

Madam Chair Peggy Clayton
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Harris Township

SINCE 1909

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.



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NEIGHBORS, SHORES & MORE

Work Session

Re: Township Collections, MATIT Assessment

September 25, 2023

6:30 pm Harris Town Hall

Present: Madam Chair Clayton, Vice-Chair Schack, Supervisors Davies, Gilbert, Kelley, and Clerk Derfler

The Work Session was called to order at 6:30 pm by Madam Chair Clayton.

The pledge to the flag was conducted.

The purpose of the session was to discuss Township Collections and the MATIT Assessment.

Township Collections

Chair Clayton stated that, during a legal seminar taken, it was shared that there is a Minnesota Statute (484.90 subd. 6) that was amended in 2016 that expressly states that townships are eligible to share in fine revenues when the underlying prosecution stems from an offense that occurred within the township's boundaries. The statute also states that two-thirds of all other fines (aside from parking tickets) will be distributed to the city or town in which the offense was committed, and one-third to the state's general fund.

The Itasca County Sheriff's Office provided a list of incidents/offenses within Harris Township for all of 2022 and the first half of 2023.

Harris Township has not pursued collecting fines in the past. There is an Originating Agency Identification number (ORI) that must be applied for to move forward. County Attorneys should be able to help coordinate filling out the paperwork.

Chair Clayton will meet with Sheriff Dasovich for clarification on where the funds are presently distributed, discuss Township fine revenues, and report back to the board at a later date.

MATIT Assessment

Chair Clayton provided the board with the MATIT Property Valuation Standard Report from August, 2023, the Property Valuation Form from September, 2023, the Overland Survey from November, 2019, the Valuation Standard Report from December, 2019, the most current Premium Notice from MATIT and a summary comparison of all the reports that she compiled for ease of comparison.

Chair Clayton stated that there are many discrepancies between the 2019 and 2023 reports. Some of the discrepancies include the square footage of the Town Hall, the Service Center, and the 3-stall garage. The 2023 square footages on the 3 properties, from the MATIT valuations, are more than the 2019 valuations. No additions were added to the properties in question. The 2023 valuations also list different build dates of the properties vs 2019 build dates. The ice rinks also appear on the 2023 Valuation Forms, are over-valued, are not on concrete slabs, and are not 11ft tall. The rinks were not included in the 2019 valuations.

The board has several questions for MATIT regarding the Valuation Reports aside from the discrepancies. The first being whether MATIT can change the amount due when there is a current policy in place through May, 2024. Another question being, will the new valuations mean that the premiums will go up.

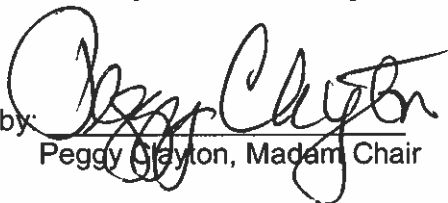
The board has requested a quote from another insurance provider and is waiting for the response.

The board will wait for the other insurance provider to provide their quote, then determine whether scheduling an in-person future meeting with MATIT is appropriate.

Chair Clayton will also call the County Assessor's office to ask if the township properties were assessed in 2022 when all of Harris Township was assessed.

Motion made by Supervisor Kelley and seconded by Supervisor Schack to adjourn the meeting at 7:25pm.

Submitted by: 
Kelly Derfler Clerk

Signed by: 
Peggy Clayton, Madam Chair