

The Cormorant Township Board meeting was held on **Tuesday, November 26<sup>th</sup>, 2024**, at 7:00 p.m. at the Cormorant Community Center. Board members present were Chairperson Steve Sorenson, Supervisors John Buhaug and Tony Hubbard, Clerk Claudia Hanson, Treasurer Susie Braseth, and Deputy Clerk Penny Wickenheiser.

- A. **Call to Order** by Chairperson Sorenson followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.
- B. **Minutes** from November 12<sup>th</sup>, 2024, variance and regular meeting were read. Motion to approve minutes made by Tony, seconded by John. Carried 3-0. The claims/bills were signed as presented.

C. **New Business**

- 1) **Ida North Shore Addition Proposal** – Steve explained a preliminary proposal for Ida North Shore Addition, situated on the northside of Lake Ida on County Highway 4. Steve explained that this 12-unit condo development is in very early stages and will likely need a variance by the township for a docking system. Lake Ida Lake Association should be made aware of this project as well. This addition has had empty lots for sale for a few years, which have not sold, and the county highway is located between the lakeshore and where the lots are located.
- 2) **Building Permit Issue** – Lisa Marschall, township assessor, has previously mentioned that while assessing properties, she has found no permits issued for additions or new construction. Becker County Zoning has been back logged with updating their permits on the county website and many years ago, they used to provide a list of permits for our township. Just a list of monthly permits issued would be helpful, then this list could be forwarded to Lisa. Tony agreed to have permit list reinitiated to provide us with an overview of construction in the township.
- 3) **Costello Beach Lake Lots** - Steve has received calls from Costello Beach residents that the water level is 10-15 feet lower than normal. There are weirdly platted separate lots that some residents own, that extend from the homestead lot out to the lake, which are now sandier versus being underwater. These lots were assessed significantly more because assessment was done when the water level was extra low. The values for these lots may need to be re-assessed, due to the unusual circumstance in very dry years.

- 4) **Water Heater Broke/Damage/Insurance** – Ila Lindstrom reported that a new water heater in small School Room bathroom was installed as old one malfunctioned. New flooring may be installed soon. Claudia will review costs and see if it is worth filing an insurance claim or paying the fees outright.

**D. Old Business**

- 1) **Window/Window Well Installation** – John indicated the window well is in the shop and the window is in Detroit Lakes. Installation may be delayed until spring.
- 2) **115<sup>th</sup> Street Incident-** Claudia advised that the township has been issued a summons & complaint in regard to the 115<sup>th</sup> Street incident. It was brought up that 115<sup>th</sup> Street intersects with a county road, so the stop sign was also located on a county road right of way.
- 3) **Comprehensive Land Use Plan Meeting** – Claudia noted this meeting is scheduled for December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. at the Becker County Courthouse.

**E. Recycling**

- 1) **Brush/Compost Site** – Board agreed that the compost site will be closed as of December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024.

**F. Roads**

- 1) **Sherbrooke Road Culvert** – John stated he will watch if more gravel needed to fill hole.
- 2) **Road Grant** – Claudia and John met with Brian Shepard, Becker Cty. Hwy. Dept. and took a tour of East Lake Ida Lane. Mr. Shepard was wondering when East Lake Ida was first tarred to determine how many layers of tar will need to be removed prior to reconstruction. The culvert will not need to be repaired once the new roadway is installed. Penny will inquire with Tony’s Campground former owners when the road was paved. Also to consider is how to finish off private driveways.
- 3) **Mailbox Installation** – John noted that all mailbox installations for the year have been completed.
- 4) **Royal Oaks Road Mail Delivery Issues** – John reported that the road signs posts have been installed. Claudia reached out a Postmaster employee in Lake Park regarding the four mailboxes on County Highway 4. Any new mailboxes for that road are to be in a

centralized postal unit versus individualized mailboxes. A resident will be contacting the post office for other options, as a centralized unit is still not very convenient or practical.

- 5) **Brushing on Globstad and Ideal Beach** – John noted the brushing needs on Globstad and Ideal Beach have been completed.

#### G. Other Business

- 1) **LED Bulb Rebate** – Susie received the rebate check and will deposit it into the township bank account.
- 2) **Township Election Candidate Filing (December 31<sup>st</sup> - January 14)** – Claudia noted that Steve and Susie are up for reelection in March 2025.
- 3) **Camera Out Summit Protection** – Claudia has reached out to Summit Protection regarding the inoperable camera and the noisy receiver. They are looking for a part and has not received any recent update on part arrival.
- 4) **December Meeting Scheduled** – The December township meeting has been scheduled for December 17<sup>th</sup>, 2024. A reminder was issued that only one meeting will be held in December.
- 5) **Fundraiser March 22<sup>nd</sup>** – Claudia noted that Trisha Maloney requested the use of the community center for a fundraiser for an individual that was raised in this area and has been diagnosed with cancer. The Board agreed that the use of the community center will be free of charge for this event.
- 6) **Otis Elevator Estimate** - Claudia stated that the estimate for major upgrades to the community center elevator will cost \$91,000. This cost will cover the central unit of the elevator. She advised that this upgrade will need to be made within the next five years.
- 7) **SAIL Program** – This is a Senior exercise program that is funded by Mahube in Detroit Lakes which some local residents were hoping to start in Cormorant in January 2025. This program has already been established in Lake Park. However, the coordinator, Cynthia McDonough, stated that she needs to reapply for grant money so cannot start this program until later Spring 2025.

8) **BIO Girls** – This program for young girls will begin holding classes Sunday, January 19<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

9) **Miscellaneous Mail** – None

H. **Adjournment** - The township meeting was adjourned at 7:32 p.m. with a motion from Steve, seconded by Tony. Carried 3-0. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on December 17<sup>th</sup>, 2024, at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Claudia M. Hanson, Clerk and  
Penny Wickenheiser, Deputy Clerk