REGULAR MEETING

**January 9, 2025**

**Aurora, Minnesota**

***The Regular Meeting of the Town of White was called to order by Chairman Jon Skelton at 5:00 P.M., on Thursday, January 9, 2025, at the City/Town Government Center.***

**ROLL CALL:**

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

Absent:

Also Present: Bill Lesar, Brian Feldt, Jon Stordahl, Mike Skinner, Don Belange, Rhonda Byron, Mark Howard, Jared Ahrens

**1. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA**

**IT WAS MOVED BY ANTTILA, SUPPORTED BY KIPPLEY TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA WHICH INCLUDED TOWNSHIP REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES FROM DECEMBER 5, 2024; ALL BILLS AND PAYROLL AS PRESENTED BELOW, COMMITTEE MINUTES AND REPORTS, AND CORRESPONDENCE TO BE FILED FOR DECEMBER 2024. MOTION CARRIED**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Check#** | **Vendor** | **Description** |  **Total**  |
| CC12-02-24 | Cardmember Service | Training & Supplies |  $ 2,280.46  |
| DD12102401 | Payroll Period Ending 12/10/2024 | Central Pension Fund Correction Payroll |  $ 525.09  |
| DD12102402 | Payroll Period Ending 12/10/2024 | Central Pension Fund Correction Payroll |  $ 584.30  |
| DD12102403 | Payroll Period Ending 12/10/2024 | Central Pension Fund Correction Payroll |  $ 525.09  |
| DD12102404 | Payroll Period Ending 12/10/2024 | Central Pension Fund Correction Payroll |  $ 496.41  |
| DD12102405 | Payroll Period Ending 12/10/2024 | Central Pension Fund Correction Payroll |  $ 443.28  |
| DD12102406 | Payroll Period Ending 12/10/2024 | Central Pension Fund Correction Payroll |  $ 585.61  |
| DD12102407 | Payroll Period Ending 12/10/2024 | Central Pension Fund Correction Payroll |  $ 591.04  |
| DD12102408 | Payroll Period Ending 12/10/2024 | Central Pension Fund Correction Payroll |  $ 552.02  |
| DD12102409 | Payroll Period Ending 12/10/2024 | Central Pension Fund Correction Payroll |  $ 525.09  |
| F12-10-24 | E.F.T.P.S. | Payroll Deductions PPE 12/10/24 |  $ 993.01  |
| M12-10-24 | MN Department of Revenue | Employee Deductions 12/10/2024 |  $ 121.34  |
| D12-11-24 | Empower | Employee Deductions 12/11/2024 |  $ 350.00  |
| DD12112401 | Payroll Period Ending 12/07/2024 | Regular Payroll Ending 12/07/2024 |  $ 1,503.95  |
| DD12112402 | Payroll Period Ending 12/07/2024 | Regular Payroll Ending 12/07/2024 |  $ 540.49  |
| DD12112403 | Payroll Period Ending 12/07/2024 | Regular Payroll Ending 12/07/2024 |  $ 36.94  |
| DD12112404 | Payroll Period Ending 12/07/2024 | Regular Payroll Ending 12/07/2024 |  $ 2,604.71  |
| DD12112405 | Payroll Period Ending 12/07/2024 | Regular Payroll Ending 12/07/2024 |  $ 1,872.14  |
| DD12112406 | Payroll Period Ending 12/07/2024 | Regular Payroll Ending 12/07/2024 |  $ 1,844.80  |
| DD12112407 | Payroll Period Ending 12/07/2024 | Regular Payroll Ending 12/07/2024 |  $ 1,963.91  |
| DD12112408 | Payroll Period Ending 12/07/2024 | Regular Payroll Ending 12/07/2024 |  $ 2,783.42  |
| DD12112409 | Payroll Period Ending 12/07/2024 | Regular Payroll Ending 12/07/2024 |  $ 2,482.96  |
