

Meeting of the Windemere Township Board - July 11, 2019

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM by Vice-Chairman, Pete Steen. Others present were Supervisor, Heidi Kroening, Treasurer, Ron Mossberg, and Clerk, Scott Danelski. Absent Supervisor John Wesely.

CLERK'S REPORT :

The Clerk's May 2019 report was read. Motion made by Steen, second by Kroening to approve the Clerk's May 2019 report as submitted. Motion passed, 2 Aye – 0 Nay.

The Clerk's June 2019 report was read. Motion made by Steen, second by Kroening to approve the Clerk's June 2019 report as submitted. Motion passed, 2 Aye – 0 Nay.

TREASURER'S REPORT :

Treasurer's financial report was read. Motion by Steen, seconded by Kroening to approve the Treasurer's June 2019 financial report as submitted. Motion passed, 2 Aye – 0 Nay.

OLD BUSINESS :

BALSAM ROAD BOX CULVERT :

The Balsam Road Box Culvert Project was discussed. Pine County stated that the opening vendor bids for installation of the box culvert on Balsam Road will now be opened on Thursday July 15th, 2019.

ISLAND LAKE OUTLET :

The Island Lake outlet was discussed. The Pine County Board of Soil & Water Conservation District (PCSWCD) stated the preliminary construction plans have been drafted and have been sent to the DNR for approval and the Pine County Attorney is working on the easement to complete the work and maintenance.

STURGEON ISLAND ROAD & HIGH-WATER LEVEL OF STURGEON LAKE :

The high-water level of Sturgeon Lake was discussed. Supervisor Steen to contact the Pine County Board of Commissioners to see if the county would be able to offer any relief for the lake residents.

STURGEON ISLAND BRIDGE # R0726 :

The Sturgeon Island Bridge # R0726 was discussed. After the conclusion of the June 2019 monthly Board meeting, it was brought to the Board's attention that during the public hearing held on February 28th, 2019 the Board stated to the residents that the Board would hold a second public meeting to discuss the results and recommendations provided by the engineering firm regarding the Sturgeon Island Bridge.

Motion by Kroening, seconded by Steen to rescind the motion made on June 13th, 2019 to cease Erickson Engineering from pursuing to write-up a variance to the MnDOT Bridge Office for repairing the Sturgeon Island Bridge # 0726 existing structure. Motion passed, 2 Aye – 0 Nay.

Motion by Kroening, seconded by Steen to rescind the motion made on June 13th, 2019 to accept Erickson Engineering's alternative #2 from their letter of recommendation to replace the existing Sturgeon Island Bridge # 0726 with a new Treated Timber Panel-Lam Bridge for a cost of \$313,000.00. The new structure recommended in alternative #2 would be in compliance of State Aid Rules for width (20') as well as the required TL-2 crash-tested timber rail barrier and would not require a variance by MnDOT and Windemere Township's total cost to replace the structure would be \$20,000.00. Motion passed, 2 Aye – 0 Nay.

A special meeting has been scheduled for Thursday July 16th, 2019 for the public to discuss the recommendations provided by Erickson Engineering regarding replacement vs repairs of the Sturgeon Island Bridge # R0726.

ROAD T-756 :

An update was given on Pine County named road T-756. The first draft of Township Resolution 2019-T756 has been completed, but while reviewing the draft it was determined that the road easement continues North all the way to the south shore of Lower Rush Lake straight through a resident's manicured back yard. The township attorney stated that the township may want to vacate the very north portion of T-756, but the township cannot begin the vacation of a road, it has to be initiated by a petition of township voters living in the vicinity of the road to be vacated. The attorney suggested the township make an announcement of the findings and allow resident the opportunity to start a petition to vacate the north portion of T-756 if they so desire. No action taken at this time.

PINE COUNTY-WIDE ZONING (Opt-In) :

The joining of the Pine County-Wide Zoning Ordinance was discussed. The second draft of the Pine County Zoning Ordinance has been completed and Pine County is once again inviting townships and smaller communities the opportunity to opt-in to a Pine County-Wide Zoning Ordinance. No action taken at this time.

TOWNSHIP EMAIL :

The townships email accounts were discussed. Several users of the current township email stated they are having trouble with the township email. Treasure Ron Mossberg stated that the township email accounts can be configured to Outlook. Ron will discuss with the town clerk the sequence of steps to reconfigure the township email accounts to Outlook.

