

Madam Chair Peggy Clayton
20356 Wendigo Park Road
Grand Rapids, MN 55744
Phone 218-259-1551

Harris Township

SINCE 1909



NEIGHBORS, SHORES & MORE

Supervisor VC Mike Schack 340-8852
Supervisor Ryan Davies 929-0610
Supervisor Dan Gilbert 259-4967
Supervisor Jim Kelley 327-0317
Treasurer Nancy Kopacek 398-3497
Clerk Beth Riendeau 244-1811

harristownshipclerk@gmail.com

Mission Statement:
The Harris Town Board strives to enhance the quality of life, protect the environment, and maintain economic stability for the residents of their community.

www.harristownshipmn.org

REGULAR BOARD MEETING October 13, 2021 AT 7:30pm MINUTES

Present: Madam Chair Clayton, Vice Chair Schack, Supervisors Davies, Gilbert and Kelley; Treasurer Kopacek; Clerk Riendeau

Pledge to the Flag was conducted, followed by the reading of the township mission statement.

Approve the Minutes

Minutes of September 8, 2021 Regular Meeting

A motion was made by Supervisor Gilbert and seconded by Supervisor Davies to approve the minutes of the September 8, 2021 Regular Meeting. Motion carried.

Minutes of September 20, 2021 Boat Landings/ARPA Funding Work Session

A motion was made by Supervisor Schack and seconded by Supervisor Gilbert to approve the minutes of the September 20, 2021 Boat Landings/ARPA Funding Work Session. Motion carried.

Minutes of September 23, 2021 Boat Landings/ARPA Funding Work Session

A motion was made by Supervisor Gilbert and seconded by Supervisor Schack to approve the minutes of the September 23, 2021 Boat Landings/ARPA Funding Work Session and to approve the correction of Mishawaka Landing instead of Casper Landing, under the Casper/Miller Land discussions. Motion carried.

Minutes of September 27, 2021 Land, Boat Landings/ARPA Funding Work Session

A motion was made by Supervisor Schack and seconded by Supervisor Davies to approve the minutes of the September 27, 2021 Land, Boat Landings/ARPA Funding Work Session. Motion carried.

Additions and Corrections

Supervisor Kelley requested the addition of Townhall Garage to 9E under Old Business. Supervisor Kelley requested the addition of Recycled Containers to 10G under New Business.

A motion was made by Supervisor Kelley and seconded by Supervisor Gilbert to approve the addition of Townhall Garage to 9E and Recycled Containers to 10G and approve the Regular Agenda. Motion carried.

Business from the Floor

Nothing at this time.

Consent Agenda

Nothing at this time

Roads

Road Update

Supervisor Kelley stated roads are looking pretty good. Tolerick Road is complete with the addition of recycled black top being put down on the turn around. Sunny Beach Road plans are coming along nicely.

Surveys for the boat landings are done, drawings are being worked on for Mishawaka and LaPlant.

2021 for 2022 Township Road Certifications

Supervisor Kelley shared the Township Road Certification with the Board. The township certifies the roads that are open and mileage of the road. In the past years the Board would approve a resolution to close Sunset Drive and Sunset Lane during the winter months. Nicholas has been closed as well however it will stay open as it appears that people are building down that road.

A motion was made by Supervisor Gilbert and seconded by Supervisor Schack to approve the 2021 for 2022 Township Road Certifications and the closing of Sunset Drive and Sunset Lane during the winter months. Motion carried.

Recreation

Update of Soccer Net

Madam Chair Clayton was able to reach FORZA and they have everything except for the net which is back ordered and is expected to be in by October 15th. Madam Chair Clayton will follow up and continue to track this.

Public Water Access Agreement & Resolution #2021-021

Madam Chair Clayton read Resolution #2021-021.