| DD12112410 | Payroll Period Ending 12/07/2024 | Regular Payroll Ending 12/07/2024 |  $ 1,418.74  |
| DD12112411 | Payroll Period Ending 12/07/2024 | Regular Payroll Ending 12/07/2024 |  $ 2,171.82  |
| F12-11-24 | E.F.T.P.S. | Payroll Deductions PPE 12/11/24 |  $ 6,586.65  |
| M12-11-24 | MN Department of Revenue | Employee Deductions 12/11/2024 |  $ 1,283.27  |
| P12-11-24 | P.E.R.A. | PPE 12/11/24 Deductions |  $ 3,759.20  |
| DD12122401 | Payroll Period Ending 12/12/2024 | Niemi SLI Payroll 2024 |  $ 1,539.31  |
| F12-24-24 | E.F.T.P.S. - SLI | Employee Withholding |  $ 347.10  |
| M12-12-24 | MN Department of Revenue - SLI | State Withholding |  $ 68.34  |
| DD12132401 | Payroll Period Ending 12/13/2024 | FD Sep through Nov 2024 Payroll |  $ 63.84  |
| DD12132402 | Payroll Period Ending 12/13/2024 | FD Sep through Nov 2024 Payroll |  $ 426.50  |
| DD12132403 | Payroll Period Ending 12/13/2024 | FD Sep through Nov 2024 Payroll |  $ 560.53  |
| DD12132404 | Payroll Period Ending 12/13/2024 | FD Sep through Nov 2024 Payroll |  $ 438.33  |
| DD12132405 | Payroll Period Ending 12/13/2024 | FD Sep through Nov 2024 Payroll |  $ 428.47  |
| DD12132406 | Payroll Period Ending 12/13/2024 | FD Sep through Nov 2024 Payroll |  $ 408.76  |
| DD12132407 | Payroll Period Ending 12/13/2024 | FD Sep through Nov 2024 Payroll |  $ 369.34  |
| DD12132408 | Payroll Period Ending 12/13/2024 | FD Sep through Nov 2024 Payroll |  $ 933.05  |
| DD12132409 | Payroll Period Ending 12/13/2024 | FD Sep through Nov 2024 Payroll |  $ 310.21  |
| DD12132410 | Payroll Period Ending 12/13/2024 | FD Sep through Nov 2024 Payroll |  $ 329.92  |
| DD12132411 | Payroll Period Ending 12/13/2024 | FD Sep through Nov 2024 Payroll |  $ 487.60  |
| DD12132412 | Payroll Period Ending 12/13/2024 | FD Sep through Nov 2024 Payroll |  $ 103.26  |
| DD12132413 | Payroll Period Ending 12/13/2024 | FD Sep through Nov 2024 Payroll |  $ 1,165.82  |
| DD12132414 | Payroll Period Ending 12/13/2024 | FD Sep through Nov 2024 Payroll |  $ 270.79  |
| DD12132415 | Payroll Period Ending 12/13/2024 | FD Sep through Nov 2024 Payroll |  $ 211.66  |
| DD12132416 | Payroll Period Ending 12/13/2024 | FD Sep through Nov 2024 Payroll |  $ 142.68  |
| FD12-13-24 | E.F.T.P.S. FD | Withholding Tax |  $ 202.92  |
| M12-13-24 | MN Department of Revenue - FD | State Withholding |  $ 1.78  |
| 35804 | Jerrud Paul | Final Payment for Fire Hall Repairs |  $ 7,500.00  |
| 35805 | Copper Nickel | Election Meals |  $ 554.40  |
| 35806 | Zito Media | Fire Hall & PW Telephone & Internet |  $ 412.70  |
| 35807 | East Mesabi Sanitation | Refuse Collection NOV 2024 |  $ 12,218.87  |
| 35808 | MN State Fire Dept Association | Dues 2025 |  $ 175.00  |
| 35809 | MN Bureau of Criminal Apprehension | Joseph Pugleasa BCA Check |  $ 15.00  |
| JD12-20-24 | Deere Credit, Inc. | Grader 672GP Down Payment 1/3 |  $ 121,394.94  |
| ST12-23-24 | MN Dept of Revenue - Sales Tax | Sales Tax - NOV 2024 |  $ 1,426.00  |
| D12-25-24 | Empower | Employee Deductions 12/25/24 |  $ 350.00  |
