

The Cormorant Township Board meeting was held on Tuesday, **January 25th, 2022**, at 7:00 p.m. at the Cormorant Community Center. Board members present were Chairman Steve Sorenson, Supervisor John Buhaug and Tony Hubbard, and Treasurer Susie Braseth and Clerk Claudia Hanson.

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

B. **Minutes** from the December 21st regular meeting were approved with a motion by Tony, seconded by John. Carried 3-0. The claims/bills were signed as presented.

C. **New Business**

1) **Liquor Licenses** - The Board reviewed applications for renewal of off-sale liquor license for Cormorant Bottle Shop (dba J- Rod Enterprises), and application for on-sale and wine/strong beer license renewal for Green Valley Golf Course (Mike Levin, owner). Board discussed and agreed to grant these licenses. Tony motioned to consent issuance of all Liquor licenses, as applied, and seconded by John, carried 3-0.

2) **Forest Lake School – Melissa Gullard** was present to ask the Board if the Forest Lake School (a home-schooling group) could use the Community Center twice a month on Mondays for their children and parents to gather. The children are ranging from K -12 grades and their parents would also be present. Anyone in the weight room would be supervised, which the Board reminded her of that. They just appreciate having a place to gather, have more space for play and to enjoy the outdoor park area. Melissa was hoping to be here on the 1st and 3rd Mondays of the month from 1:00 – 3:30 pm. Board discussed and as we host ECFE also, this would be a wonderful opportunity to have another school group use our space too. John motioned to grant Forest Lake School space as mentioned, seconded by Tony. Carried 3-0.

D. **Old Business**

1) **Lake Park Fire Dept. meeting** – John attended this meeting on January 19th and the fire contracts for each township have not been finalized yet, but we should have it before April 1st.

2) **Lions Club and the Veteran flag project** – Apparently, as mentioned in prior minutes, this first seemed to have been a Lions Club sponsored project, but some of the supervisors have been advised that the Lions Club is NOT in complete approval of this

project and only a few people are spearheading this. There is also possibly a conflict with the American Legion on the flag proposal. Maintenance and liability have been topics of concern. The county road right of way is used also by ATV'ers and snowmobilers, and there are power lines in the way of the flag poles. Board agreed that as a township, we would refrain from any further input, and since the county road right of ways are at stake, the township would rather no longer be involved.

E. Recycling

- 1) **Brush site** – Someone was still trying to use the brush site, even after it has been closed. Cones have been placed in the entrance of the site. The snowmobile trail does run thru the entrance road, but John stated the Midnite Riders Snowmobile club would post or advertise that this trail is only for snowmobilers, not vehicles, and that the site is closed.
- 2) **Cameras** – New batteries are needed.

F. Roads

- 1) **Snow accumulations** – Road crew trying to keep up with the snow drifts and in some troublesome spots, the piles are several feet high. Board agreed to have the worst piles pushed back or removed. East/West directionally facing roads seem to be worse, and good idea to manage the high snowbanks now, as the traditionally worst snow months are still ahead of us.
- 2) **145th Road** – Steve advised this road going thru the gravel pits will be tarred by Becker County, due to the heavy use of gravel hauling semi-trucks.

G. Other Business

- 1) **ARPA Funds** – New changes have been announced in which township can use these funds more broadly for road maintenance, fire contracts, etc. First report is still due April 30th, but this was a very welcome change as to how these funds can be used.
- 2) **Planning/Audit Meeting** – Board agreed to have this at 6:15 p.m. before the regular meeting on February 22nd, 2022.
- 3) **Appoint Township Election Judges** – Claudia advised who should be appointed for election judging which is: Ila Mae Lindstrom, Barb Maasjo, Laurie Wanke and Susie Braseth.

John motioned, seconded by Tony to appoint these judges. Carried 3-0.

- 4) **Annual Meeting and Township Elections** – Claudia reminded everyone that elections are March 8th 5:00 – 8:00 p.m. and Annual Meeting will start at 8:15 p.m.
- 5) **Board of Appeal and Equalization** – This is scheduled for Wednesday, April 27th, 2022, at 10:30 a.m. with our township tax assessor, Lisa Marschall, and Becker County Assessor Lisa Will. Tony just received his certification and John will be getting his shortly.
- 6) **Push Pedal Pull** – Board reviewed and agreed to have these folks complete a yearly preventative and maintenance check on our exercise equipment in the exercise room.
- 7) **Miscellaneous mail** – Board reviewed any other insignificant mail.

H. **Treasurer’s Report** - - Board reviewed claims and payments for the prior month (ending December 2021). Claims are available on request.

Beginning Balance	\$558,226.35
Receipts	+ 167,936.14
Disbursements	- 19,074.62
Ending	<u>\$ 707,087.87</u>
checking acct. balance	
Investment beginning balance	-0-
Investment purchased	-0-
Investment transferred/sold	-0-
Investment interest	<u>-0-</u>
Ending Investment value	<u>-0-</u>

The Treasurer’s Report was approved by Tony, seconded by John. Carried 3-0.

I. **Adjournment** - The township meeting was adjourned at 8.01 p.m. with a motion from Steve, seconded by Tony, and carried 3-0. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on February 22nd, 2022, at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Claudia M. Hanson, Clerk

