

**Princeton Township  
Mille Lacs County, Minnesota**

**Township Board Monthly Meeting**

**Tuesday, August 20, 2024**

**Minutes**

The August monthly meeting of the Princeton Township Board was called to order by Chairman Gene Stoeckel at 7:00 p.m. Supervisors attended the meeting in person at Township Hall. The meeting was open to in-person attendance.

**Supervisors present:** Gene Stoeckel, Bill Whitcomb, Dan Hiller

**Supervisors absent:** Thomas Duden, Mike Bishman

**Staff present:** Clerk-Treasurer Tandra Langfeld

**Public attendees:** Ken Hennen, Tari Zortman, Nicole Collodoro, Katie Trelstad, P Trelstad  
Jeremiah Alderman, Jackie Alderman, Joel Minks

All attendees recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Approve Agenda** Mr. Hiller motioned to approve the agenda. Seconded by Mr. Whitcomb  
Motion Carried.

**Open Forum** Resident Jackie Alderman spoke to her sprinklers being damaged in the ditch in front of her home. Ms Alderman said she did not feel she needed to move them because they had been moved and placed there by the contractor when the road was paved.

Resident Nicole Collodoro spoke to the minutes and agenda's being uploaded to the website.

Ms. Collodoro also wanted to know about meetings being recorded and access to that. Ms.

Collorodo also asked if it was possible to revisit the rooster ordinance.

Resident Tari Zortman asked about the recorded minutes the clerk was taking and if there was any possible way the residents could have access to that. Tari Zortman asked that the minutes be uploaded as soon as possible so people can keep up with what is going on. Ms. Zortman then brought up the Rooster ordinance and asked that it be revisited. Resident Peder Trelstadt spoke to the chicken ordinance. He said he was trying to start a homestead, trying to grow their own food. They are trying to have a flock of birds and that requires them to have roosters. Mr. Trelstadt thought the fact that the township would restrict all roosters in a RR zone, especially out there where it is a 2-and-a-half-acre minimum, and the neighbors are spread out. The area he lives in has plenty of area to be able to do that and not have to rely on outside resources.

Ms. Trelstadt again asked for more access to information. She also asked what she needed to do to get that ordinance revisited. Mr. Stoeckel then announced to close open forum.

Mr. Stoeckel moved to Approve the July 16<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes, with 3 amendments.

1<sup>st</sup> page last paragraph are a lot of acres added. 2<sup>nd</sup> page after cash control statements. Claims, cash control statements and payroll were all one motion. So add on claims and cash control. 3<sup>rd</sup> page, simplify sentence to read with the \$9850.00 credit. Cross out that is.

**Approve Meeting Minutes- July 16<sup>th</sup> meeting**

Mr. Whitcomb motioned to approve the July 16<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes as amended. Seconded by Mr. Stoeckel. Motion carried

## **Clerk-Treasurer's Report**

### **Cash Control Statement—July 31, 2024**

General Fund Beginning Balance		\$ 97,573.59
Receipts		\$ 9,164.50
Disbursements		\$ 26,692.13
Ending Balance		\$ 80,045.96
Road & Bridge Fund Beginning Balance		\$ 315,833.73
Receipts		\$ 0.00
Disbursements		\$ 330,473.32
Ending Balance		\$ (14,639.59)
Total Cash Beginning Balance		\$ 541,023.68
Receipts		\$ 9,164.50
Disbursements		\$ 403,239.83
Ending Balance		\$ 146,948.35
July Payroll		
	Gross	\$ 6,647.50
	Net	\$ 5,432.85
Election Payroll	Gross	\$ 1,977.50
	Net	\$ 1,913.42
June Payroll deductions not put in last month.		\$ 1,815.82
July Total Claims as of August 20 <sup>th</sup>		\$ 35,986.91

Mr. Hiller moved to approve the July Payroll, Election Payroll, June Payroll deductions, Cash Control Statement and Claims. Mr. Whitcomb seconded. Motion carried.

