Meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Roy Worsham with The Pledge of Allegiance.

*Motion/Worsham: Second/Rantala to approve the March 2020 minutes. Carried 3-0.*

*Motion/Rantala: Second/Worsham to approve the April 9, 2020 LBAE minutes. Carried 3-0.*

*Motion/Wright: Second/Rantala to approve the Treasurer’s Report. Carried 3-0.*

Roads report was given by Rantala. Roads have been graded and are in good shape. Rantala reports that the grader needs new cutting edge. Wright will order new cutting edge.

Maintenance report was given by Wright. Repairs have been made on the Ford truck to get it back in use. Gene will check on the four-wheeler that needs repairs. Update on maintenance worker that has been out with injury was given. No trespassing signs have been posted at the Pyhala Farm. Discussion was had on what is expected of maintenance as far as mechanical work. Supervisors agree that a list should be put together on what maintenance responsibilities are for general mechanical work. Worsham wants to make sure that maintenance has the proper equipment and tools to do the work.

Heritage Park Campground has had some water leaks in shower house and pump house which will be repaired later in the week. *Motion/Worsham: Second/Rantala to have Bill Wright repair the water leaks at the campground. Wright abstained. Carried 2-0.* Caretaker moved her camper to the campground on May 8. Campground to open May 15 following state guidelines.

Cemetery deed was signed by the supervisors.

*Motion/Wright: Second/Worsham to approve the use of tables, chairs, and the walking trail for the Embarrass Fair. Carried 3-0. (Note: We have since learned the Embarrass Regional Fair has been cancelled for this year.)* It was decided that bleachers that were donated to the township will not be used at the ballfields. After discussion, the supervisors agree that they should be offered to the horse club.

*Motion/Wright: Second/Worsham to cancel the Embarrass Historic Properties Tours till the COVID-19 pandemic is over. Carried 3-0*

*Motion/ Wright: Second/Rantala to have Rodney Dale bring in fill to the Nelimark to fill the low spots at the Nelimark. Carried 3-0.*

Clerk requests a date to be picked for Property Inspections. May 29 at 1:00 was chosen.

*Motion/Wright: Second/Rantala to approve Trapline Tobacco License. Carried 3-0.*

Summer applicants were discussed after careful consideration the supervisors chose not to hire summer help this year. Few reasons for the decision are that the funds received from taconite aid will be down with some mines currently shut down, campground and town hall rentals have and will continue to be down with the COVID-19. Supervisors agree that not hiring summer hires will help some with the levy that will be affected. *Motion/Worsham: Second/Wright to hold off on hiring summer hires* *and to keep Ed Udovich on. Carried 3-0.*

Discussion was held chloride for the township roads. *Motion/Worsham: Second/Rantala to postpone the chloride till next year. Carried 3-0.*

Clerk discusses the grant from USDA for the new plow truck. Stage 2 of the grant has been completed and approved. Waiting on the final approval which should be early June. Worsham has received new quote for $39,549 for Dodge plow truck. Possible 50% of that amount will be provided by the USDA grant. Clerk has also sent in a grant application per Supervisor Wrights suggestion, for Lake Country Operation Roundup for more funds towards the Info/Visitor Center restrooms. Clerk spoke with Commissioner Paul McDonald regarding funds from St. Louis County for the project. With everything that has been affected by COVID-19, the grant work on this project will take longer than anticipated.

Roadside clean up in Embarrass Township started on May 1st and will continue through the first week of June. The volunteers are greatly appreciated.

Clerk informs supervisors that there will be no Memorial Service at the Embarrass Cemetery this year due to the COVID-19 the Aurora American Legion Post 241 will not be present. Flags have been placed on the Veterans graves, wreath and a list of all Veterans will be on display.

Novak speaks about the technology grant that she received. She informs and discusses with the supervisors a calendar/reservation app that can be added to the website for campers to reserve sites at the campground. She asks the supervisors if they would like to put any money towards the website to purchase this reservation app for the campground. Supervisors would like to hold off on purchasing the app at this time. Novak will be looking further into a free reservation app to see what it offers.

*Motion/Worsham: Second/Rantala to accept and approve Claims (17480 – 17506, $11,573.10) and Correspondence. Carried 3-0.*

Board audit was completed by the supervisors. All claims found accurate and in order. *Motion/Worsham: Second/Wright to approve the January and February audit. Carried 3-0.*

Meeting adjourned at 7:48 p.m. by Worsham.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jennifer Boese