NEW BUSINESS :

TRANSFER OF FUNDS :

The transfer of Windemere Township Road & Bridges and Revenue Funds was discussed. Treasurer, Ron Mossberg requested the Board to transfer funds to cover July 2019 vendor claims for completed road projects.

Motion by Steen, seconded by Kroening to transfer \$211,982.02 from the U.S. Bank Commercial Account into the Windemere Township First National Bank of Moose Lake Checking account under the Road & Bridges Fund. Motion passed, 2 Aye – 0 Nay.

Motion by Steen, seconded by Kroening to deposit the \$230,074.00 check received from Pine County for the first half of the 2019 property tax assessment into the Windemere Township First National Bank of Moose Lake Checking Account under the Road & Bridges Fund. Motion passed, 2 Aye – 0 Nay.

LIQUOR LICENSE :

The liquor licenses for Doc's Sports Bar and the Moose Lake Golf Club were discussed. Motion by Steen, seconded by Kroening to approve the On/Off Sale and Sunday Sale Liquor Licenses for Doc's Sports Bar and the Moose Lake Golf Club for the dates of September 1st, 2019 through August 31th, 2020 with no additional charges by Windemere Township over the county license fee. Motion passed, 2 Aye – 0 Nay.

QUOTE / PROPOSALS BIRCHVIEW ROAD & RUSH BLVD BOX CULVERT PROJECTS :

The quote/proposals provided for the Birchview Road & Rush Blvd box culvert projects were discussed.

Motion by Steen, seconded by Kroening to accept Erickson Engineering's quote/proposal # 19054 at a cost of \$18,900.00 to complete the engineering of the Birchview Road Box Culvert Project. Motion passed, 2 Aye – 0 Nay.

Motion by Steen, seconded by Kroening to accept Erickson Engineering's quote/proposal # 19055 at a cost of \$18,900.00 to complete the engineering of the Rush Blvd Box Culvert Project. Motion passed, 2 Aye – 0 Nay

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OTHER :

None.

ROAD UPDATE :

Road Maintenance Supervisor, Mike Buetow gave the monthly road update. Quotes have been requested for the price of culverts. Approximately (15) culverts were identified in need of repair during the 2019 Annual Road Review. Mowing of the township road ditch R.O.W.s has begun. Temporary culverts have been placed on Harmony & Cori Lanes to help alleviate the continual flooding problems on Harmony Lane. A culvert was replaced and additional class-5 gravel was placed on Moss Lane.

ZONING UPDATE :

Zoning Administrator, Phill White gave the monthly zoning update. It has been a hectic month for the Zoning Department due to the high-water levels of local lakes. The Zoning Department viewed a lot of non-compliant work being completed due to the high-water levels. The Zoning Department received 5 new permit applications since last month and 2 variance hearings will be held on July 18th, 2019. Summer Zoning Department hours are still in effect. The new Pine County Transfer Station is scheduled to open on July 23rd, 2019; Hours of operation will be Tuesday Through Thursday Noon – 6 PM, and Saturday 8 AM – 3 PM. The Zoning Department would like to schedule a special meeting date with the Town Board and residents to discuss Windemere's Zoning Ordinances.

PLANNING COMMISSION UPDATE :

Clair Strandlie gave the Planning Commission update. The next scheduled meeting of the Planning Commission will be on Tuesday August 13th, 2019 6:30 PM located at the Windemere town hall. The Planning Commission has requested the Town Board to attend the meeting to discuss the new Comprehensive Plan.

FIRE DISTRICT UPDATE :

No Fire District update this month due to conflicting meeting schedules.

CLAIMS :

June 2019 claims were reviewed. Motion made by Steen, seconded Kroening to approve the June 2019 claims as submitted. EFTs - 1915 through 1917, Checks - 12305 through 12306 along with Checks - 12331 through 12350 & Direct Deposits - 1168 through 1174 for a total of \$277,429.23. Motion passed, 2 Aye – 0 Nay.

Township mail was opened and reviewed.

Motion made by Steen, seconded by Kroening to adjourn the meeting at 8:26 PM. Motion passed, 2 Aye
– 0 Nay.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED :

APPROVED :

Clerk, Scott Danelski

Vice-Chairman, Pete Steen