

**Princeton Township
Mille Lacs County, Minnesota**

Township Board Monthly Meeting

Tuesday, September 19, 2023

Minutes

The September 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, plus remote participation via GoToMeeting.

Supervisors present: Mike Bishman, Thomas Duden, Dan Hiller, Gene Stoeckel, Bill Whitcomb

Staff present: Ken Hennen, Clerk-Treasurer Terry L. Pflieger, Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Samantha Toth

Public attendees: Michelle Braun, Ron Gensler, Joann Larson, Joel Minks, Joshua Miller, Nancy Moan. Online attendees were Paul Burkhardt, PTS, and Scott Richards.

All attendees recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approve Agenda: Mr. Stoeckel moved to approve the agenda with the addition of a suggestion to discuss moving excess funds to a CD, after the Clerk-Treasurer's Report. The agenda was approved by consensus.

Open Forum: Ron Gensler spoke to the board about his desire to see a Dog Ordinance written into Township ordinances.

Paul Burkhardt Auditor's Report

Paul Burkhardt of Burkhardt & Burkhardt, the Township's new auditors, gave a glowing report of the Township's finances for the year 2022. Using various models, he explained that the Township is sitting in a very good place financially and uses their resources wisely.

Approve Meeting Minutes-August 15 Monthly Meeting Mr. Duden moved to approve the August 15 Meeting minutes. Mr. Bishman seconded. Motion carried.

Approve Meeting Minutes-August 30 Special Meeting Mr. Duden moved to approve the August 15 Meeting minutes. Mr. Hiller seconded. Motion carried.

Clerk-Treasurer's Report

Clerk Treasurer Report—August 31, 2023 for September 19, 2023 meeting

General Fund Beginning Balance	\$ 145,958.35
Receipts	\$ 7,433.69
Disbursements	\$ 10,951.77
Ending Balance	\$ 142,698.71

Road & Bridge Fund Beginning Balance	\$ 369,154.10
Receipts	\$ 0.00
Disbursements	\$ 41,993.31
Ending Balance	\$ 327,160.79
ARPA Fund	\$ 124,159.69 (will be used to pay Helmin bill in September)
Total Cash Beginning Balance	\$ 710,436.89
Receipts	\$ 7,433.69
Disbursements	\$ 54,115.08
Ending Balance	\$ 663,755.50
August 2023 Payroll	
Gross	\$ 5592.25
Net	\$ 4,675.01

Notes:

-PILT settlement from the County arrived on 8/31/22 in the amount of \$81.63
 -Scott Richards will bill us \$60 per hour when attending meetings remotely, instead of the same as in person meetings (\$240), as he formerly billed us.
 Mr. Hiller moved to approve the August Cash Control Statement, Receipts and Disbursements, August Payroll, and Claims for Approval in one motion. Mr. Bishman seconded. Motion carried.

Ms. Pfliegerhaa introduced Samantha Toth, who will be her new Deputy Clerk-Treasurer. Ms. Pfliegerhaa also submitted her resignation, which will be effective at the next board meeting, October 17th.

The board discussed moving some funds into a liquid CD to earn interest for the Township. A liquid CD would allow four draws per year with no penalties. Mr. Bishman moved to put \$125,000 into a 12-month liquid CD. Mr. Whitcomb seconded. The motion carried.

New Business

- Joel Minks presented the Mille Lacs County Ordinance on Dogs and asked that Princeton Township consider adopting the same or a similar one. We have no ordinance concerning nuisance dogs, but as the township grows, we need to update this. Mr. Whitcomb moved to send the Mille Lacs County Code of Ordinances Article 3 to the Planning Commission for review and recommendation. Mr. Bishman Seconded. Motion carried.
- Mr. Whitcomb moved to release the bond on the Brickton Road 2-year Warranty. Mr. Hiller seconded. Motion carried.
- Mr. Hiller moved to approve payment for the 2023 Chip and Fog seal project on 33rd St. and 82nd Ave. Mr. Bishman seconded. Motion carried.
- Mr. Whitcomb moved to approve payment in the amount of \$309,166.68 for the Helmin Project. Mr. Duden seconded. Motion carried.

Old Business

- Snowplow Requests for quotes-final consideration will be at the October 17th meeting.
- Mr. Stoeckel encouraged the board members to attend the free Couri & Ruppe legal seminar on September 30th.

Supervisor Reports

Fire Board—Dan Hiller. The Fire Board met on Sept. 5th. So far in 2023 there have been 338 calls to the Fire Department. In July 11 calls were in Princeton Township. The City of Princeton will start budgeting for new equipment-they plan to CIP \$2,000,000. There are talks of redoing the formula they use to charge the Township. The next Fire Board meeting is November 1.

Airport Commission Liaison— Gene Stoeckel. There will be a new AWOS (Automated Weather Observing System) weather station located south of the Public Safety building. Minnesota Avionics will pay 100% of the price of the new AWOS.

City Planning Commission Liaison— Gene Stoeckel-the City of Princeton is planning two new apartment buildings directly across from Public Safety Building. One will have 62 units, the other will have 85 units. The previously-built 98 units are full, with a waiting list.

Township Planning Commission Liaison—Mike Bishman. There was no Planning Commission meeting in September.

Road report—Bill Whitcomb

- Dust control is needed on 40th St. Mr. Hiller moved to apply .25 dust control in the amount of \$1,652.00 to preserve the road until it can be paved next year. Mr. Bishman seconded. Motion carried.
- Paving 54th Ave would cost \$33,677 if done now. Mr. Whitcomb recommends it is done in the spring when prices are cheaper.
- Mr. Whitcomb would like to use gravel or bituminous millings at various locations to build up shoulders. Will do in house.
 - Radiuses at Den-hie.
 - 90th Ave at 33rd St.
 - 17th St at 90th Ave.
 - Baptist Church Road inside curve.

Mr. Hiller moved to correct shouldering in house in these locations. Mr. Whitcomb seconded. Motion carried.

- Second mowing and more brush removal is planned for early October.
- Mr. Whitcomb plans to apply for another LRIP grant (Local Roads Improvement Program).
- Mr. Whitcomb and Mr. Stoeckel will speak with the owner of the vehicle sitting on Sunset Drive before winter.
- Still waiting to hear back from Wyanett on the last proposal (our original proposal).

- Cty. Rd. 3 and 136th is technically ours, so we need to speak with Baldwin Twp about it.
- Discussed removing a homeowner's young spruce trees within 20 feet of road center (smaller than 6" diameter is technically brush). Will remove now before they get too big.

Adjourn

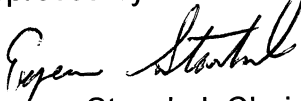
Mr. Bishman moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Hiller seconded. Motion carried.
Meeting adjourned at 8:21 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Clerk-Treasurer

Approved by the Town Board October 17, 2023



Eugene Stoeckel, Chairman