REGULAR MEETING

**October 5, 2023**

**Aurora, Minnesota**

***The Regular Meeting of the Town of White was called to order by Chairman Skelton at 5:00 P.M., on Thursday, October 5, 2023, at the City/Town Government Center.***

**ROLL CALL:**

Present: Supervisors-Skelton, Anttila, Kippley; Clerk-Knaus, Treasurer–Gross; Foreman-Niemi; Attorney – Kearney

Absent:

Also Present: Mike Skinner, Micheal Starken, Gary Starken, Curtiss Anttila, Bryana Salo, Simon Charter

**1. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA**

**IT WAS MOVED BY ANTTILA, SUPPORTED BY KIPPLEY TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA WHICH INCLUDED TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING MINUTES FROM SEPTEMBER 7, 2023; ALL BILLS AND PAYROLL AS PRESENTED BELOW, COMMITTEE MINUTES AND REPORTS, AND CORRESPONDENCE TO BE FILED FOR SEPTEMBER 2023. MOTION CARRIED**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Check#** | **Vendor** | **Description** | **Total** |
| CC09-05-23 | Cardmember Service | Training & Supplies | $ 514.97 |
| D09-06-23 | Empower | Employee Deductions | $ 350.00 |
| DD09062301 | Payroll Period Ending 09/02/2023 | Regular Payroll Ending 09/02/2023 | $ 1,838.72 |
| DD09062302 | Payroll Period Ending 09/02/2023 | Regular Payroll Ending 09/02/2023 | $ 512.35 |
| DD09062303 | Payroll Period Ending 09/02/2023 | Regular Payroll Ending 09/02/2023 | $ 1,396.70 |
| DD09062304 | Payroll Period Ending 09/02/2023 | Regular Payroll Ending 09/02/2023 | $ 2,065.08 |
| DD09062305 | Payroll Period Ending 09/02/2023 | Regular Payroll Ending 09/02/2023 | $ 1,749.82 |
| DD09062306 | Payroll Period Ending 09/02/2023 | Regular Payroll Ending 09/02/2023 | $ 1,719.34 |
| DD09062307 | Payroll Period Ending 09/02/2023 | Regular Payroll Ending 09/02/2023 | $ 2,160.80 |
| DD09062308 | Payroll Period Ending 09/02/2023 | Regular Payroll Ending 09/02/2023 | $ 2,072.74 |
| DD09062309 | Payroll Period Ending 09/02/2023 | Regular Payroll Ending 09/02/2023 | $ 1,326.77 |
| DD09062310 | Payroll Period Ending 09/02/2023 | Regular Payroll Ending 09/02/2023 | $ 842.57 |
| F09-06-23 | E.F.T.P.S. | Withholding Payroll Ending 09/02/2023 | $ 5,253.20 |
| M09-06-23 | MN Department of Revenue | Withholding Payroll Ending 09/02/2023 | $ 1,015.87 |
| P09-06-23 | P.E.R.A. | Payroll Deductions | $ 2,984.11 |
| 34861 | Michael Baland | Clothing Allowance 2023 | $ 266.00 |
| 34862 | Zito Media | Fire Hall & PW Telephone & Internet | $ 409.82 |
| 34863 | Culligan | Seasonal Tank Exchange | $ 201.85 |
| 34864 | APG Media of MN | Meeting Notices | $ 2,103.00 |
| 34865 | APG Media of MN | Meeting Notices - August | $ 1,223.87 |
| 34866 | Jim Jones | Reimbursement for LLCC supplies | $ 191.36 |
| 34867 | East Range Times | Elections - Filing Notice | $ 103.50 |
| 34868 | L & M Fleet Supply, Inc. | Shop and Building Repair Supplies | $ 662.25 |
| 34869 | CTC | Town Office Phone Sept 2023 | $ 224.20 |
| 34870 | East Range Times | July Advertising | $ 2,735.85 |