| DD12252401 | Payroll Period Ending 12/21/2024 | Regular Payroll Ending 12/25/24 |  $ 1,484.95  |
| DD12252402 | Payroll Period Ending 12/21/2024 | Regular Payroll Ending 12/25/24 |  $ 401.89  |
| DD12252403 | Payroll Period Ending 12/21/2024 | Regular Payroll Ending 12/25/24 |  $ 444.21  |
| DD12252404 | Payroll Period Ending 12/21/2024 | Regular Payroll Ending 12/25/24 |  $ 3,103.35  |
| DD12252405 | Payroll Period Ending 12/21/2024 | Regular Payroll Ending 12/25/24 |  $ 1,837.14  |
| DD12252406 | Payroll Period Ending 12/21/2024 | Regular Payroll Ending 12/25/24 |  $ 1,922.42  |
| DD12252407 | Payroll Period Ending 12/21/2024 | Regular Payroll Ending 12/25/24 |  $ 2,292.03  |
| DD12252408 | Payroll Period Ending 12/21/2024 | Regular Payroll Ending 12/25/24 |  $ 2,722.60  |
| DD12252409 | Payroll Period Ending 12/21/2024 | Regular Payroll Ending 12/25/24 |  $ 2,320.36  |
| DD12252410 | Payroll Period Ending 12/21/2024 | Regular Payroll Ending 12/25/24 |  $ 1,383.74  |
| DD12252411 | Payroll Period Ending 12/21/2024 | Regular Payroll Ending 12/25/24 |  $ 2,116.80  |
| F12-25-24 | E.F.T.P.S. | Payroll Deductions PPE 12/25/24 |  $ 6,890.08  |
| M12-25-24 | MN Department of Revenue | Employee Deductions 12/25/2024 |  $ 1,352.22  |
| P12-25-24 | P.E.R.A. | PPE 12/25/24 Deductions |  $ 3,897.94  |
| 35810 | A1 Services, Inc. | Pumping Holding Tank |  $ 350.00  |
| 35811 | Aurora Auto Value | Grease, Parts, DEF |  $ 738.68  |
| 35812 | Colosimo, Patchin, & Kearney, LTD | Monthly retainer JAN 2025 |  $ 470.00  |
| 35813 | Colosimo, Patchin, & Kearney, LTD | Land Swap LLCC Deed Work |  $ 2,165.00  |
| 35814 | CTC | Town Office Phone DEC 2024 |  $ 226.10  |
| 35815 | Como Oil & Propane | Propane |  $ 11,650.08  |
| 35816 | Central Pension Fund | Retirement Contributions DEC 24 |  $ 3,456.00  |
| 35817 | DSC Communications | Mag Mic Clips; Radio for Grader |  $ 1,532.75  |
| 35818 | East Range Times | Advertising |  $ 49.50  |
| 35819 | Eveleth Floral Co. & Greenhouse | Lynn Babcock, Susie Parkhurst |  $ 160.00  |
| 35820 | Ray Erickson | Animal Control |  $ 700.00  |
| 35821 | Excel Business Systems | Copier Contract |  $ 244.97  |
| 35822 | East Range Joint Powers Board | Qtr 4 2024 |  $ 3,750.00  |
| 35823 | H & L Mesabi | Plow Blades |  $ 21,383.00  |
| 35824 | Hoyt Lakes, City of | Ambulance Agreement |  $ 1,000.00  |
| 35825 | JR Kopp | IT Contract |  $ 100.00  |
| 35826 | Jim Jones | Travel Expense |  $ 72.05  |
| 35827 | I.U.O.E. Local 49 Fringe Benefits | FEB 2025 Group Insurance |  $ 13,275.00  |
| 35828 | Knaus, Jodi | 2024 Clothing Allowance |  $ 205.40  |
| 35829 | Knaus, Jodi | Travel Expenses |  $ 506.01  |
| 35830 | Lake Country Power | DEC Electric Service |  $ 1,942.00  |
| 35831 | Peterson, Wesley | Clothing Allowance 2024 |  $ 28.98  |
| 35832 | Samuel Nelson | 2024 Clothing Allowance |  $ 191.75  |
| 35833 | Linde Gas & Equipment Inc. | Welding Supplies/Services |  $ 266.90  |
| 35834 | Lehman, Brian | Clothing Allowance 2024 |  $ 76.42  |
| 35835 | League of MN Cities Insurance Trust | Dues |  $ 2,130.00  |
