

## Greenwood Township Supervisors Board Meeting Minutes

**DATE: May 13, 2025 - 6:30 PM**

**CALL TO ORDER** – Chair Roskoski

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Meeting is being recorded for transcription and archival purposes.

**ROLL CALL** - Chair Roskoski / Vice Chair Skubic/ Supervisor Gilbert/ Supervisor Bradach/ Supervisor Bassing / Treasurer Mortaloni / Clerk Spicer – **All Present**

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Brenda Skorich asked why Hendrick's road vacate request is being challenged when she and others have vacated parts of the same road in the past, without opposition. Ms. Skorich doesn't think the snow plowing is an issue, as it has always been plowed to the interior rather than the lakeside of the road. Roskoski said Birch Point Extension has only recently been declared a Greenwood Township road and noted the issue will be addressed later in the meeting.

Dale Horihan asked permission to clean up fallen tinder and dead standing trees on the right-of-way and areas located on Township property adjacent to Birch Point Road. It is mentioned that some of that land belongs to Mr. Reed and his permission would be needed. Discussion was held on obtaining an opinion from the Township Attorney as to liability issues. Supervisor Bassing stated there is a waiver form available on the Minnesota Association of Townships website.

**Motion** - by Bradach/ Skubic to allow Dale Horihan, and other volunteers, to clean up the dead trees on the township property along Birch Point Road, contingent upon approval from Mr. Reed to access the area through his property and all volunteers signing a liability waiver form.

**Vote 5/0 carried**

**ADDITIONS/CHANGES TO AGENDA**

**Motion** - by Skubic/Gilbert to accept Agenda. **Vote 5/0 carried**

**Motion** - by Skubic/Gilbert to approve minutes from regular meeting held April 15, 2025. **Vote 5/0 carried**

Jet Galonski spoke regarding the concerns from former firefighters that were dismissed by prior Board. Some of the firefighters would like to come back but would like to have their PERA credit for the time missed. They felt they would have it if they had not been terminated without cause. Gilbert is requesting an email or written statement from PERA stating this can

be done. Roskoski would like the questions or requests from the former firefighters in writing, so it can be put on the agenda for a future meeting.

### **FINANCIAL REPORTS**

Both Clerk and Treasurer Schedule 1 reports are in packet and match.

Current adjusted checking account balance is \$1,142.77. Unexpected attorney fees for the investigation and termination of Fire Chief Maus, amounting to approximately \$35,000 were recently paid.

Bradach commented on the cost of all the frivolous lawsuits Greenwood Township has endured in the past, including the two that were just recently dismissed. Greenwood Township pays an additional \$15,000 per year, as an additional insurance policy had to be added due to the frivolous lawsuits. Roskoski added that Greenwood Township followed the legal process for the termination of the previous Fire Chief, which came at a high cost.

Combined savings and checking funds currently in Frandsen bank will not cover this month, or next months, claims and payroll. Our 4 LPL investment CD's total \$393,476.86.

Roskoski stated, in January, the former Treasurer did not provide a recommendation on the reinvestment of funds.

**Motion** – by Bradach/Gilbert to approve Treasurer's Report. **Vote 5/0 carried**

**Motion** -to approve Claims, in total amount of \$9,068.22. **Vote 5/0 carried**

**Motion** -Bassing/Skubic to approve Payroll. **Vote 5/0 carried**

a. Pay request from Deputy Treasurer Bassing

Supervisor John Bassing excused himself from the room. Chair Roskoski went over the timesheet submitted by Deputy Treasurer Joann Bassing for March 2025.

**Motion** – by Roskoski/Gilbert to pay former Deputy Treasurer Joann Bassing for one hour for March 2025. **Vote 4/0 – John Bassing not present for the vote. Carried.**

John Bassing returns to the meeting.