| 34872 | East Mesabi Sanitation | Refuse Collection August 2023 | $ 12,703.35 |
| ST09-18-23 | MN Dept of Revenue - Sales Tax | Sales Tax - August 23 | $ 1,727.00 |
| D09-20-23 | Empower | Employee Deductions | $ 350.00 |
| DD09202301 | Payroll Period Ending 09/16/2023 | Regular Payroll Ending 9/16/23 | $ 1,986.23 |
| DD09202302 | Payroll Period Ending 09/16/2023 | Regular Payroll Ending 9/16/23 | $ 343.40 |
| DD09202303 | Payroll Period Ending 09/16/2023 | Regular Payroll Ending 9/16/23 | $ 1,377.70 |
| DD09202304 | Payroll Period Ending 09/16/2023 | Regular Payroll Ending 9/16/23 | $ 648.88 |
| DD09202305 | Payroll Period Ending 09/16/2023 | Regular Payroll Ending 9/16/23 | $ 2,589.61 |
| DD09202306 | Payroll Period Ending 09/16/2023 | Regular Payroll Ending 9/16/23 | $ 1,731.73 |
| DD09202307 | Payroll Period Ending 09/16/2023 | Regular Payroll Ending 9/16/23 | $ 1,237.06 |
| DD09202308 | Payroll Period Ending 09/16/2023 | Regular Payroll Ending 9/16/23 | $ 2,500.71 |
| DD09202309 | Payroll Period Ending 09/16/2023 | Regular Payroll Ending 9/16/23 | $ 2,265.42 |
| DD09202310 | Payroll Period Ending 09/16/2023 | Regular Payroll Ending 9/16/23 | $ 1,291.77 |
| DD09202311 | Payroll Period Ending 09/16/2023 | Regular Payroll Ending 9/16/23 | $ 1,228.51 |
| F09-20-23 | E.F.T.P.S. | Withholding Payroll Ending 09/16/2023 | $ 5,968.31 |
| J09-20-23 | St. Louis County | 2023 Mineral Rents Adjustment | $ 13.33 |
| M09-20-2023 | MN Department of Revenue | Withholding Payroll Ending 09/16/2023 | $ 1,160.55 |
| P09-20-23 | P.E.R.A. | Payroll Deductions | $ 3,381.79 |
| 34873 | Volunteer Firefighter's Benefit Ass | Life Insurance | $ 180.00 |
| DD09262301 | Payroll Period Ending 07/30/2023 | Fire Department July Payroll | $ 34.42 |
| DD09262302 | Payroll Period Ending 07/30/2023 | Fire Department July Payroll | $ 18.65 |
| DD09262303 | Payroll Period Ending 07/30/2023 | Fire Department July Payroll | $ 46.25 |
| DD09262304 | Payroll Period Ending 07/30/2023 | Fire Department July Payroll | $ 294.59 |
| DD09262305 | Payroll Period Ending 07/30/2023 | Fire Department July Payroll | $ 132.97 |
| DD09262306 | Payroll Period Ending 07/30/2023 | Fire Department July Payroll | $ 73.84 |
| DD09262307 | Payroll Period Ending 07/30/2023 | Fire Department July Payroll | $ 152.68 |
| DD09262308 | Payroll Period Ending 07/30/2023 | Fire Department July Payroll | $ 261.08 |
| DD09262309 | Payroll Period Ending 07/30/2023 | Fire Department July Payroll | $ 129.03 |
| DD09262310 | Payroll Period Ending 07/30/2023 | Fire Department July Payroll | $ 34.42 |
| DD09262311 | Payroll Period Ending 07/30/2023 | Fire Department July Payroll | $ 113.26 |
| DD09262312 | Payroll Period Ending 07/30/2023 | Fire Department July Payroll | $ 14.71 |
| DD09262313 | Payroll Period Ending 07/30/2023 | Fire Department July Payroll | $ 517.31 |
| DD09262314 | Payroll Period Ending 07/30/2023 | Fire Department July Payroll | $ 231.52 |
| DD09262315 | Payroll Period Ending 07/30/2023 | Fire Department July Payroll | $ 54.13 |