| 35836 | L & M Fleet Supply, Inc. | Laskiainen Sleds, Roof melt |  $ 463.87  |
| 35837 | Madison National Life Ins Co, Inc | LTD/STD Jan 2025 |  $ 362.91  |
| 35838 | Minnesota Power | Street Lighting |  $ 263.20  |
| 35839 | Minnesota Power | Lift Station |  $ 175.55  |
| 35840 | Minnesota Power | Lift Station |  $ 31.30  |
| 35841 | Minnesota Association of Townships | 2025 Dues |  $ 910.48  |
| 35842 | Menard's-Virginia | Premix Fuel, Laskiainen, Supplies |  $ 543.53  |
| 35843 | Northern Engine & Supply, Inc. | Truck #4 Coil & Valve |  $ 265.00  |
| 35844 | PeopleService Inc. | Jan 25 W/WW Professional Services |  $ 380.00  |
| 35845 | RMB Environmental Laboratories, Inc | Water Testing |  $ 62.70  |
| 35846 | Polansky, Roxane | Clothing Allowance 2024 |  $ 162.40  |
| 35847 | St. Louis County Auditor | Property Tax Notices; Assessment Fee |  $ 445.35  |
| 35848 | St. Louis County Auditor-PW | NOV 2024 Fuel |  $ 2,873.27  |
| 35849 | St. Louis County Auditor | Elections Programming & Judge Training |  $ 560.38  |
| 35850 | Towmaster | Truck #4 Valve Pump Shut Off |  $ 460.37  |
| 35851 | VC3 | DEC Contract |  $ 42.50  |
| 35852 | Walker, Giroux & Hahne LLC | CPF Review & Consultation |  $ 1,115.00  |
| 35853 | Amanda Gross | Cell Phone Stipend Dec 24 |  $ 50.00  |
| 35854 | Knaus, Jodi | Cell Phone Stipend |  $ 50.00  |
| 35855 | Niemi, Clark | Cell Phone Stipend |  $ 50.00  |
| 35856 | Lehman, Brian | OT Meal 12/9/24 |  $ 36.00  |
| 35857 | Tanner Locken | OT Meal 12/9/24 |  $ 36.00  |
| 35858 | Samuel Nelson | OT Meal 12/9/24 |  $ 36.00  |
| 35859 | Niemi, Clark | OT Meal 12/9/24 |  $ 36.00  |
| 35860 | Peterson, Wesley | OT Meal 12/9/24 |  $ 36.00  |
| 35861 | Renner, Richard | OT Meal 12/9/24 |  $ 36.00  |
| 35862 | Amanda Gross | 2024 Fire Warden |  $ 187.50  |
| 35863 | Knaus, Jodi | 2024 Fire Warden |  $ 187.50  |
| 35864 | XZ6344990 | Health Care Savings |  $ 57.65  |
| 35865 | XZ3772001 | HCSP Reimbursement |  $ 519.00  |
| 63412 | Minnesota Life Insurance Company | Employee/Employer Insurance |  $ 202.30  |
| 63413 | MN NCPERS | Life Insurance Employee Paid |  $ 32.00  |
| 63414 | I.U.O.E. Local 49 | Union Dues DEC 2024 |  $ 315.00  |
| 63415 | Colonial Life | DEC 24 Employee Deductions |  $ 537.42  |
| 63416 | Palo Volunteer Fire Department | Good Will Fund Sep Oct Nov 2024 |  $ 240.00  |
| DD12312401 | Payroll Period Ending 12/31/2024 | Monthly payroll ending 12/31/2024 |  $ 444.59  |
| DD12312402 | Payroll Period Ending 12/31/2024 | Monthly payroll ending 12/31/2024 |  $ 236.08  |
| DD12312403 | Payroll Period Ending 12/31/2024 | Monthly payroll ending 12/31/2024 |  $ 318.05  |
| DD12312404 | Payroll Period Ending 12/31/2024 | Monthly payroll ending 12/31/2024 |  $ 364.86  |
| DD12312405 | Payroll Period Ending 12/31/2024 | Monthly payroll ending 12/31/2024 |  $ 500.49  |
| F12-31-24 | E.F.T.P.S. Monthly | Employee Deductions |  $ 209.60  |
| M12-31-24 | MN Department of Revenue Monthly | Employee Withholding |  $ 47.37  |
| P12-31-24 | P.E.R.A. Monthly | Retirement Deductions |  $ 244.52  |
|  |  | **TOTAL** |  **$ 305,250.92**  |