Whereas, The Harris Town Board has held numerous discussions over the last few years regarding parking, boat access repairs, and shore maintenance repairs at township boat landings; and

Whereas, The Harris Town Board submitted a formal request to the DNR Area Supervisor in March 2021 requesting assistance with major repairs and ramp assistance at current boat landings withing the township; and

Whereas, Harris Township defined Casper Landing, Mishawaka Landing, LaPlant Landing, Robinson Landing, and Woodtick Landing as those boat landings in need of repair; and

Whereas, The Harris Town Board conducted a boat landing walk-through together with the DNR Area Supervisor on July 12, 2021 to look at said landings and determine what the DNR would be able to provide assistance on; and

Whereas, The DNR Area Supervisor provided input on the DNR role regarding shore maintenance repairs, and ramp access, and would provide a coordinated maintenance agreement; and

Whereas, The DNR Area Supervisor provided progress in August 2021 on the Public Water Access Maintenance Agreement between the Sate of MN and Harris Township; and

Therefore Be It Resolved, on October 6, 2021 the DNR Area Supervisor provided a final draft of the Public Water Access Cooperative Agreement between the Sate of MN and Harris Township; and

Now Therefore Be It Resolved, The Harris Town Board has reviewed the Public Water Access Maintenance Agreement between the State of MN and Harris Township;

Now Therefore Be It Further Resolved, The Harris Town Board hereby enters into agreement with the DNR, and the Department of Administration

Madam Chair Clayton opened the floor for discussion.

A motion was made by Supervisor Kelley and seconded by Supervisor Davies to adopt Resolution #2021-021, a Resolution Adopting the Public Water Access Maintenance Agreement between the State of MN and Harris Township and approve and sign said Public Water Access Maintenance Agreement between the State of MN and Harris Township. Madam Chair Clayton completed roll call. Supervisor Kelley, Gilbert, Davies, Schack and Madam Chair Clayton "yes". Motion carried.

Correspondence

Thank you card from Kasey Cowan

A thank you card was received from Kasey Cowan for the purchase of a soccer net.

Network Opportunities Meeting Minutes August 25, 2021

Informational

Township Association Meeting Minutes September 13, 2021

Informational

Old Business

Letter from City of Grand Rapids RE: Islevew Road

Madam Chair Clayton gave a recap regarding the letter from the City of Grand Rapids. Supervisor Kelley had received a phone call back in August from a resident in Harris Township wanting some repair work done on a portion of Islevew Road. This was turned over to the City of Grand Rapids which then was returned to Harris Township. In the Joint Road Ownership Agreement, Harris agreed to take ownership of the south half and the city of Grand Rapids take ownership of the north half. The portion of road that needs to be repaired is the north half of Islevew, which is the ownership of Grand Rapids.

Madam Chair Clayton received a letter from Matt Wegwerth from the City of Grand Rapids. This letter included three options available to Harris Township.

Option 1 – Joint Road Ownership

Option 2 - Detach Property from City

Option 3 – Annexation

Discussion followed. The Board would like for Madam Chair Clayton to reach out to Attorney Andy Shaw before a decision is made and tabled this item to the P and D Meeting on October 27, 2021.

A motion was made by Supervisor Kelley and seconded by Supervisor Davies to table the letter from the City of Grand Rapids to the P and D Meeting on October 27, 2021. Motion carried.

ARP Letter to Board/County Administrator

Madam Chair Clayton pulled together an ARP funds request letter on September 28, 2021 to the Itasca County Board of Commissioners & Itasca County Administrator Brett Skyles. Included with the letter was the Harris Township Public Water Accesses Cooperative Agreement between the State of MN and Harris Township. If the County Board has questions after reviewing the letter, they will reach out to Madam Chair Clayton.

ARPA Reporting Deadline

Madam Chair Clayton shared the ARPA Reporting Deadline has changed from October 30, 2021 to April 11, 2022. This is informational.

Contract for Fire Fighting Services

Madam Chair Clayton shared the Contract for Fire Fighting Services with the board and pointed out the Township approved the contract on March 10, 2021 and the City of Grand Rapids signed and approved it on September 27, 2021. There are no changes.

Townhall Garage

Supervisor Kelley spoke with the contractor of the Town Hall Garage. The contractor stated they are done with the garage except for the eve's replacement of the gutter/eaves which have been discontinued. Discussion held as to whether to eliminate the gutters or get new ones. It was decided that Madam Chair Clayton will provide this information to Jon with MATIT and forward the quote (when it is received).

