

Madam Chair Peggy Clayton  
20356 Wendigo Park Road  
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 244-1811

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# Harris Township

SINCE 1909



NEIGHBORS, SHORES & MORE

## **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)

## **PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT MEETING APRIL 26, 2023 MINUTES**

**Present:** Madam Chair Clayton, Vice Chair Schack, Supervisors Davies, and Kelley;  
Treasurer Kopacek

**Absent:** Supervisor Gilbert

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

### **Approve the Minutes**

#### **March 22, 2023, P and D Minutes**

A motion was made by Supervisor Schack and seconded by Supervisor Davies to approve the Minutes of the March 22, 2023 Planning and Development Meeting. Ayes-4; Nays-0. Absent: Supervisor Gilbert. Motion carried.

#### **April 20, 2023, Minutes of the Work Session Re: MATIT, Landings, Parks, and Grants**

A motion was made by Supervisor Kelley and seconded by Supervisor Davies to approve the minutes of the April 20, 2023, Work Session Minutes Re: MATIT, Landings, Parks, and Grants. Ayes-4; Nays-0. Absent: Supervisor Gilbert. Motion carried.

#### **April 20, 2023, Minutes of the Closed Work Session Re: Employee under Board Direction**

A motion was made by Supervisor Schack and seconded by Supervisor Kelley to approve the minutes of the April 20, 2023, Closed Work Session Minutes Re: Employee under Board Direction. Ayes-4; Nays-0. Absent: Supervisor Gilbert. Motion carried.

### **Additions and Corrections**

There were no additions or corrections to the agenda.

A motion was made by Supervisor Schack and seconded by Supervisor Kelley to approve the P and D Agenda. Ayes-4; Nays-0. Absent: Supervisor Gilbert. Motion carried.

### **Business from the Floor**

#### **New Road Approach**

Trevor Lindblom, 28955 Sunny Beach Road, came before the board to request information/process regarding putting in a driveway approach on Badger Road. A survey map was presented showing the designated driveway. No culvert will be needed. Short discussion followed.

A motion was made by Supervisor Kelley and seconded by Supervisor Davies to approve the Badger

Road driveway approach for Trevor Lindblom Ayes-4; Nays-0. Absent: Supervisor Gilbert. Motion carried.

### **Grand Rapids Youth Baseball Association**

Simon Jackson, with the GRYBA contacted Chair Clayton about using Wendigo and Crystal Parks for youth baseball practice.

Chair Clayton said they would like to have baseball practice on Monday through Thursday from 5 to 8 PM, preferably at Crystal Springs Park. As per the Chair, this is an annual summer/fall request, and the board is happy to accommodate these programs.

A motion was made by Supervisor Schack and seconded by Supervisor Davies to approve the request from Simon Jackson, GRYBA, for youth baseball practice at Crystal Springs Park on Mondays-Thursdays from 4:30 pm-8:00 pm. Ayes-4; Nays-0. Absent: Supervisor Gilbert. Motion carried.

Chair Clayton will contact Simon and advise him of the board decision, and to get a start date so a flyer can be posted at the park.

### **Consent Agenda**

There were no items on the Consent Agenda.

### **Roads**

#### **Road Update**

Supervisor Kelley stated that roads are in decent shape. Mishawaka had some potholes filled. The gravel roads are in rough shape after the winter and snow melt. Unfortunately, roads will not be graded until they dry up.

Harbor Heights Road has an area which may need work due to a protruding rock.

The Jess Harry Road meetings will take place soon, regarding ownership of portions of that roadway.

#### **2023 Bituminous Road Improvements Bids/Recommendations**

Sara Christenson with SEH reviewed the 2023 Bituminous Roadway Improvements (Mishawaka Road, Mishawaka Shores, and Aspen Drive) bid award and SEH recommendation.

SEH held the bid opening on April 20, 2023. Two bids were received. Hawkinson Construction came in at \$666,666.66 with their alternates. KGM Contractors came in at \$756,670.92 with their alternates. Short discussion followed.