| DD09262316 | Payroll Period Ending 07/30/2023 | Fire Department July Payroll | $ 34.42 |
| DD09262317 | Payroll Period Ending 07/30/2023 | Fire Department July Payroll | $ 14.71 |
| FD09-26-23 | E.F.T.P.S. FD | Withholding Tax | $ 66.02 |
| DD09272301 | Payroll Period Ending 08/30/2023 | Fire Department August Payroll | $ 14.71 |
| DD09272302 | Payroll Period Ending 08/30/2023 | Fire Department August Payroll | $ 14.71 |
| DD09272303 | Payroll Period Ending 08/30/2023 | Fire Department August Payroll | $ 14.71 |
| DD09272304 | Payroll Period Ending 08/30/2023 | Fire Department August Payroll | $ 261.08 |
| DD09272305 | Payroll Period Ending 08/30/2023 | Fire Department August Payroll | $ 192.10 |
| DD09272306 | Payroll Period Ending 08/30/2023 | Fire Department August Payroll | $ 54.13 |
| DD09272307 | Payroll Period Ending 08/30/2023 | Fire Department August Payroll | $ 182.24 |
| DD09272308 | Payroll Period Ending 08/30/2023 | Fire Department August Payroll | $ 339.92 |
| DD09272309 | Payroll Period Ending 08/30/2023 | Fire Department August Payroll | $ 182.24 |
| DD09272310 | Payroll Period Ending 08/30/2023 | Fire Department August Payroll | $ 34.42 |
| DD09272311 | Payroll Period Ending 08/30/2023 | Fire Department August Payroll | $ 172.39 |
| DD09272312 | Payroll Period Ending 08/30/2023 | Fire Department August Payroll | $ 83.69 |
| DD09272313 | Payroll Period Ending 08/30/2023 | Fire Department August Payroll | $ 408.91 |
| DD09272314 | Payroll Period Ending 08/30/2023 | Fire Department August Payroll | $ 132.97 |
| DD09272315 | Payroll Period Ending 08/30/2023 | Fire Department August Payroll | $ 54.13 |
| DD09272316 | Payroll Period Ending 08/30/2023 | Fire Department August Payroll | $ 83.69 |
| FD09-27-23 | E.F.T.P.S. FD | Withholding Tax | $ 67.92 |
| F09-28-23 | E.F.T.P.S. | Penalty Fine | $ 950.12 |
| DD09292301 | Payroll Period Ending 09/28/2023 | September 2023 Monthly Payroll | $ 399.24 |
| DD09292302 | Payroll Period Ending 09/28/2023 | September 2023 Monthly Payroll | $ 150.23 |
| DD09292303 | Payroll Period Ending 09/28/2023 | September 2023 Monthly Payroll | $ 325.79 |
| DD09292304 | Payroll Period Ending 09/28/2023 | September 2023 Monthly Payroll | $ 279.01 |
| DD09292305 | Payroll Period Ending 09/28/2023 | September 2023 Monthly Payroll | $ 453.72 |
| F09-29-23 | E.F.T.P.S. Monthly | Employee Deductions | $ 176.38 |
| M09-29-23 | MN Department of Revenue Monthly | Employee Withholding | $ 47.56 |
| P09-29-23 | P.E.R.A. Monthly | Retirement Deductions | $ 207.52 |
| 34874 | A.W. Kuettel & Sons, Inc. | LLCC Roof Repairs | $ 3,471.00 |
| 34875 | Advantage Systems Group | Office door button | $ 318.10 |
| 34876 | Aurora Auto Value | Parts | $ 156.98 |
| 34877 | Curtiss Anttila | Service Contract | $ 605.02 |
| 34878 | Bradach Lumber | Antifreeze | $ 55.93 |
| 34879 | Michael Baland | Optical Allowance | $ 200.00 |
| 34880 | Central Pension Fund | Retirement Contributions Sep 23 | $ 4,829.95 |
| 34881 | Colosimo, Patchin, & Kearney, LTD | Legal Services | $ 465.00 |
