

Turtle Lake Township Regular Meeting Minutes
December 2, 2024, 19143 Lake Julia Dr. NW Bemidji, MN

The regular meeting of the governing body of Turtle Lake Township, Beltrami County MN was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chair Michelle Anderson. Also in attendance are Vice Chair Kenneth McBride, Supervisors Corey Wright, Mark Haugen, Treasurer Christine Malterud, Road Supervisor/Zoning Administrator Kelly Booge and Clerk Lynn Johnson. Supervisor Sovde was unable to attend tonight's meeting.

Public Attendees

Julie Verchota, Phil Verchota, John Testa, Jill Testa, Marcie Useldinger, Tom Bakke, Nate Heim, Clint Bruestle, Theresa Peterson, Paul Wolfe, Jeff Hill, and Kristy Roberts.

Approve Agenda

Motion to approve agenda by Vice Chair McBride, Second by Supervisor Haugen. Motion carried 4-0.

Approve Regular Meeting Minutes of November 4, 2024

Motion to approve the regular meeting minutes of November 4, 2024 by Supervisor Haugen, second by Vice Chair McBride. Motion carried 4-0.

Approve December 2, 2024 Treasurer's Report

Motion to approve treasurer's report of December 2, 2024 by Supervisor Haugen, second by Chair Anderson. Motion carried 4-0.

Approve and Sign Claims and Payroll

Motion to approve claims and payroll by Chair Anderson, second by Vice Chair McBride. Motion carried 4-0.

OLD BUSINESS

General Road/Zoning Update

Road Supervisor Booge reported that the town roads were graded right before the weather turned cold and are in good shape going into winter. He also informed the Board that he had one division request and one division lot line adjustment request during November. These adjustments are very involved and he believes that the current fee schedule for these types of requests should be discussed and an increase considered. This will be discussed further at a later date.

Cannabis Law

Supervisor Haugen reported on his findings concerning cannabis laws. The law was not written with townships in mind and there are no provisions for compensation to townships for handling the licensing or compliance checks. This is a complicated issue and at this time it appears that it could be costly for the township to take on this responsibility. The Minnesota Association of Townships advises townships to delegate this to the county

and has provided a sample resolution to do this. Supervisor Haugen's recommendation is to hand this off to Beltrami County. Motion by Supervisor Haugen to sign the resolution provided by MAT transferring licensing to Beltrami County. Second by Chair Anderson. Vice Chair McBride would like to add that the township reserves the right to reverse this decision in the future. This addition to the resolution was accepted. Motion carried 4-0.

NEW BUSINESS

2025 Levy

Several people questioning the increase in township taxes attended the meeting. To inform the attendees on the rules for public participation at a board meeting, Chair Anderson read the policy to them. Vice Chair McBride explained the reasons for the increase which were mainly because of an increase in the Road and Bridge Fund. There are several roads in need of major work, not just patching repairs and this requires the funding to do so. He reminded the residents that we are a community and as such we all own the town's roads and are responsible for maintenance to ensure public safety even if we don't live on one. An engineer was consulted and a long-range plan is being developed. The board recommends the amounts that they believe will be needed for the upcoming year to the constituents that attend the annual meeting but the attendees are the ones who set the levy amount for each fund.

Resolution Designating 2025 Polling Place

Clerk presented resolution 12022024-1 designating the Turtle Lake Town Hall, 19143 Lake Julia Dr NW, as the 2025 polling place for the town. Motion by Vice Chair McBride to approve resolution, second by Supervisor Haugen. Motion carried 4-0.

Resolution Appointing RFA Representative

Clerk presented resolution 12022024-2 designating Vice Chair McBride as the township representative and Supervisor Haugen as substitute representative. Motion by Chair Anderson to approve resolution, second by Supervisor Wright. Motion carried 4-0.

Zoning Ordinance

A Planning Commission will need to be created in order to revise the township planning and zoning ordinance. This will be discussed at a later date.

Public and Other

Discussion during Levy topic.

Correspondence

None

Adjourn

Motion to adjourn at 8:49 p.m. by Supervisor Wright, second by Vice Chair McBride. Motion carried 4-0.

Approval of these Minutes from the December 2, 2024 Regular Township Meeting

Approved Michelle Anderson Date 1/6/25

Ken [Signature]

[Signature]

[Signature]

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