

The Cormorant Township Board meeting was held on **Tuesday, February 25th, 2025**, 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 February 11th, 2025, 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) **Liquor Licenses** – Liquor license renewals were requested by the following individuals representing their respective entities:

-Rod Einerson – Cormorant Bottle Shop (Off-sale)

-Lynn & Corey Stockstad – Parallel 46 (On-sale), also new license for off-sale

-Mike Levin – Green Valley Golf Course (On-sale)

-Eric Guler – Cormorant Pub & Boathouse (On-sale)

-Emma Mattson – Ella Marie’s (On-sale, 3.2)

-Gabe Line – Tri-Lakes Roadhouse (On-sale, Off-sale)

The Board reviewed applications for renewal of all liquor licenses for those listed above. Board asked Lynn Stockstad about the off-sale application, which they only would like off-sale license if a wine drinking dining patron wants to take home a bottle, then they could sell a bottle to that patron. There are no intentions to sell liquor or wine, as in a liquor store capacity. John motioned to consent issuance of all Liquor licenses, (including adding Parallel 46 as on/off sale, as applied, and seconded by Tony, carried 3-0.

The Board also reviewed renewal of wine/strong beer license and 3.2 malt liquor license for Lakes Fika (formally dba as EllaMaries Café and Collectibles). As Lakes Fika wine/strong beer and 3.2 liquor license renewal involved passing of a resolution, John motioned, seconded by Tony, to approve and issue this license by resolution (#2025-2). Motion carried 3-0 and all supervisors voted in favor of this resolution.

- 2) **City of Lake Park Fire Contract** – Claudia advised that the contract for the services of the City of Lake Park Fire Department is due on April 11, 2025. In 2023, the contract was \$48,892. In 2024, the contract was \$54,606.16. For 2025, the contract is proposed at \$58,535.96. This represents approximately a \$4,000 increase. Steve mentioned that many calls to the fire department originate from Cormorant Township residents. John made the motion to accept the contract as written. Tony seconded the motion.
Carried 3-0.

D) Old Business

- 1) **Security System** – Arvig is working on the final installation of the security system at the community center. Claudia clarified there is no video back up to the iCloud, so video will only be available for 30-60 days. Arvig mentioned the township can consider monthly service plan or “insurance policy” if service is needed. She noted there is a five-year warranty on the cameras and unit. Arvig is sending a proposal that would combine the security system, telephone service, Wi-Fi into a monthly service plan. Once the proposal is received, the Board will decide if needed.
- 2) **115th Street Suit** - Claudia has not received any additional information regarding this lawsuit.
- 3) **Community Ed (Yoga/Sound Bells)** – Yoga/Sound Bells will hold another event on April 9th, 2025, which has been a popular event.
- 4) **Newsletter** – Ed Chenze was present at the meeting and advised Jessie Chenze has been very busy and traveling for her employment. She is working on the township newsletter.
- 5) **Otis Elevator – More upgrades** - Claudia informed that Otis Elevator has sent emails solicited more maintenance work and upgrades such as Cat Test is \$575 and another upgrade for \$2,800. Otis already advised replacement of major components of the elevator in five years for \$91,000. Claudia requested Otis Elevator that they will need to explain what is required and why, as these upgrades seem excessive and expensive.

E. Recycling

- 1) **Brush/Compost Site** – The brush/compost site remains closed until Spring.

F. Roads

- 1) **LRIP Grant Project – East Lake Ida Lane** – Claudia noted Jim Olson, Becker County Engineer is taking care of handling paperwork, but sent email to him if driveway aprons could be included in this project.
- 2) **Snow Melt** – John advised that all the roads have been winged off. Dean Block did an excellent job.
- 3) **Birch Point Remote Meeting – Dylan Ramstad-Skoyles Call** – Claudia mentioned that Dennis Olson’s attorney, Dylan Ramstad-Skoyles, has requested a meeting at the site to discuss the corner issue. He is available Monday – Wednesday. Board discussed their schedules, and set meeting for Wednesday, March 5th at 11:00 am. Claudia will confirm with attorney that date and time still works and post the Special Meeting.
- 4) **Nelson Lake Road – Stakes and Minutes** – Claudia received letter at the township office from Nancy Bloom to clarify Sept. 10th, 2024, minutes regarding their neighbor, Mark Boushee. She states “he had taken gravel from road earlier in the spring and placed it in the roadway at the end of his driveway...but had 20 loads of gravel delivered to build up and level with existing shop, where seems to intend to build another building. and to clarify, the gravel used on his property was not taken from the gravel delivered by the township for the roadway.” Secondly, the letter mentions 2 heavy duty metal stakes in the easement that have been a prior safety concern. John will check this out further.

G. Other Business

- 1) **Annual Meeting/Elections March 12th** – Notice of the Annual Meeting and Township Elections was published in the Detroit Lakes newspaper on February 22nd and March 1st, 2025. The Township Elections will be held from 5:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. The Annual Meeting will be held at 8:15 p.m.
- 2) **Weed Meeting – March 14th, 2025, in Callaway** – John will attend this meeting.
- 3) **Becker County Association of Townships Meeting/Dues** – This meeting is scheduled for March 27th, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. at the Becker County Courthouse. Claudia noted no bill for association membership has been received yet.
- 4) **Short Courses Mahnomen** - Short Courses will be held in Mahnomen on Monday, March 31st, 2025, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

- 5) **Board of Appeal and Equalization Meeting** – This meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 22nd, 2025, at 10:30 a.m.
 - 6) **Valley Green South Lawn maintenance** - A mailing from Valley Green South Lawn Maintenance was received. The Board decided to sign up for two applications: one in the spring and one in the fall. The total cost is \$569
 - 7) **Miscellaneous Mail** – An asphalt management company sent advertisement.
- H. **Adjournment** - The township meeting was adjourned at 7:28 p.m. with a motion from John, seconded by Steve. Carried 3-0. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on March 25th, 2025, at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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