### **New Business**

Address Jackie Alderman from open forum. Mr. Whitcomb said that Jackie Alderman was told last year that the Township was going to be doing continued ditch work and road construction on that road until we get the ditches filled and at that time, he looked at her irrigation and informed her it would be in the road right of way and she would have to move it. They ran out of dirt last year and this year there was dirt from another project left over and that is where the dirt went. Ms. Alderman said when Mr. Whitcomb told her she had to move her sprinklers out of the right of way last year she told him no she was not going to pay to have them moved. Mr. Whitcomb said he was looking into it, he was waiting for a call back. Mr. Whitcomb asked Ms. Alderman if she was ever told to remove her sprinklers from the road right of way. She replied Yes, and she said you need to pay for it because you put them there. Mr. Whitcomb informed her the township did not install her sprinklers. She said the engineer chose where to put them she did not when they were damaged the first time. If she had chosen where to put them that would be different. Mr. Stoeckel said they would have to take it up with Mike Manners and Loucks. Ms. Alderman said Mike Manners signed the invoice and that is who paid to have them moved. The Alderman's showed the receipt they had for when the work was done. Mr. Hiller was wondering why Loucks would have paid and why would the township pay to have their sprinklers moved? Ms. Alderman then referenced a letter that had been sent out prior to the project beginning. Mr. Whitcomb said he would speak with Mike Manners. Ms. Alderman

wanted to know who would be calling her. Mr. Whitcomb said he would. Ms. Alderman did not want that. Mr. Hiller said he would prefer to have Loucks contact Ms. Alderman.

- **Special Event Permit Long Siding Station**  
Mr. Hiller motioned to approve the special event permit for a car show on September 14<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Seconded by Mr. Whitcomb. Motion carried.
- **Voter Account Agreement** Mr. Hiller motioned to approve the Voting operations technology and resources Account Agreement. Seconded by Mr. Whitcomb. Motioned carried.

### **Old Business**

- **Address the Rooster situation.** Mr. Stoeckel said if we are going to put this back to the Planning Commission, he suggested that Ms. Zortman, Ms. Collorodo, and the Trelstadts, put something together that you feel will be appropriate and we will give it to Scott Richards our planning and Zoning administrator and he would put it before the planning commission, and we will see where it goes. Mr. Whitcomb added to keep in mind that RR has a part of 1 acre lots so you may want to limit to the size of lots that it will affect.
- **Request for Qualifications for Township attorney**  
Mr. Stoeckel motioned to stay with Town Law Center PPLP. Seconded by Mr. Hiller. Motion carried.
- **Release Reger Escrow** Approved last month.

### **Supervisor Reports**

**Roads** Mr. Whitcomb spoke to the complaint's road being torn up on 17<sup>th</sup> and 107<sup>th</sup>. Dust control 2<sup>nd</sup> application is complete. It did not need to be applied to 87<sup>th</sup>, Sunset Drive or 19<sup>th</sup> and 72<sup>nd</sup>. Nothing to report on Mowing. Brush removal is ongoing in-house. Planned work for 2024 Crack filling is completed. Mr. Whitcomb read a correspondence he received from Jason Hill referencing mediation with Wyanett Township. He suggested the Town Board make a motion to authorize the Township attorney to send a letter to Wyanett Township for mediation. There was no response from Wyanett Township from the letter we sent them in July. Mr. Hiller motioned to authorize the town attorney to send a letter to Wyanett Township to complete mediation to finalize a road agreement. And if there is no response by September 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024 the Town Board will consider legal action to compel mediation and an agreement. Seconded by Mr. Whitcomb. Motion carried.

#### **Fire Board:**

Mr. Hiller reported the next meeting is not until after Labor Day.

**Airport Commission Liaison:** Mr. Stoeckel presented the plan for the annexed Pontious property. Mr. Hiller asked what the city was planning on doing there as far as 17<sup>th</sup> Street. Mr. Hiller was concerned about the traffic flow on the township road and the township will have to maintain that. Mr. Stoeckel reported that he and Mr. Whitcomb met with the city and the city is going to require the developer to blacktop that road to Township standards. The township would be maintaining it but any extra cost would be going to the city. It will still be our road. Mr. Whitcomb reported that he would be sending the city a bill for the work that the township has done on abutting roads for the past two years. Ms. Langfeld asked if they could access the

Pontious property from the county road and not the township road. Mr. Stoeckel said they could not because of the airport protection Zone.

**City Planning Commission Liaison:** Mr. Stoeckel reported that Crystal cabinets is doubling the size of their building.

**Township Planning Commission Liaison:** There was no meeting.

**Adjourn**

Mr. Whitcomb moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Hiller seconded. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:37 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tandra Langfeld, Clerk-Treasurer

Approved by the Town Board September 17, 2024

Eugene Stoeckel, Chairman