| 34882 | Colosimo, Patchin, & Kearney, LTD | Legal Services | $ 302.00 |
| 34883 | Diamond Mowers | Stroke Control Kit | $ 94.30 |
| 34884 | Excel Business Systems | Service Contract | $ 64.33 |
| 34885 | East Range Times | Advertising | $ 503.70 |
| 34886 | Hoyt Lakes, City of | Ambulance Agreement | $ 800.00 |
| 34887 | Jim Jones | Building Repair Supplies | $ 315.53 |
| 34888 | JR Kopp | IT Services Contract | $ 397.49 |
| 34889 | Knaus, Jodi | Travel Expenses | $ 588.21 |
| 34890 | KGM Contractors Inc. | 1.75 Tons Class 5 Shouldering | $ 34,562.50 |
| 34891 | Knaus, Jodi | Clothing Allowance | $ 208.09 |
| 34892 | Lake Country Power | Electric Service | $ 2,797.00 |
| 34893 | Lake Superior College-Accounts Receivable | FD Training | $ 605.00 |
| 34894 | Bryan Lehman | Clothing Allowance | $ 172.50 |
| 34895 | Linde Gas & Equipment Inc. | Welding Supplies/Services | $ 240.97 |
| 34896 | Minnesota Power | Electric Service | $ 201.20 |
| 34897 | Minnesota Power | Electric Service | $ 27.03 |
| 34898 | Minnesota Power | Electric Service | $ 241.17 |
| 34899 | Minnesota Pump Works | Inspected both lift stations | $ 1,265.00 |
| 34900 | Madison National Life Ins Co, Inc | Disability Ins | $ 365.56 |
| 34901 | Nuss Truck & Equipment | Volvo Loader | $ 94.48 |
| 34902 | Northern Engine & Supply, Inc. | Pickup Parts | $ 318.00 |
| 34903 | PB Distributing Inc.-Phil's Garage | Annual Fire Door Drop Tests | $ 495.50 |
| 34904 | Patriot Auto & Glass | Install Glass 308 Mini | $ 130.00 |
| 34905 | Portable John | Toilets Rental | $ 147.01 |
| 34906 | PeopleService Inc. | W/WW Professional Services | $ 365.00 |
| 34907 | Pro-Hydro Testing | Cylinder Testing | $ 432.00 |
| 34908 | St. Louis County Auditor-PW | July 2023 Fuel | $ 4,983.75 |
| 34909 | Gross, Amanda | Training/Travel OT Meal Reimbursement | $ 213.40 |
| 34910 | Niemi, Clark | Training/Travel and OT Meal | $ 469.20 |
| 34911 | Taconite Tire | Tires and Tire Repair Supplies | $ 1,136.95 |
| 34912 | Virginia, City of | Chainsaw Safety Training | $ 101.68 |
| 34913 | VC3 | September Service Contract | $ 38.00 |
| 34914 | Ziegler Inc. | 308 Mini Parts | $ 338.07 |
| 34915 | I.U.O.E. Local 49 Fringe Benefits | NOV 2023 Group Insurance | $ 11,360.00 |
| 34916 | Lehman, Brian | OT Meal | $ 36.00 |
| 34917 | Peterson, Wesley | Overtime Meal | $ 36.00 |
| 34918 | XZ6272397 | HCSP Reimbursement | $ 3,639.69 |
| 34919 | MN Bureau of Criminal Apprehension | Benjamin Jeffery BCA Check | $ 15.00 |
| 34920 | L & M Fleet Supply, Inc. | LLCC, Shop and Cemetery Repair Supplies | $ 321.84 |
| 34921 | J.R. Kopp | IT Services | $ 59.99 |
| 63282 | Minnesota Life Insurance Company | Employee/Employer Insurance | $ 170.20 |
| 63283 | Colonial Life | September 23 Employee Deductions | $ 592.98 |
| 63284 | NCPERS Group Life Ins. | Employee Paid Life Insurance | $ 48.00 |
| 63285 | Palo Volunteer Fire Department | Good Will Fund July & August 2023 | $ 165.00 |
|  |  | **TOTAL** | **$ 163,678.93** |

