

LIBERTY TOWNSHIP
Regular Meeting Minutes – November 8, 2023
Location: Liberty Town Hall, Bemidji, MN

Call to Order- Meeting was called to order by Chair, Sup. Oestreich. He led Pledge of Allegiance at 7:00 pm. Roll Call

Attendance:

Supervisors: Karl Oestreich, John Gilbertson, Steven Reznicek

Clerk: Colleen Oestreich

Treasurer: Peggy Curtis

Others: Travis Kelm, Willard Kelm, Jasmine Kelm, Jason Stubbe, Connie Barsness, Kevin Barsness, Jerome Linke, Peggy Reznicek, Gary Kelm, Wesley Peck, Bart Glatzmaier, Josh Strom, Rob Kelm, Michael Boslnow

Clerk's Report –

October 11, 2023 Regular Business Meeting Minutes – Motion by Supervisor, Oestreich second by Supervisor, Gilbertson to accept minutes. M/C

Election was held on November 7th. Liberty Township had 240 ballots cast. Beltrami County voters overwhelming decided to use a sales tax option to fund the construction of a new jail facility.

89 Bar request came from Bart Glatzmaier for completion of the annual township consent form. Motion by Sup. Oestreich, second by Sup. Reznicek to approve request. M/C

Treasurer's Report – Motion by Sup. Reznicek, second by Sup. Gilbertson to accept report as written and subject to future audit. M/C.

Road Update

- Sup. Gilbertson researched the history of maintenance of the Deer Lake School road. Township has not completed any maintenance work for over 25 years on this road and therefore does not have any authority to do any work on the road. Bemidji School District obtained the property over 25 years ago and installed the bituminous road. Charter School has since negotiated ownership with the school district. They contract with the county for road work.

Road has deteriorated and repairs would be substantial. Any action of that magnitude would need to be approved at an annual meeting of all residents. Charter School will explore grant opportunities for repairs.

- FEMA/State Admin reimbursement of \$1,448.40 has been received and placed in the general fund. This closes out the entire grant project with FEMA.

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Township Website – Board reviewed the website. It is hosted by Paul Bunyan Communications. Domain name purchased is www.mnlibertytwp.org . Board approved the release of their phone numbers and agreed to an email contact posted on the site.

Driveway permit form was updated. Motion by Sup. Reznicek, second by Sup. Gilbertson to approve the revised form. M/C

Bounty claim form was retyped and clarified. Motion by Sup. Oestreich, second by Sup. Gilbertson to approve the revision. M/C

Above revised forms have been posted on the website and are available for download.

BATO meeting was held on 10/24/23. Clerk, Oestreich and Treasurer, Curtis attended. Presentations were made by Aquatic Invasive Species expert from the County and Sheriff Riggs.

Supervisors are encouraged to attend the MAT Annual meeting in St Cloud, Dec 7-9, 2023. BATO agreed to support with funding up to \$200 for five people. Sup. Gilbertson expressed interest.

Rural Fire Association meeting was held on 10/26/23. Sup. Oestreich attended. Dues will increase to \$39,795 in 2024. Rural association owns half of the trucks and the lease on the Fire Substation on Sumac Road.

Approve and Pay Bills – Motion by Sup. Reznicek, second by Sup. Oestreich to pay claims 5131-5144 totaling \$20,961.24. M/C

Upcoming Meetings –

- **MAT Annual Meeting – December 7-9, 2023; St Cloud, MN**
- **December 13, 2023 Regular Board Meeting, 7 PM at Town Hall**
- **January 10, 2024 Regular Board Meeting, 7 PM at Town Hall**

Township election is scheduled for March 12, 2024. One – 3y Supervisor position and the 2-yr Clerk position will be on the ballot. Board reviewed past ad and agreed to post for these positions in December.

Road Contract – Motion by Sup. Reznicek, second by Sup. Oestreich to sign road contract with Travis Kelm for work from November 1, 2023 – October 31, 2024. M/C

Adjourn – Motion by Sup. Reznicek, second by Sup. Oestreich to adjourn at 7:35 PM. M/C

Karl Oestreich, Chairman

Colleen Oestreich, Clerk