A motion was made by Supervisor Davies and seconded by Supervisor Kelley to approve and award the 2023 Road Improvements to Hawkinson Construction for the sum of \$666,666.66, with two alternates. Ayes-4; Nays-0. Absent: Supervisor Gilbert. Motion carried.

Once the contractor has signed the contract, etc., said contract will then be signed by Harris Township.

#### **Dust Control**

Supervisor Kelley requested approval to obtain a dust control quote. Costs associated would be under \$25,000, therefore, two quotes do not have to be obtained.

A motion was made by Chair Clayton and seconded by Supervisor Davies to authorize Supervisor Kelley to obtain a dust control quote. Ayes-4; Nays-0. Absent: Supervisor Gilbert. Motion carried.

#### **Schedule Spring Road Tour**

A motion was made by Supervisor Schack and seconded by Supervisor Davies to table scheduling the spring road tour, until the May 10, 2023, Regular Board Meeting. Ayes-4; Nays-0. Absent: Supervisor Gilbert. Motion carried.

### **Schedule Spring Road Cleanup**

A motion was made by Supervisor Schack and seconded by Supervisor Davies to table scheduling the spring road cleanup, until the May 10, 2023 Regular Board Meeting. Ayes-4; Nays-0. Absent: Supervisor Gilbert. Motion carried.

### **Resolution 2023-012 Re Opening Sunset Drive**

Chair Clayton read Resolution 2023-012 Re Sunset Drive, in its entirety.

A motion was made by Supervisor Schack and seconded by Supervisor Kelley to approve Resolution 2023-012 Re Opening Sunset Drive. Roll call: Ayes-4; Nays-0. Absent: Supervisor Gilbert. Motion carried.

### **Resolution 2023-013 Re Opening Sunset Lane**

Chair Clayton read Resolution 2023-013 Re Sunset Lane, in its entirety.

A motion was made by Supervisor Schack and seconded by Supervisor Davies to approve Resolution 2023-013 Re Opening Sunset Lane. Roll call: Ayes-4; Nays-0. Absent: Supervisor Gilbert. Motion carried.

### **Recreation**

#### **Park and Cemetery Inspection Reports for March 2023**

A motion was made by Supervisor Schack and seconded by Supervisor Davies to approve the Park And Cemetery Inspection Report for March 2023. Ayes-4; Nays-0. Absent: Supervisor Gilbert. Motion carried.

#### **Life Jacket Stations/Sea Tow Foundation**

Chair Clayton reported that Megan Severson, NR Specialist-Park Ranger with the Pokegama Dam Recreation Center, has three locations for the install of the lifejacket loaner stations. Mishawaka landing, Casper Landing, and LaPlant Landing will receive life jacket loaner stations. Stations will be permanent (4 x 4j, with an official metal sign on the top. The intent is to install these prior to fishing opener, which is May 15.

It was suggested (by the board) that the life jacket loaner station at Mishawaka be temporary placed, for now, until work is completed. Chair Clayton will get a hold of Megan.

#### **Water Fountain in Hall**

Supervisor Schack stated that the lighting has been installed outside the town hall, and the electrical has been installed for the new water cooler inside the hall.

Supervisor Schack reviewed a bid for a surface mount bottle filling station, for a cost of \$899.00, for the hall. A plumber will need to be contacted to order to install the bottle filler. Discussion followed.

A motion was made by Supervisor Davies and seconded by Supervisor Kelley to have Supervisor Schack move forward with getting two quotes on a plumber to purchase and install the bottle filling station. Ayes-4; Nays-0. Absent: Supervisor Gilbert. Motion carried.

#### **Storm Drainage System-Mishawaka Landing**

Supervisor Kelley reviewed the information received from DNR regarding a drain basin and piping for Mishawaka. Discussion followed.

A motion was made by Supervisor Davies and seconded by Chair Clayton to purchase the drain basin, piping, etc via DNR through the state contract, from Advance Drainage Systems, Inc for a cost of \$6,961.84. Ayes-4; Nays-0. Absent: Supervisor Gilbert. Motion carried.

#### **Resolution 2023-014 Re: Winter Burial Rates**

Chair Clayton read Resolution #2023-014 Re Winter Burial Rates, in its entirety.