A motion was made by Supervisor Kelley and seconded by Supervisor Davies to get an additional quote for the gutters/eaves on the Townhall Garage. Motion carried.

New Business

Water Conditioner for Townhall

It has been brought to Supervisor Schack's attention that there are rust stains in the toilets in the bathrooms from the water. Discussion followed.

A motion was made by Supervisor Gilbert and seconded by Madam Chair Clayton to get quotes for a new Water Conditioner. Motion carried.

Letter of Support

Madam Chair Clayton composed a letter to Megan at Visit Grand Rapids regarding support of Visit Grand Rapids to apply for a grant from the FY 2021 ARPA Tourism NOFO.

A motion was made by Supervisor Kelley and seconded by Supervisor Davies to approve and send the Letter of Support. Motion carried.

Schedule Work Sessions RE: Land, Land Sales, Boat Landings, Public Survey

Discussion held on scheduling additional work sessions for land, land sale, boat landings, public survey and City of Grand Rapids

A motion was made by Supervisor Schack and Supervisor Davies to Schedule Work Sessions at 6:00 PM for October 18th, November 1st, 15th, and 29th at the Harris Townhall. Motion carried.

Multi-Hazard Mitigation Action Chart/Strategies & Action Types

Madam Chair Clayton attended a zoom meeting which was held on October 5, 2021 for Mitigation Strategies. This meeting was the final meeting. The entities who attended were asked to review the Action Chart for changes, etc. Discussion took place and no changes were made.

ISD 318 Elections Posting

ISD 318 has an election taking place on November 2, 2021 for a school board vacancy. Harris Township is a polling place. Set up of the hall will need to take place on November 1, 2021 from 10:00 am – 3:00 pm. Maintenance will need to help set up, along with any supervisors willing to assist. Both Madam Chair Clayton and Caretaker Friesen have volunteered to be election judges. The setting up of the hall for elections will need to be posted if a quorum is present.

A motion was made by Supervisor Kelley and seconded by Supervisor Davies to approve the posting for November 1, 2021. Motion carried.

Greater MN Community Grant

Supervisor Gilbert talked about the availability of a 6.2-million-dollar grant for community projects. Discussion followed.

Recycled Containers

Supervisor Kelley had communication with a resident of Harris Township that was inquiring about if the Township had ever thought about putting out any recycle containers for residents being that Super 1 no longer has their recycling container in their parking lot anymore. Discussion followed. Madam Chair Clayton informed Supervisor Kelley that Waste Management does have the service of picking up recycling in Harris Township.

Treasure’s report – dated September 1, 2021

Approve Treasurers Report

A motion was made by Supervisor Kelley and seconded by Supervisor Davies to approve the Treasurers Report of September 2021 in the amount of \$2,028,625.40. Motion carried.

Approve the Payment of Bills

A motion was made by Supervisor Schack and seconded by Supervisor Gilbert to approve the payment of bills claims #20250 through #20271 and EFT #10132101 through #10132105 and EFT #9302101 in the amount of \$18,124.28. Motion carried.

Public Input

There was no Public Input.


UPCOMING Events/Meetings

October 18, 2021	Work Session re: Land, Land Sales, Boat Landings & Public Survey	6:00 pm Town Hall
October 27, 2021	P and D Board Meeting	7:30 pm Town Hall
November 1, 2021	Work Session re: Land, Land Sales, Boat Landings & Public Survey	6:00 pm Service Center
November 10, 2021	Regular Board Meeting	7:30 pm Town Hall
November 15, 2021	Work Session re: Land, Land Sales, Boat Landings & Public Survey	6:00 pm Town Hall
November 24, 2021	P and D Board Meeting	7:30 pm Town Hall
November 29, 2021	Work Session re: Land, Land Sales, Boat Landings & Public Survey	6:00 pm Town Hall

Adjourn

There being no further business to come before the board, a motion was made by Supervisor Schack and seconded by Supervisor Gilbert to adjourn the meeting at 8:41 pm.

Prepared by: Beth Riendeau
Beth Riendeau, Clerk

Signed by: 
Peggy Clayton, Chair