

The Cormorant Township Board meeting was held on **Tuesday, June 27th, 2023**, at 7:00 p.m. at the Cormorant Community Center. Board members present were Chairman Steve Sorenson, Supervisors John Buhaug and Tony Hubbard, Treasurer Susie Braseth, Clerk Claudia Hanson, and Deputy Clerk Penny Wickenheiser.

A. **Call to Order** by Chairman Sorenson followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

B. **Minutes** from the June 13th regular meeting were read. Motion to approve minutes made by John, seconded by Tony Carried 3-0. The claims/bills were signed as presented.

C. **New Business**

- 1) **Cormorant Daze items** – Steve mentioned he received a call from Games Galore that they received our deposit but no contract. Susie added a check was never issued and Penny clarified that the contract was not signed or sent in yet. Games Galore must be mistaken that a check was sent from us. Steve will contact them to get straighten and will advise Susie when to issue a check for the deposit. They supply the blow-up games for Cormorant Daze.

Ila advised we should have Ballard Sanitation bring us two extra dumpsters, due to so much more garbage on that day. Claudia will order once closer to the date.

Thirdly, Steve mentioned the Cormorant Daze committee would like to purchase more fold up picnic tables for the day. Ila gave information where the last tables were bought from. It will still be determined where to store the tables once Cormorant Daze is over. Price for the tables in the past was around \$250.00 each.

Fourthly, it was mentioned that Little Miss Sunshine pageant would need space in the School Room on Friday, August 18th.

- 2) **Line Dancing Class** – Penny stated a Line Dance instructor who has a seasonal house in the area, would like to teach line dancing at our community center. Tentatively, Wednesday nights would be open to add to our schedule and teach for an hour from 7:00 – 8:00 pm. She would ask for a free will donation, and primarily offer class just during the summer months. The Board and Ila discussed, and it was mentioned that we once had a Line Dancing class already, was popular, but was discontinued during Covid. This would be a nice addition to offer to the community again.

D. Old Business

- 1) **Halliday/Giere Family Bench** – Ila Mae and Claudia will order the bench and personize the plaque as outlined with the family when Ila Mae met with them.
- 2) **Book Sale** – Steve updated from the last Cormorant Daze meeting that the consensus was to discontinue Book Sales, which was the leaning opinion of the township board from the last township meeting. This decision would be for all events, including spring Fishing Opener and also Cormorant Daze, due to amount of work (not many volunteers to help set up and hauling unsold books) and additionally, not worth the cost involved nor the storage space and the selling space that is used for this. Question was asked what to do with the remaining unsold books, which will still have to decide on. Ila stated she would take down the donation sign for the books.
- 3) **Newsletter Ideas** – Jessie Chenze emailed a draft of the next newsletter and Board agree it looked great. Jessie added it would be ready to publish, but offered the Line Dancing Class could be added. Penny will contact instructor, and Jesse also recommended to start on Wednesday, July 12th versus Wednesday, July 5th as attendance may be slight right after the holiday weekend and would give more time to advertise. Once Penny confirms with instructor, she will let Jesse know to add to newsletter so she can proceed with publishing it.

E. Recycling

- 1) **Brush/Compost Site Land Update** – Steve stated he will call Marlene Olson’s realtor and ask whether a surveyor has been hired to survey the area to be purchased.
- 2) **Cardboard problem** – Patrons of our recycling bins are not flattening the boxes so the bins fill up much too quickly. Jesse mentioned this in the newsletter to have cardboard broken down (and to have patrons not dump inappropriate items in our Brush/compost site)

F. Roads

- 1) **Roadwork Project** - Township roads determined to be in major need of various repair/overlay/tack/milling are as follows: Birch Road, 132nd Avenue, East Lake Ida Lane, Globstad Beach Road, Ideal Beach Road, Loon Lane, Maple Road, Rosman-

Erickson Road, Sherbrooke Beach Road, and West Lake Ida Road. Due to the substantial estimate from a vendor, Anderson Brothers Construction, for this roadwork, Claudia mentioned that we should post a notice for sealed bids and have those bids opened right before the next meeting on July 11th.

- 2) **Dust Guard** – This is all done on our gravel roads.
- 3) **Swing-Away Mailbox Posts** – Requests for this have diminished and the road crew is all caught up with new post installations.
- 4) **Bishop Road** – John is waiting for sign to be posted on 132nd to direct people to continue on 132nd to locate Bishop Road more easily.
- 5) **Victory Lane damage** – There was damage reported on this road from a payload, but damage was not significant and was repaired.

G. Other Business

- 1) **Townhall Exterior Walls** – Susie noticed that the exterior walls of the Townhall may need some paint work, as old paint is starting to peel off.
- 2) **DOT Compliance Report** – The DOT Compliance Report is due in July. Claudia will complete this report as required.
- 3) **Payroll Automation** – Tony is narrowing down that CTAS might be the best option.
- 4) **Autopayments for Utilities** – Susie has this in process and mailed in paperwork.
- 5) **Vacate Wermager Beach house** – John was notified that a house that has been unoccupied for several years on Wermager Beach, has a rodent infestation, and neighbors are concerned. Board discussed and John will contact Becker County to find some pest control assistance.
- 6) **Flags** – Tony did speak with Denny Mortenson (Lions Club) regarding the Board's decision to have no further U.S. flags installed at the townhall.
- 7) **Becker Cty. Tax proceeds** – Susie advised we received \$262,556.54 from the county which will be very beneficial for payment of our upcoming road improvements.
- 8) **Tar clothing allowance** – Ed Chenze suggested to increase the road crew tar clothing allowance from \$50 annually to \$100 annually. Susie advised that the allowance was already paid this year, but Board agreed this may be a good suggestion due to rise in inflation costs, and this allowance has not increased for several years.

9) **Miscellaneous Mail** – There was none at this time.

H. **Adjournment** - The township meeting was adjourned at 7:48 p.m. with a motion from Steve, seconded by John, carried 3-0. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on July 11th at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Claudia M. Hanson,
Clerk