**2. THE TREASURER’S REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER 2024, LISTED RECEIPTS IN THE AMOUNT OF $618,173.00:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 10/24 Tax Apportionment2024 YE AdvanceGarbage Bag RevenueRefuse RevenueLLCC Rental FeesWater Connection w/ App FeesDisparity Reduction AidAssessment Search FeeAg Market Value CreditTownship AidTwin Lakes Rental FeesFEMA 2023 Disaster Admin CostsWC & PC Dividend LMCFD Lake Country Power GrantSale of Materials CulvertLMCIT LLCC Boiler Claim Insurance | 444,915.338,886.503,831.00600.36590.001,025.00114,191.00100.002,075.191,320.50150.003,977.627,435.002,500.00981.7918,835.00 |
| Interest Earned | 6,758.71 |
| **TOTAL** | **$618,173.00** |

**IT WAS MOVED BY SKELTON, SUPPORTED BY ANTTILA TO ACCEPT THE TREASURER’S REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER 2024 RECEIPTS AS READ. MOTION CARRIED**

**3. CITIZENS/GUESTS**:

* Jared Ahrens – As our insurance representative, Jared explained the LMCIT is the best value for the Township as dividends are given back annually; Board members, Clerk, Treasurer, & Foreman are covered for travel; all equipment covered up to $250,000.00 and anything valued above that is under the mobile equipment policy; the new grader will be added to the policy. The Board reviwed coverages and Jared answered any questions the Board had regarding insurance coverages for the Township property, vehciles, equipment, and mobile equipment.
* Donald Belange, Rhonda Byron, and Jon Stordahl – presented an idea for a Civil War Re-enactment Event to be held at the Shooting Range this summer. This is a Living History event in a safe, controlled environment. St. Louis County 911 communications will be nofiied of the event once dates are confirmed. Overnight stays for the camp enactment and set-up for event will be allowed. The Club will keep the Board informed as the planning progresses for the event.

**IT WAS MOVED BY SKELTON, SUPPORTED BY ANTTILA APPROVING THE CIVIL WAR EVENT TO HAPPEN AT THE SHOOTING RANGE SUMMER OF 2025 WITH ASSISTANCE FROM THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT TO HAUL/MOVE GRAVEL AS NEEDED FOR THE EVENT. MOTION CARRIED**

* Mark Howard – presented new information to the Town Board on an oxygen tax credit to offset a carbon tax which may be implemented in the future. He has been researching to help the Township get revenue. This is a very broad idea and can be at the federal, state, or local level. Skelton questioned how we would implement such a tax and asked Howard to create a document summarizing his findings and to keep them informed.

**4. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

4.1 Timber Harvest Sale – Field work is complete; Bids due 1/31/2025

 **IT WAS MOVED BY KIPPLEY, SUPPORTED BY SKELTON APPROVING THE PRIVATE FOREST MANAGEMENT ESTIMATE OF TIMBER VOLUME AND TIMBER SALE BID INVITATION AS PRESENTED BY THE MINNESOTA DNR OFFICER, COREY SKERJANCE WITH BIDS DUE 1/31/2025. MOTION CARRIED**

4.2 Fire Hall Flood Repairs & Insurance Claim - Repairs should be done soon; final payment was made to contractor Jerrud Paul and invoices submitted to LMCIT for reimbursement. The Fire Hall flooded again – a wire came loose in the computer panel. Skinner would like a back flow valve installed to help prevent this from happening again. Skelton would like this revisited in the Spring and Public Works could do the work.

4.3 Joint Water Project - admininstraive meetings continue with Hoyt Lakes officials for Hoyt Lakes to become a partner officially in the Project. The Joint Powers Agreement will need to be revised to include Hoyt Lakes. A copy of the recent press release from the PFA was reviewed showing the Project funding received to date.