**2. THE TREASURER’S REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER 2023, LISTED RECEIPTS IN THE AMOUNT OF $149,655.43:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| IRRRB GRANT  Taconite Municipal Aid  Garbage Bag Revenue  Mineral Lease Excess  Water Disconnection Fee  LLCC Rental Fees  TL Pavilion Rental Fees  Cemetery Revenue  Refuse Revenue | 65,000.00  79,158.00  3,534.00  22.52  50.00  140.00  150.00  1,200.00  369.86 |
| Interest Earned | 31.05 |
| **TOTAL** | **$149,655.43** |

**IT WAS MOVED BY SKELTON, SUPPORTED BY ANTTILA TO ACCEPT THE TREASURER’S REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER 2023 RECEIPTS AS READ. MOTION CARRIED**

**3. CITIZENS/GUESTS**: Simon Charter – New Range Copper Nickel Mining Introduced himself; Troy Kriner presented a request for a zoning change;

**4. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

4.1 Fire Department Updates:

* AFG Grant - We are working on getting two comparable quotes.
* **IT WAS MOVED BY ANTTILA, SUPPORTED BY SKELTON TO SCHEDULE A SPECIAL MEETING WITH THE FIRE DEPARTMENT TO CONTINUE DISCUSSIONS ON THE STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES, BUDGET, AND FIVE YEAR PLAN ON MONDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2023 @ 5:30 P.M. MOTION CARRIED**
* **IT WAS MOVED BY KIPPLEY, SUPPORTED BY ANTTILA APPROVING THE INVOICE TO PSTRAX.COM FOR FIRE DEPARTMENT SOFTWARE LICENSE IN THE AMOUNT OF $1,736.43. MOTION CARRIED**
* The VFA Grant denial letter was reviewed and will be placed on file.
* Public Works Storage Written Request

**IT WAS MOVED BY SKELTON, SUPPORTED BY ANTTILA TO TABLE TO NEXT MONTH AND THINK ABOUT STORAGE OPTIONS. MOTION CARRIED**

4.2 Twin Lakes Property & Dock Discussion

**IT WAS MOVED BY SKELTON, SUPPORTED BY ANTTILA TO TABLE TO NEXT MONTH. MOTION CARRIED**

4.3 Joint Water Project - The Board reviewed the SEH August Status Report. Project bid meeting was held today and one bid was received from Lakehead Construction over the Project Cost estimate. The Scenic Acres infrastructre will be taken over by the Township and legal title work needs to be completed to do this.

**IT WAS MOVED BY ANTTILA, SUPPORTED BY KIPPLEY APPROVING THE TOWNSHIP TO TAKE OVER OWNERSHIP AND MAINTENANCE OF THE SCENIC ACRES WATER INFRASTRUCTURE CONTINGENT UPON THE PROJECT MOVING FORWARD WITH AN ACCEPTED BID AND SCENIC ACRES BEING CONNECTED TO A PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM. MOTION CARRIED**

4.4 Camping with the Stars After Event Discussion – The event went very well; we had a few technical difficulties with IT equipment but we worked around it. Those who attended loved it and said they will come back next year and spread the word. The food provided by the Sawmill was excellent and very reasonable priced. Thanks to all the volunteers who helped sponsor this event, including Kim Sampson and Beth Pierce from the Iron Range Tourism Bureau to help promote this event and for the monetary donation.