A motion was made by Supervisor Schack and seconded by Supervisor Davies to approve Resolution 2023-014 Re Winter Burial Rates. Ayes-4; Nays-0. Absent: Supervisor Gilbert. Motion carried.

#### **Correspondence**

##### **Itasca Township Association Annual Minutes of April 11, 2022**

Informational only.

#### **Town Hall**

##### **Town Hall Reports for March 2023**

A motion was made by Supervisor Kelley and seconded by Supervisor Davies to approve the Town Hall Reports for March 2023. Ayes-4; Nays-0. Absent: Supervisor Gilbert. Motion carried.

#### **Maintenance**

##### **Maintenance Reports for March 2023**

A motion was made by Supervisor Kelley and seconded by Supervisor Schack to approve the Maintenance Reports for March 2023. Ayes-4; Nays-0. Absent: Supervisor Gilbert. Motion carried.

#### **Old Business**

There was no old business.

#### **New Business**

##### **Resignation of Clerk**

Chair Clayton received a letter of resignation from Clerk Lori Kent. Lori started on March 8, but had to resign, effective immediately, due to unforeseen circumstances.

A motion was made by Supervisor Kelley and seconded by Supervisor Davies to approve the resignation of Clerk Lori Kent, effective immediately. Ayes-4; Nays-0. Absent: Supervisor Gilbert. Motion carried.

##### **Request from Historical Society**

Chair Clayton received a request from the Itasca County Historical Society. They are requesting permission to digitize and print the Harris Township Centennial book so they can sell it in their museum gift shop.

A motion was made by Supervisor Davies and seconded by Supervisor Kelley to approve the request from the Historical Society to digitize and print the Harris Township Centennial Book, at no cost to the township Ayes-4; Nays-0. Absent: Supervisor Gilbert. Motion carried.

##### **Arrowhead Regional Development Letter of Support**

Chair Clayton reviewed a request for a letter of support to be sent to the Minnesota Board of Aging. The letter of support is to continue to preserve aging services and supports in rural Minnesota by ensuring an equitable intrastate funding formula for communities. Implications of not having an equitable formula include diminished health for our residents, loss of jobs, supporting OAA Funded programs, greater population migration to the metro area and increased admissions to long-term care settings.

A motion was made by Supervisor Kelley and seconded by Chair Clayton to send a letter of support to the Minnesota Board on Aging. Ayes-4; Nays-0. Absent: Supervisor Gilbert. Motion carried.

**Bills**  
**Payment of Bills**

Treasurer Kopacek reviewed the April 26, 2023 Claims List.

A motion was made by Supervisor Schack and seconded by Supervisor Kelley to approve and pay the bills, claims #20941 through #20959, and EFTs 4262301 through #EFT 4262307 in the amount of \$23,717.46. Ayes-4; Nays-0. Absent: Supervisor Gilbert. Motion carried.

**Public Input**

There was no public input.

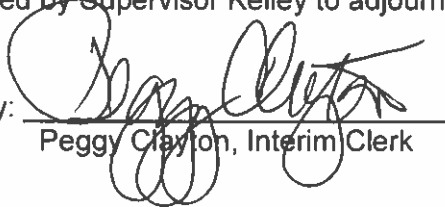
**UPCOMING Events/Meetings**

April 27, 2023	Local Board of Appeal & Equal.	9:00 am Town Hall
May 8, 2023	Township Association Meeting	7:00 pm Town Hall
May 10, 2023	Regular Board Meeting	7:30 pm Town Hall
May 24, 2023	P and D Board Meeting	7:30 pm Town Hall

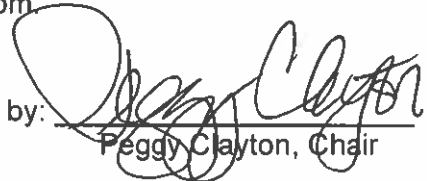
**Adjourn**

There being no further business to come before the board, a motion was made by Supervisor Schack and seconded by Supervisor Kelley to adjourn the meeting at 8:06 pm.

Prepared by:

  
Peggy Clayton, Interim Clerk

Signed by:

  
Peggy Clayton, Chair