**Motion** – by Gilbert/Skubic to continue using ADP to process payroll. It was explained by Treasurer Mortaloni that her processing payroll, and all the tax reporting ADP does, would cost the Township more for her wages than the cost of ADP. **Vote 5/0 carried**

**Motion** – by Bassing/Skubic to transfer \$3,000 from Trail Fund savings and \$27,000 from Road Fund savings to checking account until a CD can be cashed in. **Vote 5/0 carried**

**Motion** – by Bradach/Gilbert to approve \$107,000 early withdrawal of \$107,000 from Jumbo CD, putting \$30,000 back in Trail & Road Fund savings, \$35,000 to Capital/Bldg. Fund and the balance in the checking account. **Vote 5/0 carried**

**Motion** – by Bassing/Bradach to request early distribution of tax levy payment. **Vote 5/0 carried.** The township will get 70% of the first half levy in June and the balance of the first half payment in July.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

1. Quotes to purchase new locks for Town Hall.

**Motion** – by Bradach/Gilbert to accept the quote from Arrowhead Locksmith, in the total amount of \$11,744.68, to purchase and install 7 alarm locks on the Greenwood Town Hall. **Vote 5/0 carried.**

2. Update of Brassmaster water filtration system. Media has been changed by Froe Bros. Roskoski will drop off a water sample with RMB in Virginia to test for arsenic for the public water supply.
3. Discussion on hiring a maintenance employee, including a review of costs on lawnmowing, snowplowing and cleaning services, will be held at the June meeting.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

1. Presentation by Fire Department Committee:

Committee member Erik Jankila, who is the Hibbing Fire Chief and part of the MN Public Safety Group, spoke extensively on the purpose and benefits of having a Medical Director, including the reduction of liability for the township.

- a. Quote for Medical Director.

**Motion** – by Bassing/Gilbert to accept the quote from MJM Medical Direction Consortium Services Corporation, to provide Medical Director services to Greenwood Township Fire Department, at a cost of \$500 per year. **Vote 5/0 carried.**

- b. Other items. – none

2. Quotes for lawnmowing services.

**Motion** – by Roskoski/Gilbert to accept the quote from Vermilion Outdoor Services, in the amount of \$250 per lawn mowing service, for the 2025 season. **Vote 5/0 carried.**

3. Sealed bids for reroofing Town Hall.

Clerk Spicer opened and read the four bids that were received to reroof the Town Hall.

**Motion** – by Gilbert/Skubic to refer the roofing bids to Mike Ralston to review and provide a recommendation at a Special meeting on Monday, May 19, 2025, at 6:00 pm. **Vote 5/0 carried.**

4. Revised 2025 budget.

Chair Roskoski and Treasurer Mortaloni reviewed the revised 2025 budget. Treasurer Mortaloni has modified the chart of account and provided year to date amounts for each account.

**Motion** – by Bradach/Gilbert to approve the revised 2025 budget. **Vote 5/0 carried.**

5. Hendrick's road vacate request-Township Road

**Motion** - by Roskoski/Bradach to move ahead with mediation through the Court system for Hendrick's property vacation request. **Roll call vote:** Roskoski Y, Skubic N, Bassing N, Gilbert Y, Bradach Y **3/2 carried**

**Motion** - by Bradach/Roskoski to appoint Supervisors Roskoski and Bradach to represent Greenwood Township for the mediation for the Hendricks property vacation request. **Roll call vote:** Roskoski Y, Skubic N, Bassing N, Gilbert Y, Bradach Y **3/2 carried**

### **SUPERVISOR REPORTS**

**Skubic** Road Supervisor - none

Lodging Tax Board Representative - none

**Bassing** Broadband Liaison – Good news that some of the areas around Orr and East and West are beginning work June/July. Bad news is the areas included in the project have been reduced. Still working on getting a timeline for Greenwood Township.

Joint Powers and Recreation – Paul Thompson stated a standard 4' bench costs \$550 + shipping. He has temporarily put some steel benches along the walking/biking trail that will last for a while until permanent benches are purchased. Skubic stated a company has approached him offering to buy a bench.

Noxious Weeds Representative - none

**Gilbert** Grounds and Maintenance - Brassmaster media has been replaced, and a water sample will be taken. A contractor will look at the windows and advise what can/should be done to proceed.

