

Madam Chair Peggy Clayton  
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Grand Rapids, MN 55744  
Phone 218-259-1551

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 Kelly Derfler 244-1811

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**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](http://www.harristownshipmn.org)

## REGULAR BOARD MEETING March 13, 2024 at 7:30pm MINUTES

**Present:** Madam Chair Clayton, Vice Chair Schack, Supervisors Davis, Gilbert, and Kelley; Treasurer Kopacek, Clerk Derfler

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

### Approve the Minutes

#### Minutes of February 14, 2024, Regular Board Meeting

A motion was made by Supervisor Schack and seconded by Supervisor Gilbert to approve the minutes of the February 14, 2024 Regular Board Meeting. Ayes-5; Nays-0. Motion carried.

#### Additions and Corrections

Chair Clayton proposed to add Schedule Work Sessions re: Casper Landing, Wendigo Park, ARPA Funds under New Business as item 10E.

A motion was made by Supervisor Kelley and seconded by Supervisor Davies to add Schedule Work Sessions re: Casper Landing, Wendigo Park, ARPA Funds under New Business as item 10E and approve the Regular Agenda. Ayes-5; Nays-0. Motion carried.

#### Business from the Floor

There was no business from the floor.

#### Consent Agenda

There were no consent agenda items.

#### Roads

##### Roads Update

Supervisor Kelley stated that he was contacted by Ron-Ex regarding road access from his pit on Sunny Beach Rd. The construction on Sunny Beach Rd, as per the LRIP Grant, was to allow the commercial business access for Ron-Ex. Ron-Ex is requesting that the 5-ton access signage begin after his pit. Discussion followed.

A road restriction sign allowing access in and out of the pit, exempting the 5-ton road restriction, will be installed beyond his pit.

A motion was made by Supervisor Kelley and seconded by Supervisor Davies to purchase and install weight limit signage beyond the Ron-Ex pit and the Board will provide Ron-Ex with an exemption letter to carry in the interim. Ayes-5; Nays-0. Motion carried.

## **Road Grading**

Supervisor Kelley presented two quotes for road grading. Casper Construction's bid for road grading was \$215/hour and Wm. J. Schwartz & Sons, Inc.'s bid was \$185/hour.

A motion was made by Supervisor Gilbert and seconded by Supervisor Schack to approve the Road Grading contract with Wm. J. Schwartz & Sons, Inc. for \$185.00 per hour. Ayes-5; Nays-0. Motion carried.

## **Recreation**

### **Rinks**

Supervisor Kelley provided the board with a rink attendance schedule at both Wendigo and Crystal Parks for the 2023-2024 season. It was a challenging season due to the warm weather.

## **Correspondence**

### **Itasca County Township Association Minutes of February 12, 2024**

Informational.

### **MN Department of Health Report of Analytical Results**

Informational.

## **Old Business**

### **Itasca County Township Association Annual Dinner**

Chair Clayton shared the Itasca County Township Association Annual Dinner registration information and form with the board. The Annual Dinner will be held on April 8, 2024 at Carpenter Town Hall. The cost is \$25/person. RSVP by March 28, 2024. This meeting was previously posted.

### **Woodtick Landing**

Supervisor Kelley provided an update on the discussions of widening the channel at Woodtick Landing with the DNR. A permit was applied for dredging, but it is a 30-day waiting period which will push out the work required by all participants. Unfortunately, due to the timelines involved, the dredging will not take place until the Spring of 2025.

## **New Business**

### **Pokegama Lake, Woodtick Landing Public Water Access Cooperative Agreement between the State of Minnesota and Harris Township**

Chair Clayton reviewed the Pokegama Lake, Woodtick Landing Public Water Access Cooperative Agreement between the State of Minnesota and Harris Township with the board. This agreement will provide up to \$35,000.00 in funds for the Woodtick Landing dredging project.

A motion was made by Supervisor Kelley and seconded by Supervisor Schack to approve the Pokegama Lake, Woodtick Landing Public Water Access Cooperative Agreement between the State of Minnesota and Harris Township. Ayes-5; Nays-0. Motion carried.

