

# Greenwood Township Supervisors Board Meeting Minutes

**DATE: November 12, 2024 - 6:30 PM**

**CALL TO ORDER** – Vice Chair Skubic

## **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Meeting is being recorded for transcription and archival purposes

**ROLL CALL** - Chair Roskoski (by phone) / Vice Chair Skubic/ Supervisor Gilbert/ Supervisor Stoehr/Supervisor Bassing / Treasurer Maus / Clerk Spicer - **all present**

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Paul Thompson – read a prepared statement which spoke on how the Fire Chief and certain Board members informed the township, in early July, that the helicopter landing area is dangerous, has no authorization to operate and is a “great liability” to the township, and committed to getting MNDOT onsite for an assessment and set up a conference call. The call was cancelled as Maus left that meeting with no explanation and, yet, it has not been addressed since. Paul Thompson felt the Chief has been negligent in his duties and should have informed the Board and Community of an interim plan and MNDOT recommendations. He also stated identifying problems, without offering solutions, is of no value. Skubic and Gilbert commented on the danger being over exaggerated by those officials, although there is room for improvement. It was also stated authorization/permitting was not necessary for the purpose we are using it for. It was clarified that the pickleball courts did not create any additional danger. (Paul’s complete statement is included with minutes record.)

Joann Bassing – asked for clarification on meeting/schedule posting.

Sue Drobac – asked why we’re still paying for the past attorney – Clerk Spicer said the payments were from September and November of 2023 invoices that were never paid.

Jett Galonski – asked if comments are addressed by the Board. Skubic stated they generally not addressed at the meeting, and could be added to a future agenda.

## **ADDITIONS/CHANGES TO AGENDA**

Supervisor Bassing requests to add attorney contact under NEW BUSINESS. Maus requests to add incident reporting before he gives the fire report.

**Motion-** by Bassing/Gilbert to accept Agenda with the two additions **Vote 4/0 carried**

**Motion -**by Skubic/Bassing to approve minutes from regular meeting held October 8, 2024.  
**Vote 4/0 Carried**

**Motion** -by Stoehr/Gilbert to approve minutes from Special meeting held October 30, 2024.

**Roll call Vote- Skubic Y, Gilbert Y, Stoehr Y, Bassing N, 3/1 Carried**

### **TREASURER REPORT**

Account Balances ending October 31, 2024:

Checking Account - \$70,110.42

Building/Capital – \$62,417.97

Broadband - \$50,089.26

Trail Fund - \$22,498.71

Road Fund - \$27,498.36

Jumbo CD - \$251,938.00

All accounts Total - \$484,552.72

Bassing asked why Clerk and Treasurer Schedule 1 beginning balances didn't match. Clerk states her figures all match bank statements, except the 32 cents off as noted.

Vice Chair Skubic commented on some totals of reconciles and Schedule 1's not matching. The clerk re-states her records match the bank records and has supporting documents.

Joann Bassing speaks out, interrupting Board discussion. Paul Thompson raises his hand and is recognized by the Chair to speak. Thompson (directing statement to Joann Bassing) states it is rude to interrupt without permission and obstructs others from hearing what is discussed.

Joann continues to banter with Thompson after Chair tries several times to quiet her.

**Motion** -by Bassing/Stoehr to approve Treasurer's Report. Again, Joann Bassing speaks out of turn, but is ignored by the Board. **Vote Skubic-N, Gilbert-N, Stoehr-Y, Bassing-Y, 2/2 Fail**

**Motion** – by Stoehr/Skubic to approve Claims. **Vote 4/0 carried**

**Motion** -by Gilbert/Bassing to approve Payroll. **Vote 4/0 carried**

Review Clerk financial reports. done

### **OLD BUSINESS**

1. Standard Operating Guidelines for Fire Department. Maus states there are quite a few proposed changes.

**Motion:** by Skubic/Gilbert to Table both a. and b. until December meeting. **Vote 4/0 carried**

a. Updated copy with previously approved revisions.

b. Proposed amendment to Article 18, Section 1, changing alcohol level to 0.0% and use of cannabis derived prescription drugs. (Supervisor Stoehr and Fire Dept member to prepare.)

2. Review of amendments to Paid On-Call Policy.

**Motion:** by Bassing/Stoehr to accept changes to the Paid On Call Policy.

**Vote Skubic-N, Gilbert-N, Stoehr-Y, Bassing-Y, 2/2 Fail**

**Motion:** by Skubic/Gilbert to table the Paid On Call Policy until the December meeting.  
**Vote 4/0 carried**

3. Capital Replacement Plan. (Tabled at 10/8/24 meeting). Roskoski states that the Capital Replacement Plan includes \$665,000 in 2025, and noted the 2025 budget was set in March, 2024, and does not include any of the requests.

**Motion:** by Bassing/Stoehr to table the Capital Replacement Plan until the December meeting. **Vote 4/0 carried**

4. Performance evaluation form for Fire Chief, to be completed by Fire Department membership. (Schedule evaluation for December 2024.)  
Fire Chief Maus said Fire Department employees voiced concerns about the form, stating no other Fire Department does this. Roskoski said she obtained the forms from Dena Suihkonen, City of Tower.

**Motion:** by Bassing/Stoehr to table the performance evaluation form until the December meeting. **Vote 4/0 carried**

5. Quote from Froe Brothers to replace media in Brassmaster.

- a. Review water test results taken by Supervisor Bassing.  
Joann Bassing interrupted, again without recognition, with questions and opinions, admitting she knows nothing about plumbing.  
Gilbert states the media in the Brassmaster could last from 1 to 4 years, but it only lasted 10 months. Changing the media could cost \$2,200 per year to get the arsenic levels back around the .10 mar.