4.4 LLCC Deed/Legal update –final documents are ready for approval and were reveiwed by the Board.

 **IT WAS MOVED BY ANTTILA, SUPPORTED BY KIPPLEY APPROVING THE LAND SWAP AGREEMENT WITH MESABI EAST SCHOOLS INCLUDING THE RELEASE OF PROPERTY RESTRICTIONS & RESERVATIONS. MOTION CARRIED**

 **IT WAS MOVED BY SKELTON, SUPPORTED BY ANTTILA APPROVING THE QUIT CLAIM DEED TRANSFERRING THE PROPERTY DESCRIBED TO MESABI EAST SCHOOLS. MOTION CARRIED**

 **IT WAS MOVED BY ANTTILA, SUPPORTED BY KIPPLEY APPROVING THE RESOLTUION AUTHORIZING CONVEYANCE OF REAL ESTATE TO MESABI EAST SCHOOLS. MOTION CARRIED**

4.5 MNDOT AT Grant – Scenic Acres Boardwalk/Trail – Bolton & Menk applied for the Grant; LMCIT denied grant application submitted. St. Louis County Resolution supporting our application was received and reviewed and placed on file. Resolution 2025-001 was reviewed and approved as follows:

**WHEREAS,** the Active Transportation Program provides grants to make walking, biking, and rolling better, with the aim of increasing the number of people walking and biking to destinations; and

**WHEREAS,** the proposed trail will provide a safe multimodal connection to Highway 135, with a future trail along Highway 135 planned to further connect the community at large; and

**WHEREAS,** the Town of White is committed to improving the safety and accessibility of walking and biking routes for community members; and

**WHEREAS,** the Town of White will submit an application to the Minnesota Department of Transportation’s Active Transportation Program for funding to construct a trail along the Scenic Acres Road with bicycle and pedestrian improvements; and

**WHEREAS,** the proposed project will make it safer and more convenient for pedestrians, rollers, and cyclists to travel along the road.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE TOWN OF WHITE, MINNESOTA:**

1. The Board of Supervisors supports the Town of White’s application to the Active Transportation Program for the Scenic Acres Road Trail Expansion Project;
2. The Board of Supervisors supports the construction of a trail along the Scenic Acres Road; and
3. The Board of Supervisors pledges to fund engineering, right of way, inspection, and other non-AT eligible costs, as well as AT-eligible items in excess of the AT Infrastructure grant amount; and
4. The Town of White is committed to the development and construction of the proposed trail that supports grant agreement requirements.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Town of White Board of Supervisors, by action of its governing body, caused this Resolution to be approved this 9th day of January, 2025. **IT WAS MOVED BY KIPPLEY, SUPPORTED BY ANTTILA APPROVING RESOLTUION 2025-001. MOTION CARRIED**

4.6 LLCC Facility – Insuarance claim was submitted for the boiler; roof repairs and flooding of locker room from hole in roof on 12/28/24 was also submitted to LMCIT;

4.7 2023 Curve Realignments – No new updates.

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

4.8 Technology Request – three laptops (two for office staff & one for FD)

 **IT WAS MOVED BY SKELTON, SUPPORTED BY ANTTILA APPROVING THE PURCHASE OF THREE LAPTOPS FROM AMAZON IN THE AMOUNT OF $513.81 EACH PLUS SHIPPING COSTS FOR CONDUCTING TOWNSHIP BUSINESS. MOTION CARRIED**

4.9 Civil Rights Evaluation for AFG Grant –process now complete; Policy and Notice of Nondiscrimination was updated and submitted & Language Access Plan was created and submitted.

 **IT WAS MOVED BY KIPPLEY, SUPPORTED BY ANTTILA APPROVING THE POLICY AND NOTICE OF NODISCRIMINATION AS PRESENTED AND THE LANGUAGE ACCESS PLAN AS PRESENTED FOR THE TOWN OF WHITE. MOTION CARRIED**

4.10 Fire Department Facility Ceiling – Needs attention; gas line is flexed; ceiling has dropped. Foreman Niemi is working on getting two quotes.

4.11 June 18th Emergency – FEMA project updates – damage documentation is being tracked and administration continues to meet with FEMA for reimbursements. Total estimated damage without admininistrative costs is $372,188.36.

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

4.12 No agenda item - Skip

4.13 Water/wastewater Inventory & Compliance with MDH – Pending; Bolton and Menk is completing this work to submit for a small fee.

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

4.14 Storage Building for Fire Hall & Public Works – Clark contacted Bolton & Menk.

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

4.15 Garbage Survey & Budget Cut Discussion Follow-up – Responses are coming in and a summary was distributed. More discussion and follow-up needed.