Fire Department Liaison – see Fire Department Report

**Bradach** Recreation Committee Liaison - The Recreation Area is set up and running with pickle-ballers already playing.

A Community picnic/potluck is planned for June 28<sup>th</sup> from 11am to 3pm - with June 29<sup>th</sup> being backup date in case of rain. He spoke with Interim Chief Trancheff to have a Fire truck available for the kids.

A Newbie pickleball Event has been scheduled for June 8 from 2pm to 4pm.

An alcohol bottle was thrown/broken through the pickle ball court fencing leaving a spray of broken glass.

A "NO PETS" sign is being purchased after a resident was observed, who apparently misunderstood the "Pickleball Only" sign, walking her dog inside the pickleball court. It is important to protect the expensive surface and investment made by our community donors. A pet waste station has also been ordered, and people are asked to be courteous of the grounds and kids play area by cleaning up after their pets.

Water pressure is very low coming out of the Hall side of the building.

911 Assignment - A Thank you to all who helped with the Fire Department cleanup.

**Roskoski** Ambulance Commission – no meeting

RAMS Representative - none

### **FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT presented by Supervisor Gilbert**

1 Wildland Fire, 1 structure, 13 EMS calls

Dean Dowden is certified FF1 & FF2 along with wildland fire fighting experience, He is currently a member of our EMS team and would like to serve as a Firefighter.

**Motion** - by Roskoski/Skubic to accept Dean Dowden as a Greenwood Township Volunteer Firefighter. **Vote 5/0 carried.**

New member Brianna Lofquist has begun her FF1 & FF2 training.

Fire boats 1 & 2 have been serviced and are on the lake. Fire Boat 3 service is scheduled.

Fire boat 1 has some directional control issues that will need to be addressed.

Emergency Apparatus will GFD annual pump testing.

Macqueen Fire will be fitting FF members with PPE, 2 members once they finish FF1 & FF2.

Bois Forte has an account that may be accessed to assist in paying for some PPE

With Brian Trancheff acting as Interim Fire Chief, he is requesting Eric Milbridge be hired as Interim Fire Captain.

**Motion** – by Gilbert/Bradach to hire Eric Milbridge as Interim Fire Captain, until permanent positions are filled, at the rate of \$300/month, effective immediately. **Vote 5/0 carried.**

**Motion** – by Gilbert/Skubic to authorize Dean Dowden to obtain a physical for the Fire Department. **Vote 5/0 carried.**

Will be seeking quotes for yearly flow testing on scuba masks and quotes for lighting replacement work on boats.

GFD extends a heartfelt thank you to all our mutual aid companies and members of the community for the amazing response at the Serenity Pt. fire, including Tower Fire, Breitung Fire, Cook Fire, Lake Vermilion Fire Brigade, Tower DNR, USFS and Tower Ambulance.

And a big Thank you to Arch and the Vermilion Club staff for going above and beyond providing and delivering enough food for all the people on scene.

#### **CLERK REPORT** (Correspondence)

1. Donation request by W. C. Heiam Medical Foundation for Sterilizer purchase.

**Motion** – by Skubic to donate \$100. **No support. Motion failed.** It is noted that a \$100 donation was sent to them in February 2025.

2. Donation request of \$500 by Tower Soudan Joint Powers Recreation Board. Bassing stated they fund many youth events and activities. The clerk states previous disbursements amounts of \$400-\$600 were listed as both donations and dues.

**Motion** – by Bassing to donate \$500 to TS Joint Powers & Recreation. **No support. Motion failed.**

**Motion** – by Bradach/Gilbert to donate \$200 to TS Joint Powers & Recreation. **Vote 5/0 carried**

Clerk Spicer requests a “heads-up” for all outside vendors/maintenance that may work into after hours as twice in past month workers showed up as she was leaving.

**Motion** – by Gilbert/Skubic to adjourn at 8:57pm. **Vote 5/0 carried**

Chair



Clerk



**Supervisors will reconvene for the BOARD OF AUDIT**

**NEXT MEETING: June 10, 2025 TIME 6:30 PM**