4.5 **IT WAS MOVED BY SKELTON, SUPPORTED BY ANTTILA TO SCHEDULE A SPECIAL MEETING TO DISCUSS THE LOON LAKE COMMUNITY CENTER BUILDING USAGE, CARETAKER EXPECTATIONS, & FUTURE PROPERTY, BUILDING USE & UPGRADES, & STAFFING NEEDS FOR FACILITES & GROUNDS FOR TUESDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2023 @ 5:30 P.M. MOTION CARRIED**

4.6 Spring Flooding – Road Updates – Meetings with FEMA were held; documentation is being submitted for costs and damages.

4.7 General Maintenance Worker/Cleaner Back-up Intermittent Position – Position was advertised and one application was received.

**IT WAS MOVED BY ANTTILA, SUPPORTED BY KIPPLEY TO TABLE THIS DISCUSSION TO SEE IF MORE APPLICATIONS ARE RECEIVED AND IT CAN BE DISCUSSED AT THE SPECIAL MEETING. MOTION CARRIED**

4.8 Information Technology Service Contractor Quotes – One application was received by Lynn Kopp Jr. which was reviewed.

**IT WAS MOVED BY SKELTON, SUPPORTED BY ANTTILA APPROVING THE CONTRACT QUOTE FOR LYNN KOPP JR. TO PROVIDE IT SERVICES AS AN INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR TO THE TOWN OF WHITE ON AN HOURLY BASIS AT $75.00/HOUR. MOTION CARRIED**

4.9 Twin Lakes Pavilion Repairs – The flooring in the bathrooms is chipping and there are some electrical repairs that need to be done. Discussions will continue as grant funding becomes available maybe there is a way to combine some of these projects. In the meantime, Public Works staff are working on the items as they can get to them.

4.10 Wynne Ridge/Rocky Road Bituminous Project - Invoice was reviewed.

**IT WAS MOVED BY SKELTON, SUPPORTED BY ANTTILA TO PAY THE ST. LOUIS COUNTY INVOICE IN THE AMOUNT OF $19,241.79. MOTION CARRIED**

4.11 LLCC Deed/Legal Update – No new updates.

**IT WAS MOVED BY SKELTON, SUPPORTED BY KIPPLEY TO TABLE TO NEXT MONTH. MOTION CARRIED**

4.12 Digital Inclusion Committee & Grant – Grant reimbursement of $4,000.00 to Township was received. Project is complete.

4.13 Election Cycle – No new updates. Kearney will look into it.

**IT WAS MOVED BY SKELTON, SUPPORTED BY ANTTILA TO TABLE TO NEXT MONTH. MOTION CARRIED**

4.14 Wynne Ridge & Rock N Pines Broadband Infrastructure Project Update – Project is complete. Final reporting to IRRRB and closing of grant in progress.

**IT WAS MOVED BY SKELTON, SUPPORTED BY ANTTILA AUTHORIZING PAYMENT TO MEDIACOM ONCE THE GRANT FUDNING IS RECEIVED FROM IRRRB TO CLOSE OUT THE PROJECT AND GRANT. MOTION CARRIED**

4.15 Cemetery Columbarium Purchase – No new updates. It has been ordered.

**IT WAS MOVED BY ANTTILA, SUPPORTED BY SKELTON TO TABLE TO NEXT MONTH. MOTION CARRIED**

4.16 Cemetery Land Title/Legal Description – No new updates.

**IT WAS MOVED BY SKELTON, SUPPORTED BY ANTTILA TO TABLE FOR ONE MORE MONTH. MOTION CARRIED**

**5. NEW BUSINESS:**

5.1 East Mesabi Sanitation Contract Proposal – was reviewed.

**IT WAS MOVED BY ANTTILA, SUPPORTED BY KIPPLEY APPROVING THE PROPOSED FIVE YEAR CONTRACT WITH EAST MESABI SANITATION SERVICES EFFECTIVE NOVEMBER 1, 2023 THROUGH OCTOBER 31, 2028. MOTION CARRIED**