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

**5. NEW BUSINESS:**

5.1 Mesabi Trail Discussion – Kippley would like to see the trail expanded into the Township and widened as there are multiple issues with ATV’s causing damage.

 **IT WAS MOVED BY SKELTON, SUPPORTED BY ANTTILA DIRECTING KNAUS TO INVITE SARAH CIOCHETTO FROM THE MESABI TRAIL TO A TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING. MOTION CARRIED**

5.2 2025 Pepsi Challenge Staffing Request

 **IT WAS MOVED BY SKELTON, SUPPORTED BY ANTTILA APPROVING THE REQUEST TO HAVE BYRAN LEHMAN WORK THE EVENT THAT DAY WEATHER PERMITTING. MOTION CARRIED**

5.3 2024 AUDIT

 **IT WAS MOVED BY KIPPLEY, SUPPORTED BY ANTTILA APPROVING THE WALKER, GIROUX, & HAHNE 2024 AUDIT LETTER & CONFIRMATION AT A COST OF $18,300.00 FOR 2024 AUDIT. MOTION CARRIED**

5.4 Matt Baudek Retirement from Palo Volunteer Fire Department – Skinner will design and order a plaque for both Baudek & Gary Starken. The Township will purchase a $50 gift card for each based on the employee recognition policy.

 **IT WAS MOVED BY SKELTON, SUPPORTED BY ANTTILA ACCEPTING THE RESIGNATION FROM MATT BAUDEK FROM THE FIRE DEPARTMENT EFFECTIVE FEBRUARY 12, 2025. MOTION CARRIED**

**6. REPORTS:**

Clerk’s Report

1. Revisit Cannabis Regulation & Ordinance (moratorium Resolution ended 1/1/25 in which the Township passed) – St. Louis County just updated their Ordinance – how does this affect the Township? Do we need to do anything?
2. New pay rates effective 1/1/25 for employees were implemented this payroll along with the manual calculation of PERA employer contributions due to the CPF contributions
3. 1099s and W-2s will be distributed by January 31st.
4. Supervisor Anttila and I attended the RAMS Annual Meeting & Dinner – it was very good
5. I attended the MN Association of Townships Annual Conference in December; this training was also very beneficial- I attended sessions on our accounting system upgrades, solar legislation, the Paid Family Medical Leave Act, and Cannabis Law (see attached handout)

 On-going Projects & Pending Items not discussed:

* Franchise Fees for Power & Utilities (fiber)
* Road Vacation Filings for the Road Realignments in 2023
* St. Louis County tax forfeit parcels withheld by Township in Pineville – delayed to 2025 and will be sold at public auction – St. Louis County will notify Township

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

Foreman – plowing, weather events; Laskiainen hauling of snow for slides & preparation of dog sled route, facility needs

Skinner – Needs new T.V. for Fire Hall; issue with hydrant on St. Louis River he would like to see abandoned; Skelton suggested he discuss with the Dept. and bring recommendation back to the Board.

**IT WAS MOVED BY SKELTON, SUPPORTED BY KIPPLEY APPROVING THE PURCHASE OF A NEW T.V. FOR THE FIRE HALL UP TO $1,300.00. MOTION CARRIED**

Supervisors:

Anttila - Crew doing great job of hauling snow for slides which will be built this weekend; First responders are needed and Skinner indicated a few can attend;

Kippley – Salt/sand dome looks great; facility checks should be done regularly (daily) as we have had many incidents in the past few weeks that maybe could’ve been prevented.

**7. TRAINING REQUESTS & MEETING NOTICES**: None

**8. ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Next Regular Meeting w/ Board of Audit Meeting following: Thursday, February 6, 2025 5:00 P.M. @ City/Town Government Center; East Range Water Board Meeting: Wednesday, January 15, 2024 4:30 P.M. @ City/Town Government Center; ERJPB Meeting: Tuesday, January 28, 2025 9:00 AM @ City/Town Government Center;

**9. ADJOURNMENT**

**IT WAS MOVED BY ANTTILA, SUPPORTED BY SKELTON TO ADJOURN THE REGULAR MEETING AT 6:58 P.M. MOTION CARRIED**

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