Munson Township Board of Supervisors

# **Meeting Minutes**

# **January 18, 2022**

# The regular monthly meeting of the Munson Township Board of Supervisors was called to order at 8:00 PM on January 18, 2022, by Chairman, Joe Willenbring.

# **Present**

# Butch Gertken at 8;30, Matt Burg, Clerk, Boni Behnen, Treasurer, Dick Behnen, P & Z Ad., Lynn Burg, and P& Z Chair, Dave Thielen and Board member Mike Behnen.

# **A motion to approve the town board minutes from December 20, 2021, was made by Burg, seconded by Willenbring. Carried 2-0.**

**Treasurer’s Report**

Income $162,786.24 Expenses $ 27,059.13 Balance $127,073.84 $450,000.00 in CDs and money market. **A motion to accept the Treasurer’s report was made by Burg, seconded by Willenbring. Carried 2-0.**

Chuck Merten presented paperwork for a temporary liquor license for a fishing contest on Cedar Island Lake, February 11, 3:00 PM- February 12, 3:00 PM, 2022. **A motion to grant the liquor license to the Richmond Fire Firefighters Relief Association for the date and times listed was made by Burg, seconded by Willenbring. Carried 2-0.**

David Aase called Burg’s phone to listen to the proceedings, as he was unable to attend the meeting in person.

Gary Glawe had attended the Stearns County Commissioner’s meeting that morning and was granted a three-year permit for a vacation rental property in Munson Township. The Township Board imposed a one-year moratorium on new vacation rental permits on December 27, 2021, which takes precedence over the county’s decision. Glawe believes the moratorium is not fair to him because all the paperwork had been done with the county, and he feels as if the rules have been changed after the game has started. David Aase and Christina Barak were also unhappy with the moratorium because they too had pending permits.

The clerk stated that the county board granted the permit to Glawe, however, Aase and Barak were not included in the county board’s decision to grant the permit. Glawe feels that the Munson Township Board meeting on December 27, 2021, was set up quickly and secretly, and had they known about it, they would have been there. The clerk clarified that December 27, 2021, meeting was an extension of the December 20, 2021, meeting and was decided at the end of the December 20 meeting. It was also noted that all board meetings are open to the public. The board has the right to extend any meeting, and the moratorium was legally created by Bob Ruppe, the township attorney. The Munson Township Board stood by its decision to uphold the moratorium.

Glawe would like to attend the P&Z meetings and was informed that all meetings are open to the public and the dates are on the Munson Township website.

At the December Board meeting, Lynn had asked to be paid $50 per meeting for taking the P&Z minutes. The P&Z board chair and board members stated that Lynn was doing an excellent job and felt she should be given the pay increase. The Munson Township board determined that a decision would be made at the re-org meeting in March.

At the December meeting, Lynn had asked for permission to get a new computer. She went to Best Buy and found a Lenovo Yoga 7i for $850. She also checked on several options for tech support, etc. Boni informed her that we have total tech support through Geek Squad for all township computers and she could have hers added to the plan. Lynn also checked the price for Otter.ai speech to text for taking minutes. **A motion to allow Lynn to buy the computer and Otter app was made by Willenbring, seconded by Gertken. Carried 2-0.** Burg abstained from voting.

At the December meeting, the board asked Dick to get information regarding the large screen used for projecting documents during meetings in the fire hall from Adam Braegelmann. He was informed that it was a large screen tv with an HDMI hookup to a computer. It was decided that Matt Burg will look for a 50 inch or larger screen and bring up options at the next meeting.

**COL Fire Update**

The department now has 29 members and would like to have 30.

The Relief Association currently allows for 2 retirements per year. Changes may be made to that policy next year. They would like to get the okay from Ruppe.

The LUCAS machine was used to save one life so far, everyone thought it was well worth the money used.

**Mail**

Letter from Xcel Energy declaring a rate increase.

COL Fire Department final expenditures were emailed to Boni and forwarded to the supervisors.

The P and Z Board made a recommendation to the town board members that future mining pits along any roadway, including minimum maintenance roads, adjacent to the pits have berms with a 2 to 1 ratio, up to15 feet high from the center of the road. **A motion by Burg, second Gertken, to approve the recommendation. Carried 3-0.**

Lynn has composed a letter that will be mailed to current vacation rental permit holders for their input on rental permit policy for the Township. Boni will post a copy of it at the town hall and on the website.

Dave Thielen asked if the P&Z board members could get paid for attending other township’s P&Z meetings such as Eden Lake to assess what their policy is for vacation rentals. They asked how many members could go to each meeting. Boni stated that it could only be two members because of the Open Meeting Law. The town board gave permission for them to attend any other township meetings. They also asked if they could do online research at home and get paid for it. They need to keep track of the date and time of their work and they will get paid $18 per hour.

**A motion to pay bills was made by Gertken, seconded by Burg. Carried 3-0.** Bills were paid in the amount of $13,653.39 using check numbers 7123-7129.

**At 9:35 PM, the meeting adjourned.**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Chair**

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