5.2 Resolution 2023-009 Adopting the Town of White Cafeteria Plan (no cost to Township; employee paid only through payroll deduction to Colonial Life)

**IT WAS MOVED BY SKELTON, SUPPORTED BY ANTTILA APPROVING RESOLUTION 2023-009 ADOPTING THE TOWN OF WHITE CAFETERIA PLAN. MOTION CARRIED**

5.3 Resolution 2023-010 Polling Places For 2024 Elections – No changes to polling places.

**IT WAS MOVED BY SKELTON, SUPPORTED BY ANTTILA APPROVING RESOLUTION 2023-010 ESTABLISHING POLLING PLACES FOR 2024 TOWNSHIP ELECTIONS. MOTION CARRIED**

5.4 Resolution 2023-011 – Ballot Board

**IT WAS MOVED BY SKELTON, SUPPORTED BY ANTTILA APPROVING RESOLUTION 2023-011 ESTABLISHING ABSENTEE BALLOT BOARD FOR THE 2023 GENERAL ELECTION. MOTION CARRIED**

5.5 Resolution 23023-012 – Election Judges

**IT WAS MOVED BY SKELTON, SUPPORTED BY ANTTILA APPROVING RESOLUTION 2023-012 ESTABLISHING ELECTION JUDGES FOR THE 2023 GENERAL ELECTION ON NOVEMBER 7, 2023. MOTION CARRIED**

5.6 Tony Sixberry – Business Development Question for Town of White was discussed.

**IT WAS MOVED BY SKELTON, SUPPORTED BY KIPPLEY THE TOWNSHIP BOARD IS NOT INTERESTED IN A CANNABIS MANUFACTURING FACILITY BUSINESS AT THIS TIME. MOTION CARRIED**

5.7 League of MN Cities Dues Invoice

**IT WAS MOVED BY KIPPLEY, SUPPORTED BY SKELTON APPROVING THE LMC DUES INVOICE IN THE AMOUNT OF $2,004.00. MOTION CARRIED**

5.8 St. Louis County VOTER account allocation agreement – St. Louis County will keep the Township’s allocated amount of $156.69 and put it towards election costs & supplies provided to the Township. Otherwise, the Township could collect this amount and report how it is used annually.

**IT WAS MOVED BY KIPPLEY, SUPPORTED BY ANTTILA APPROVING THE ST. LOUIS COUNTY AGREEMENT TO KEEP THE TOWNSHIP’S ALLOCATED AMOUNT OF $156.69 AND USE IT TOWARDS ELECTION SUPPLIES, TRAINING, AND COSTS. MOTION CARRIED**

5.9 Water Reconnection & Disconnection Fees Increase to align with Aurora rates effective 11/1/2023

**IT WAS MOVED BY SKELTON, SUPPORTED BY ANTTILA APPROVING THE WATER DISCONNECTION & RECONNECTION FEES EFFECTIVE 11/1/2023 AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED**

5.10 Annual Meeting Preparation & Levy Discussion

**IT WAS MOVED BY ANTTILA, SUPPORTED BY SKELTON ALLOCATE TEN (10) PERCENT OF THE GENERAL FUND LEVY TO THE FIRE DEPARTMENT AND TO ASK FOR UP TO A TEN (10) PERCENT INCREASE AT THE ANNUAL MEETING DUE TO THE COSTS OF THE GARBAGE CONTRACT AND INFLATION WITH THE AMOUNTS IDENTIFIED IN THE PRESENTATION. MOTION CARRIED**

5.11 December 7, 2023 Meeting Date – The monthly meeting in December conflicts with the MN Association of Townships Annual Conference.