**Resolution 2024-012 re: Woodtick Landing**

Chair Clayton read Resolution 2024-012 re: Woodtick Landing in its entirety.

Madam Chair Clayton called for a Roll Call Vote:

- Supervisor Kelley: Yes
- Supervisor Gilbert: Yes
- Supervisor Davies: Yes
- Supervisor Schack: Yes
- Madam Chair Clayton: Yes

A motion was made by Supervisor Kelley and seconded by Supervisor Schack to approve Resolution 2024-012 re: Woodtick Landing. Ayes-5; Nays-0. Motion carried.

**Bill S.F. 3757 Town Aid Increases and Town Aid Calculation Modification Provisions**

Supervisor Gilbert provided the board with a summary of Bill S.F. 3757 Town Aid Increases and Town Aid Calculation Modification Provisions. He had the opportunity to provide the MN Senate Tax Committee with testimony regarding Town Aid. Senator Hauschild is requesting an increase of \$1.5 million in Town Aid. The Town Aid was last updated in 2014 and is currently maxed out at \$10 million.

**2024 Local Board of Appeal and Equalization**

Chair Clayton shared the 2024 Local Board of Appeal and Equalization information that was received from the Itasca County Assessor’s Office. There was a discrepancy between dates in the information packet. Chair Clayton will follow up with the Assessor’s Office for clarification.

A motion was made by Supervisor Kelley and seconded by Supervisor Davies to table the 2024 Local Board of Appeal and Equalization to the March 27, 2024 P&D Meeting. Ayes-5; Nays-0. Motion carried.

**Schedule Work Sessions re: Casper Landing, Wendigo Park, and ARPA Funds**

A motion was made by Supervisor Kelley and seconded by Supervisor Schack to approve Scheduling Work Sessions re: Casper Landing, Wendigo Park, and ARPA Funds at 5:00pm on April 1, 2024, April 18, 2024, and April 22, 2024 at the Harris Town Hall. Ayes-5; Nays-0. Motion carried.

**Treasurer’s Report**

**Treasurer’s Report for February 2024**

Treasurer Kopacek presented the Treasurer’s Report/Cash Control Statement, Outstanding Checks and Deposits Report, and Schedule 1a (statement of receipts, accrued, interest, disbursements, and balances).

A motion was made by Supervisor Schack and seconded by Supervisor Kelley to approve the Treasurer’s Report for February 2024 in the amount of \$2,530,248.43. Ayes-5; Nays-0. Motion carried.

**Payment of Claims**

Treasurer Kopacek presented the Claims List for approval.

A motion was made by Supervisor Davies and seconded by Supervisor Gilbert to approve the claims list #21352 through #21379, EFT 3132401 through EFT 3132407 in the amount of \$13,964.88. Ayes-5; Nays-0. Motion carried.

**Public Input**


There was no public input.

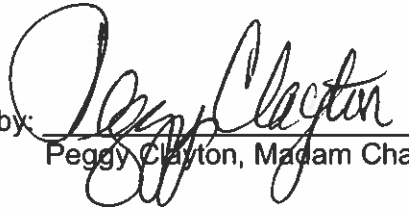
**UPCOMING Events/Meetings**

March 27, 2024	P&D Board Meeting	7:30 pm Town Hall
April 1, 2024	Work Session re: Casper Landing, Wendigo Park, ARPA Funds	5:00 pm Town Hall
April 8, 2024	Itasca County Township Assn Annual Dinner	5:00 pm Carpenter Town Hall
April 10, 2024	Regular Board Meeting	7:30 pm Town Hall
April 18, 2024	Work Session re: Casper Landing, Wendigo Park, ARPA Funds	5:00 pm Town Hall
April 22, 2024	Work Session re: Casper Landing, Wendigo Park, ARPA Funds	5:00 pm Town Hall

**Adjourn**

There being no further business to come before the board, a motion was made by Supervisor Gilbert and seconded by Supervisor Davies at 8:09 pm.

Prepared by:   
Kelly Derfer, Clerk

Signed by:   
Peggy Clayton, Madam Chair