



**CASCADE**  
--- TOWNSHIP ---

2025 75<sup>TH</sup> ST. NE  
Rochester, MN 55906  
[www.cascadetownship.us](http://www.cascadetownship.us)

**CASCADE TOWNSHIP  
OLMSTED COUNTY-MINNESOTA  
BOARD MINUTES**

December 14, 2020

**OPENING BUSINESS**

The meeting was called to order at 6:00pm in person at the Cascade Township Hall and via the call-in declaration as set by Chairman Heathman. All in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Those in attendance were Supervisors Gary Sieck, Mike Black, Lenny Laures and Arlen Heathman, Road Maintenance Supervisor Mark Cochran, Clerk/Treasurer Sara Rudquist and Assistant Clerk/Treasurer Lois Freed. Supervisor Dean Hegrenes attended via the call-in option.

The minutes for the November 9, 2020, Board Meeting were reviewed by the Board. It was moved by Supervisor Black and seconded by Supervisor Sieck to approve the minutes as provided. All voted in favor. The motion passed.

Deputy Sheriff Dean Thompson presented the public safety report. There were 87 calls for service since the last meeting.

**CONTINUING BUSINESS**

The Board reviewed the Joint Powers Board claims and payroll. It was moved by Supervisor Laures and seconded by Supervisor Black to approve and pay the Cascade Township portion (\$28,099.21) of the total claims including net payroll of \$16,313.39 as presented. All voted in favor and the motion passed.

The Board reviewed the Cascade Township Cash Control Statement and bank statement. Supervisor Black moved and Supervisor Sieck seconded to accept the Cash Control Statement with an end-of-the-month balance of \$316,115.05 as presented. All voted in favor and the motion passed.

The Board reviewed the Cascade Township claims and payroll. Supervisor Black moved and Supervisor Sieck seconded to approve and pay the current month's claims of \$155,083.48 and gross pay of \$5,275.62 as presented. All voted in favor. The motion passed.

Road Maintenance Supervisor Mark Cochran gave his monthly report. The rental plow truck is in place. Crew has been working on hand brush cutting, shouldering, and chipping. The fogging on Salley Hills

is completed, paid for by the developer, and looks good. Mark worked with Roger Ihrke and Mark Welch on a house in the Johnson subdivision that needs a grading plan and site development plan.

## **NEW BUSINESS/ACTION ITEMS**

Mr. Kevin Graves reported on the status of the Subordinate Service District sewer project. COVID caused delays in funding for the 2020 season as the PSIG was not funded until late in the year. The bonding bill has passed and this project is on the list as qualified for funding. There is a need for a loan for approximately \$700,000 to cover what the PSIG will not. It was suggested that bid requests could be ready by spring with a potential ground-breaking in May 2021 and a 2-year construction process for the entire project. Mr. Graves will keep the board apprised of the developments.

Supervisor Heathman opened discussion regarding three issues in Friederichs Forest: a portion of the road at the bottom of the hill was not roll tested; easements and access without proper permitting; drainage issue affecting Supervisor Heathman's driveway. Mark Welch, G-Cubed, addressed the issues and made recommendations. Regarding the road, the developer or contractor will need to complete 2 core tests on the part of the road that was not tested. Recommendation regarding drainage is that a condition be put in place that the rain garden in lot 5 be constructed to receive this drainage and that this rain garden be installed at the time the septic goes in on this property. Additional recommendation is that an agreement be in place for Mr. Derby to take care of Supervisor Heathman's driveway until the rain garden is in place. Recommendation regarding the easements and access is that this is considered a "phased and connected" issue. As such, this new impervious surfacing indicates water quality testing should be required. Additionally, the township needs to know what the ultimate plan is, making clear disclosure important.

Brandon Theobald, WHKS, spoke on behalf of Mr. Derby. Easements have been purchased and recorded. It was the understanding of Mr. Derby and Mr. Theobald that the grading plan was proof of approved driveway access and no permitting was required.

Roger Ihrke, TCPA, explained that a driveway shown on a grading plan does not indicate permitted access. The township ordinance states that each access has to be permitted. Process is that a permit is completed and TCPA works with the Township Road Maintenance Supervisor to determine the position of the driveway prior to installation. Additionally, neither TCPA nor Mr. Cochran have the authority to approve a second access request; this particular situation provides 2 access points to Mr. Derby's property, something that the only the Town Board has the authority to approve.

Several citizens expressed concerns regarding the access, the lack of permitting, the easements and the future plans.

Supervisor Black moved and Supervisor Laures seconded that the driveway easements be sent to the township attorney for review, with a focus on protecting the township and excluding access to other parties. All voted in favor and the motion carried. Mark Welch suggested that changes can be made to the easements through a deed restriction process.

Town board directed Mark Cochran to remove the barriers and signage to this access.

Mark Welch suggested the core sampling be done now by the developer, recommending Milestone Materials.

Board requested a statement of intent from Mr. Derby regarding the drainage issue, making it a part of the grading plan by working with Mr. Ihrke and TCPA.

Board reviewed the report and update from GDO Law regarding Mr. Gasciogne. Courts have been on hold due to COVID.

Clerk/Treasurer Rudquist gave notice of town offices to be elected on March 9, 2021, for seats two and four. Any interested candidates are encouraged to file between December 29, 2020, and January 12, 2021 with the Clerk.

Supervisor Laures moved and Supervisor Black seconded to approve the 2021 Meeting Calendar as presented. All voted in favor and the motion passed.

Supervisor Black moved and Supervisor Heathman seconded to waive the rental fee for the OCTOA meetings held at Cascade Town Hall. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

Supervisor Hegrenes moved that in recognition of the work done cleaning and sanitizing throughout the year following meetings and rentals, the remaining \$656 in the township cleaning contract budget be given in equal amounts to Clerk/Treasurer Rudquist and Assistant Clerk/Treasurer Freed as a formal thank you. Supervisor Black seconded. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

Supervisor Black moved and Supervisor Sieck seconded to set the 2021 wage for Clerk/Treasurer Rudquist at \$29.00 per hour and Assistant Clerk/Treasurer Freed \$22 per hour. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

## **DISCUSSION/INFORMATION ITEMS**

Supervisor Heathman reported that St. Mary's barns was denied a permit to install an alarm system. Board would like to see the permit approved as this is simply an intrusion alarm and smoke detection system.

Mr. Bradley Bobbitt, City of Rochester, presented a proposed Rochester Public Transit route for a park and ride planned for the southwest side of 75<sup>th</sup> Street NW and US Highway 52. The route involves a portion of the township roadway Prairie Vista Drive NW/West Frontage Road.

Brad Brech reported on the November Planning Commission meeting.

Board reviewed the mail. Supervisor Laures reported on the TCPA meeting.

It was noted that a quorum of the Cascade Town Board may be present at the following meetings:

- Planning Commission Meeting – cancelled for December

It was moved by Supervisor Black and seconded by Supervisor Sieck to adjourn. All voted in favor, and the meeting adjourned at 9:10pm.

Fourteen citizens registered their attendance at the meeting in person and calling in.

Respectfully submitted,

Sara Rudquist  
Cascade Township Clerk/Treasurer

---

Chairman R. Arlen Heathman

---

Clerk/Treasurer Sara Rudquist