**Motion:** by Gilbert/Stoehr to table until Bassing receives the latest water test results.  
**Vote 4/0 carried**

6. Brushing quotes. (Tabled until Township Road 4136 boundaries are set.) Bassing said Calgaro was brushing on Birch Point Road.

**Motion:** by Skubic/Bassing to table until Spring. **Vote 4/0 carried**

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

1. Agreement between St. Louis County and Greenwood Township Voluntary Fire Department agreement, to provide fire protection services within Unorganized Township 63-15 for year 2025.

**Motion:** by Bassing/Skubic to approve the Agreement between St. Louis County and the Greenwood Township Volunteer Fire Department to provide fire protection services within Unorganized Township 63-15 for the year 2025, in the amount of \$11,000.

**Vote 4/0 carried**

2. Letter from Pam Rodgers, Consultant, providing a response to comments made by Treasurer Maus at October board meeting. The clerk read the letter and stated copies of the letter and emails attached will be provided upon request.
3. RAMS Board nominations - none

- a) RAMS Meeting/Dinner Dec. 19, 2024. If anyone is interested, a reservation should be made by December 9, 2024.

4. Attorney contact – Bassing complained of not getting information as early as the Clerk and Chair gets it. He said Roskoski talked with attorney on September 5 about the OSHA settlement that’s being worked on. Roskoski said the new policy was not in place at that point. Bassing then questioned why he did not receive the letter with Attorney Scott Neff regarding the vacation on the Hendricks property. The Clerk said she forwarded it to all Supervisors and the other Board members stated they had received it. Bassing said we have an employee that has some allegations against him and wanted to know if we are bound to cover him under our Errors and Omissions. Roskoski said we should not be talking about that at tonight’s meeting and the question could be referred to the Township Attorney.

**Motion:** by Bassing/Stoehr to have the Chair contact the Township Attorney regarding employee coverage under the Errors & Omissions portion of the insurance. **Vote Skubic-N, Gilbert-N, Stoehr-Y, Bassing-Y, 2/2 Fail**

Joann Bassing again interrupts the Board without recognition.

#### SUPERVISOR REPORTS

- Skubic** Road Supervisor – nothing new  
Lodging Tax Board – nothing new
- Bassing** Joint Powers and Recreation – Bassing asked if we want to answer Paul Thompson concerns, then asked if we wanted to make a motion to form a committee to work on the helicopter landing site to fix the identified issues. Sue Drobac was then recognized by the Board and asked Paul Thompson where he got his information. Mr. Thompson said through his research and State Statutes. Mike Indihar explained the main issues are the trees and powerlines. Paul Thompson said the helicopter landing site is a “dirty site” and nothing has been done for months. Skubic says it is up to pilots to decide if they feel safe to land. Fire Chief Maus said the flight plan was changed, because of the pickleball fences. Paul Thompson asked where the flight plan used to be and Fire Chief Maus deferred to the MNDOT report and said he would not answer.
- Gilbert** Grounds and Maintenance- replaced battery in Hall handicap opener  
Broadband Liaison – still working with Bois Forte – 12 rural counties got \$54 million for infrastructure. Supervisor Bassing commented on several grants.
- Stoehr** Noxious Weeds - nothing new  
911 Assignment  
**Motion: by Skubic/Gilbert** for Supervisor Stoehr to approve 2 signs for Partridge Road. **Vote 4/0 carried**
- Roskoski** Ambulance Commission – nothing new.

#### FIRE CHIEF REPORT

Run Report – 10 fire 19 EMS

Rescue 5 has had transmission issues for a long time -

**Motion:** by Gilbert/Bassing to authorize Mike Igo to repair the transmission issues on Rescue 5. **Vote 4/0 carried**

Possible new EMR employee coming on board, if BCA report is favorable.

His goal is to have the Fire Department employee evaluations done by end of December.

Maus read letters of appreciation from residents.

Supervisor Bassing added that the 2024 budget was \$490,000. The 2024 budget is projected to be \$433,000 by year end.

Requested permission to purchase a Sawzall, angle grinder, and 2 big batteries, at a cost of \$1,362, plus tax and shipping.

**Motion:** by Skubic/Stoehr to approve the purchase of the tools, at a cost not to exceed \$1,450. **Vote 4/0 carried**

Meeting with City of Tower on December 15<sup>th</sup> to discuss ways to improve patient care.

The radios will be delivered to the City of Tower on that date, which the board approved to donate.

Maus submitted a signed letter of resignation from the Administrative Assistant.

Will be getting FF & EMR training funds, in the amount of \$258 per person, from MBTFE.

Discussed training by City of Tower for two Greenwood employees, which was paid by Tower. The time was also submitted to Greenwood and will be paid.


Fire Chief stated he would like to retain the laptop and printer that was used by the Administrative Assistant.

**CLERK REPORT:** (Correspondence)

1. Arrowhead Library bookmobile changing hours beginning January 15, 2025, from 12:15pm to 1pm every Wednesday.
2. Received an invitation from Northwoods Partners to an Appreciation Reception. Additional information is available upon request.

**MOTION TO ADJOURN** by Skubic/Gilbert at **8:02pm. Vote 4/0 carried**

Vice Chair



Clerk



**NEXT MEETING: DECEMBER 10, 2024 TIME 6:30 PM**