**IT WAS MOVED BY SKELTON, SUPPORTED BY ANTTILA CHANGING THE DECEMBER 2023 MONTHLY TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING TO TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2023 @ 5:00 P.M. TO ALLOW FOR BOARD MEMBERS AND STAFF TO ATTEND THE MN ASSOCIATION OF TOWNSHIPS ANNUAL MEETING. MOTION CARRIED**

**6. REPORTS:**

Clerk’s Report

1.) Election season is here! Absentee Voting has begun and will continue up to Election Day, November 7, 2023. We have new assistive voting machines called “OmniBallot” which are very nice – much lighter, smaller, and easy to use. They will be used at the General Election on November 7th. Judges will preview then at the Public Accuracy Testing which is scheduled for Tuesday, October 24, 2023 at 10:00 A.M.

2.) Curt Anttila and I will be working on the LRIP Grant which opened for application this month. St. Louis County will need to sponsor the Project being our population is under 5000. The Project application will be for Paving Palo’s Pathways and is due in December. I’m waiting to hear from Erik Fallstrom at the County to see if they will sponsor the Project. Also, we will also be working on the MN DNR Outdoor Recreation Grant Application, the Army Corps Section 369 Program to see if we have a Project, and in January the IRRRB applications open for Culture/Tourism.

3.) Amanda and I met with Wold, the Consulting Firm the City of Aurora hired to conduct a Facility Needs Assessment and provided input regarding City/Town Government Center space and needed upgrades. The report will be out in December.

4.) I attended the MN Advanced Clerk’s Academy this month. Training focused on improving communication & dealing with bias, aging, and discrimination in the workplace.

5.) Amanda, Clark, and I attended the MN Association of Cemeteries Annual Conference this month and learned many new things about Cemetery Management & Maintenance including legal issues and required forms.

6.) Employees met with Local Union 49 this week and the Township Board should be getting a letter to begin negotiations soon. The contract expires 12/31/23.

7.) On-going Projects & Pending Items not discussed:

* Franchise Fees for Power & Utilities (fiber)
* Facilities Capital Improvement Plan & Updated Strategic Plan – Knaus & Anttila will work on this;

**IT WAS MOVED BY ANTTILA, SUPPORTED BY SKELTON TO FILE THE CLERK’S REPORT. MOTION CARRIED**

Foreman Niemi – Clearing pit has been on-going; shouldering on Trigstad road is almost complete; storm damage clean-up is on-going; we need to get a back-up generator – when the power is out like during this storm for almost 20 hours, we cannot open the large overhead doors to get our equipment out; the St. Louis Contract is a mess – they will not provide the salt/sand as indicated in the contract – we are now screening our own sand.

Supervisors:

Anttila – Everyone is doing a great job.

Kippley – culvert is failing on Lane 55 and needs to be addressed.

Skelton – Appreciates everyone’s effort.

**7. TRAINING REQUESTS & MEETING NOTICES**:

* MN Fire Chief’s Association Conference -

**IT WAS MOVED BY KIPPLEY, SUPPORTED BY ANTTILA APPROVING SKINNER AND LESAR TO ATTEND THE MN FIRE CHIEF’S ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE WITH EXPENSES PAID. MOTION CARRIED**

**8. ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Next Regular Meeting: Thursday, October 5, 2023 5:00 P.M. @ City/Town Government Center; East Range Water Board Meeting: Wednesday, September 20, 2023 4:30 P.M. @ City/Town Government Center; ERJPB Meeting: Tuesday, September 26, 2023 9:00 AM @ City/Town Government Center; Continuation of Annual Township Meeting: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 6:00 P.M. Loon Lake Community Center; Special Meeting: Monday, October 2, 2023 5:30 P.M. @ City/Town Government Center; Special Meeting: Tuesday, October 3, 2023 5:30 P.M. @ City/Town Government Center; Meeting Date Change for December: Tuesday, December 12, 2023 5:00 P.M. @ City/Town Government Center;

**9. ADJOURNMENT**

**IT WAS MOVED BY ANTTILA, SUPPORTED BY SKELTON TO ADJOURN THE REGULAR MEETING AT 8:02 P.M. MOTION CARRIED**

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**Jodi L. Knaus, Clerk Jon Skelton, Chairman**